

**State of Connecticut
Office of Policy and Management**

**NONPROFIT COLLABORATION INCENTIVE GRANT PROGRAM
REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS (RFA)**

March 1, 2011

**AMENDMENT 1
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

March 29, 2011

GENERAL

1. What is the number of applications received and awarded in response to the May 2010 NCIGP RFA?

OPM received six (6) applications requesting NCIGP funds for 2010. OPM recommended two applicants (collaborations) for funding to the State Bond Commission. The State Bond Commission approved and authorized funding for CommuniCare Technology and the Fairfield County IT Connection at its meeting held on February 24, 2011.

ELIGIBILITY

2. Can one company or business submit an application or does it have to be two nonprofit businesses? What type of business may apply for funding?

The RFA requires applicants to be a collaboration of two or more nonprofit organizations providing services in Connecticut. Eligible applicants include, but are not limited to, nonprofit organizations in the health and human services field. Any entity that is a duly formed 501(c)(3) organization is eligible to form a collaboration and submit an application. The RFA does not specify the type of business (nonprofit organization) that may respond. However, a business must meet the eligibility criteria and the intent of the RFA to be eligible for funding.

3. Our agencies have been working together for several years. We have two separate names, but our fiscal management, operations, and administrative work are done as one agency. Do we meet the eligibility requirements?

Applicants must be a collaboration of two or more nonprofit organizations providing services in Connecticut. If previously separate organizations have legally merged and now comprise one single entity, that entity would have to collaborate with at least one other nonprofit organization to be considered eligible. If the organizations are legally separate entities, they can organize into a collaboration and be eligible to apply. The NCIGP does not require applicants to merge (legally become a new, single entity), but only to consolidate (combine) their programs or services through collaborative efforts. Under the NCIGP you cannot apply for funding for a project that you and the other agencies have already been collaborating on together. The application must be for a new project you will be collaborating on.

Funding

4. What is the amount of available NCIGP funds for 2011?

If grant award agreements are executed with CommuniCare Technology and the Fairfield County IT Connection as a result of the 2010 application process, the remaining amount of available funding for 2011 will be \$4,084,330.

PROJECT APPLICATIONS

5. The Funding Limit section of the Facility Improvement Project Application states: Funding for facility improvements is available in an amount up to 30% of the lowest appraisal, or 30% of the actual purchase price of the facility if the actual purchase price is lower than the appraisal. Does this apply in all cases? Can the assessed value be used to set the funding limit as opposed to the purchase price?

The RFA requires all applicants to adhere to the requirements described under the funding limit section of the Facility Improvement Project Application. The RFA allows the applicant to use the assessed value of the property to calculate the amount of the grant funding request. This calculated amount is only an estimate for the purposes of the application. If the applicant is selected for a possible award, the applicant will be required to submit one (or two) appraisals to complete the application process. An appraisal completed within the previous 365 days is acceptable. The amount of any subsequent awarded grant will be adjusted accordingly to the lowest appraised value of the facility. Refer to page 4 of the Facility Improvement Project Instructions – Part 3 for further details on submission requirements.

State of Connecticut
Office of Policy and Management

NONPROFIT COLLABORATION INCENTIVE GRANT PROGRAM
REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

March 1, 2011

The Office of Policy and Management (OPM) announces the release of a Request For Applications (RFA) for the Nonprofit Collaboration Incentive Grant Program (NCIGP). Eligible applicants must be a collaboration of two or more nonprofit organizations providing services in Connecticut.

The NCIGP will distribute grants to qualified 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations. Applicants may request funding for one-time infrastructure costs to implement consolidations of programs or services resulting from the collaboration of two or more nonprofit organizations. Grant funds may be used for the purchase of, or improvements to, facilities; refinancing of facility loans; equipment purchases; energy conservation, transportation and technology projects; planning and administrative costs related to such purchases, improvements, refinancing, or projects; and relocation expenses related to physical consolidation. The term "programs and services" is broadly defined to include joint ventures involving shared business operations, functions, or services.

