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**ADDENDUM TO Questions and Answers  
Workforce Education and Training (WET)  
Public Mental/Behavioral Health Pipeline Program  
Request for Application (RFA) #16-7565– February 23, 2017**

**Question 10:** What is the potential for this to become multi-year funding? If this may become multi-year (or more than one-time) funding, what will the renewal/re-contracting process be?

**Answer 10:** Awarded grants will run through June 30, 2018. There is no additional funding authority in the current WET program beyond June 30, 2018.

**Question 11:** We see several crucial engagement points for future potential Community Public Mental Health workforce members. These include:

- Engagement in high-school and college, prior to any specific career selection
- Engagement of people not in school prior to their selection of a specific career path
- Engagement of people already considering or pursuing a career in Public Health or Mental Health through coursework, but who have NOT yet elected to work within the Community Public Mental Health System
- Engagement of people with Master's-level preparedness in a mental health field, such as a MA in Counseling or Masters of Social Work, but who have not yet decided to enter the Community Public Mental Health System.

Do you consider any of these engagement points or target participant populations to be ineligible or undesirable as a target to receive the recruiting/engagement services envisioned by this RFA? If some populations are not preferred, or ineligible, which ones?

**Answer 11:** To maintain the integrity of the competitive solicitation process, OSHPD cannot advise the applicant on what specific information to provide in its proposal. The proposed target population may include the following: high schools, adult education, regional occupational programs, colleges and universities. The goal of this RFA is to enter into grant agreement(s) or IAAs, pursuant to which the grantee shall perform activities that increase the capacity of the Public Mental/Behavioral Health Workforce by recruiting individuals before they select a career path. OSHPD will use the evaluation tool on Page 10 of the RFA to score the strength of the program. The RFA is left broad so that there is not a specific target population given priority, however, the applicant must identify the target population, participating county PMHS programs and/or CBOs, and

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identify how the program will introduce participants to and prepare them for employment in the PMHS. A detailed description of the Pipeline Program is to include program activities and training.

**Question 12:** I have a question regarding the target population for this grant. On Page 3, Section B of the RFA it states that “The goal of this RFA is to enter into grant agreement(s) or IAAs, pursuant to which the grantee shall perform activities that increase the capacity of the Public Mental/Behavioral Health Workforce by recruiting individuals *before they select a career path*”

The question is “would you consider those with Bachelor degrees and employed in social services within the definition of the target population of the RFA?”

**Answer 12:** This RFA proposes to recruit individuals before they select a career path. Please refer to Answer 11, regarding target population.

**Question 13:** RFA Page 3: What exactly is meant by, the requirement that program participants have “not yet chosen a career path”? For instance, can a program serve students who have already received some education in public mental health (e.g. a certificate program in Community Mental Health or Drug/Alcohol Counseling at the community college level), or are already working in a public mental health agency but in a low-level administrative position instead of the type of clinical position that they might want to move into but have not had sufficient training or exposure to?

**Answer 13:** This RFA proposes to recruit individuals before they select a career path. Please refer to Answer 11, regarding target population.

**Question 14:** RFA Page 4: Cost effectiveness: Is there a range of cost effectiveness that OSHPD considers competitive for this RFP, i.e., would a high-touch program serving a cohort of 10 students be enough of a return on investment?

**Answer 14:** The RFA does not identify a total number of program participants. It is up to the applicants to determine how much their program can accomplish with the funding requested. There is a section on the evaluation tool on Page 10 of the RFA, titled “Budget Rates”. OSHPD will score the cost effectiveness to successfully implement and administer the Public Mental/Behavioral Health Pipeline Program in relation to how many individuals are proposed to be supported, by program activities, as well as proposed engagement activities for each.

**Question 15:** RFA Page 4: Are there any restrictions on the use of financial assistance strategies for program participants, i.e., is there anything wrong with distributing a funding package to each participant for living stipends/scholarships in a ratio that is tailored to each participant’s particular needs?

**Answer 15:** This question is similar to question 14. The RFA does not prescribe specific financial assistance strategies. The applicants should provide information on how their strategies will provide program participants with support while they explore or

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prepare for careers in the PMHS. OSHPD will score the cost effectiveness to successfully implement and administer the Public Mental/Behavioral Health Pipeline Program.

**Question 16:** Can an applicant be listed as a collaborating partner in a different applicant's proposal without posing a conflict?

**Answer 16:** Please refer to Answer 6. Only one grant application per applicant is allowed, which includes a collaborating partner.