

1/11/19 Answers to Questions received about First Request for Proposals

1. Can one organization/university submit multiple letters of interest (LOIs), as long as each has a different principal investigator (PI)?
A: Organizations/universities can submit multiple LOIs with different PIs. Individual researchers can be listed as a PI on at most one LOI across all organizational submissions. The only exception would be that an individual listed as a PI on a research proposal could also serve as PI on a dissertation award for one of their students, if their university requires dissertation chairs to be PIs of student dissertation awards.
2. Are there any requirements for principal investigators? For example, are PIs required to have a PhD?
A: There are no requirements for the qualifications of PI except to demonstrate the experience of the PI and project team and their ability to successfully conduct the research.
3. Are police departments eligible to apply or is this specifically for non-profits? Are there any exceptions?
A: All public agencies are eligible to apply, including public police departments and public universities.
4. What duration do you expect of the project period?
A: The project period can be a maximum of 3 years. Dissertation awards can be a maximum of 1 year. There is no minimum project period.
5. The RFP states that the negotiated indirect rate agreement should be used in the calculation of the indirect costs. Which rate should be used, federal or non-federal?
A: Organizations with a negotiated indirect rate with a federal agency should submit that rate. If the organization has no federally negotiated indirect rate, state or other negotiated rates can be provided along with explanation of how they were negotiated.
6. How big can the research grants be?
A: We expect to fund a mix of small and large awards. We have not specified a maximum possible award size, other than to say we “expect to issue ten to twenty-five research grant awards, including three or more \$25,000 dissertation awards, for a total of up to \$10 million in research funding through this first ... RFP” (from RFP p. 5-6).
7. I have not taken my qualifying exams and I’m still fulfilling my course requirements. Can I still apply for grant funding to pursue my research?
A: Unfortunately, you are not eligible to apply for dissertation funding this year. However, we do plan to submit RFPs each of the next 3 years and encourage you to apply when you meet the eligibility criteria.
8. Can students receive funding on a research project?
A: Yes, students can be paid with grant funds for labor they devote to project performance.
9. Are ethnographic studies eligible for funding?
A: We have no policy excluding ethnographic research. Ethnographic research would be evaluated using the same criteria used for all other research proposals.
10. How long is the letter of interest?
A: Please refer to the RFP for information on the LOI length and format.

11. Would NCGVR be willing to share any rubric used to evaluate grant proposals?
A: Please refer to the RFP for information on the evaluation criteria that will be used. We do not have additional information we can share on grant evaluation factors.
12. Are NCGVR projects required to be cross-sectoral (e.g., involve firearm safety promotion in health systems and another sector like gun shop owners or local shooting ranges)?
A: NCGVR projects are not required to be cross-sectoral.
13. For projects in Category 7 (Collection of state-level prosecution and enforcement data) is the objective to produce analyses on that data or to produce a public dataset? What if some of the collected data cannot be publicly released?
A: At a minimum, Category 7 projects should produce a public dataset. If portions of the collected data cannot be made public, it will be important to explain what data will be released publicly, and the potential value of that publicly releasable data.
14. Would a study evaluating firearm victim mortality rates as a function of first responder policies/actions be in scope? The RFP appears to exclude studies involving the treatment or rehabilitation of victims.
A: NCGVR is chiefly interested in funding the types of firearms projects for which there has been little federal funding for the last two decades. We believe federal funding is available for medical research on the treatment or rehabilitation of gunshot victims. That said, other research designed to reduce firearms mortality could be within the scope of the RFP.
15. Will awards made in this first round of funding have a value of \$10 million per year, or \$10 million over the projects' periods of performance?
A: NCGVR plans to make awards in this first round of funding with a value of up to \$10 million over the entire duration of the projects.