



Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development



**Workforce Education and Training (WET)
Educational Stipend Program – Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
Q and A's from Mandatory Bidders' Conference
Request For Application (RFA) #14-5398
November 4, 2014**

The following is a summary of the questions asked at the Mandatory Bidders' Conference held on November 4, 2014, and their respective answers.

Question: *If a potential applicant has received OSHPD funds in the past, is that organization eligible for this Request For Application (RFA)?*

Answer: Yes. Receiving OSHPD funds from previous RFAs will not prevent an organization from being eligible for this RFA. However, funds from previous awards cannot be co-mingled with funds from this RFA.

Question: *Are potential awardees required to provide stipends for all three years or just the last two years of this RFA?*

Answer: OSHPD has issued an addendum to the RFA to clarify that the Grantee may award stipends in the first three fiscal years of the contract but are not mandated to award stipends for all three fiscal years. Awardees will be required to provide stipends for at least one of the first three years. The fourth year is limited to administrative costs to monitor and report on the student's payback obligations. If an organization was awarded a previous contract for the PMHNP stipend program, then the stipends for the new funds would have to go to new students that have not received a stipend.

The Addendum issued can be found via the following link:

<http://oshpd.ca.gov/hwdd/2014/WET/RFP/RFA-14-5398-Addendum.pdf>.

Question: *Is the fourth year just for administrative costs to track the students who are completing their payback obligation in the Public Mental Health System?*

Answer: Yes. The fourth year of the Grant Agreement is for the purpose of monitoring and reporting on student outcomes and cannot be used for stipends.

Question: *What are the budget categories and the fiscal limitations for each category?*

Answer: The major budget categories under this RFA are the cost of stipends per year and the yearly administration cost. The total stipend cost shall be no less than 75 percent of the total agreement amount. Applications that provide less than this stipend cost may be rejected. The total administration cost shall not exceed 25 percent of the total agreement amount. Applications exceeding this administration cost may be rejected.

Question: *What measurements of cultural competency are you looking for as stated on page 3 of the RFA?*

Answer: As defined on page 21 of the RFA, cultural competency means a set of congruent practice skills, behaviors, attitudes and policies in a system, agency, or among those persons providing services that enables the system, agency, or those persons providing services to work effectively in cross cultural situations. There are no specific measurement tools being used to evaluate cultural competency.

Question: *Can you clarify what you mean by Section C, item I. on page 24 of the RFA?*

Answer: If a student is awarded the full \$18,500 stipend award then they are required to complete 12 consecutive months of payback whereas a student receiving half of the stipend (\$9,250) will require 6 consecutive months of payback. Furthermore, stipend amounts shall be awarded on a basis commensurate with the student's status; a full-time student shall receive a full stipend and a part-time student shall receive half the stipend. Stipends will not be awarded for less than half of the maximum amount and payback will not be less than 6 consecutive months.

Question: *Does the prohibition of co-mingling of funds also apply to other Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioners awards such as for Education Capacity?*

Answer: Yes. Each RFA is independent of one another, so the funds cannot be co-mingled. The funding is separate, however if there is a student in the education capacity program, they may be eligible to receive a stipend as long as they are not already receiving a stipend.

Question: *How should a proposer document those with lived experience?*

Answer: Individuals with lived experience are also referred to as Clients, Consumers, or family members in this RFA. Clients as defined in *Title 9, CCR, Section 3200.040*, are individuals of any age who are receiving or have received mental health services. The term "client" includes those who refer to themselves as clients, consumers, survivors, patients or ex-patients. A family member is an individual who is a family member of a client. Proposers can capture this information through self-reporting mechanisms.

Question: *Are stipends available just for students who are in a Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner program or can someone who has graduated, but is still connected to the school receive a stipend?*

Answer: No. As stated on page 23 of the RFA, the Grantee shall distribute educational stipends to a proposed amount of graduate students per year at a maximum rate of \$18,500.00 per student, to students who shall be expected to graduate with an advanced degree in Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practice (MSN/PhD). Students who receive stipends under this Grant Agreement shall graduate no later than June 30, 2017. Therefore, in order to be eligible for a stipend, a student must be participating in an accredited PMHNP program and not have already graduated.

Question: *Are DNP student's eligible or only MSN/PhD students?*

Answer: DNP students are considered to be PhD students and are therefore eligible to receive a stipend.