Final selection of applications is at the discretion of the Secretary of OPM. Funding of any selected application is contingent upon the State Bond Commission's approval of up to \$5 million in funds authorized under Section 25 of Public Act 09-2. The amount of available funding may be reduced if OPM awards any grant funds as a result of a previously issued RFA in May 2010. Any change in the amount of available funding will be posted as an amendment to this RFA on the State Contracting Portal.

Grant applications must be submitted before the deadline to the Official Contact for this solicitation: Pamela Trotman, Office of Policy and Management, 450 Capitol Avenue, MS#52HHS, Hartford, Connecticut 06106-1379.

The RFA, amendments to the RFA, and other information associated with this RFA are available upon request from the Official Contact, or on the Internet at the following locations:

- (1) State Contracting Portal at http://www.biznet.ct.gov/SCP_Search/Default.aspx?AccLast=2
- (2) OPM's RFP web page at <http://www.ct.gov/opm/rfp>

Deadline for submission of applications is 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 22, 2011.

Posted March 1, 2011

- OPM WEBSITE
- DAS WEBSITE

State of Connecticut
Office of Policy and Management

NONPROFIT COLLABORATION INCENTIVE GRANT PROGRAM
REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

March 1, 2011

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

■ **A. INTRODUCTION**

The Office of Policy and Management (OPM) announces the release of a Request For Applications (RFA) for the Nonprofit Collaboration Incentive Grant Program (NCIGP). The purpose of the NCIGP is to provide grants for one-time infrastructure costs to implement consolidations of programs and services resulting from the collaboration of two or more nonprofit organizations. The term "programs and services" is broadly defined to include joint ventures involving shared business operations, functions, or services.

Eligible applicants must be a collaboration of two or more nonprofit organizations currently providing services in Connecticut.

The program will distribute grants to qualified 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations for:

- the purchase of, or improvements to, facilities;
- refinancing of facility loans;
- equipment purchases;
- energy conservation, transportation and technology projects;
- planning and administrative costs related to such purchases, improvements, refinancing, or projects; and
- relocation expenses related to physical consolidation.

This Request For Applications (RFA) is issued in accordance with Section 25 of Public Act 09-2, September Special Session. OPM reserves the right to amend or cancel this RFA, at any time, if OPM deems it to be necessary, appropriate, or otherwise in the best interests of the State.

The NCIGP is funded by proceeds from State General Obligation Bonds. Use of such funds is subject to review and approval of the State Bond Commission in accordance with Section 3-20 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

■ **B. ABBREVIATIONS / ACRONYMS / DEFINITIONS**

C.G.S.	Connecticut General Statutes
CHRO	Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities (CT)
CT	Connecticut
DAS	Department of Administrative Services (CT)
DOIT	Department of Information Technology (CT)
FOIA	Freedom of Information Act (CT)
IRS	Internal Revenue Service (US)
NCIGP	Nonprofit Collaboration Incentive Grant Program (CT)
OAG	Office of the Attorney General (CT)

OPM	Office of Policy and Management (CT)
P.A.	Public Act (CT)
RFA	Request For Applications
SFY	State Fiscal Year
TEPF	Tax-Exempt Proceeds Fund
U.S.	United States

- *applicant*: a collaboration of two or more nonprofit organizations that submits an application in response to this RFA for the NCIGP
- *collaboration*: two or more nonprofit organizations that work together on a common project or consolidation
- *consolidation*: the combining of programs and services (including, but not limited to, joint ventures involving shared business operations, functions, or services)
- *contract*: an award of financial assistance by the State of Connecticut, where the grantee is required to expend funds in the manner specified by a written, signed agreement between the parties
- *direct cost*: an expense directly associated with, and incurred by, a project funded by the NCIGP
- *grantee*: a nonprofit organization that enters into a contract with the State of Connecticut as a result of this RFA process
- *infrastructure costs*: one-time expenditures for capital assets, such as facilities, equipment, technology, or transportation
- *participant organization*: a nonprofit organization that is currently providing services in Connecticut and has entered into a collaboration with one or more similar nonprofit organizations to consolidate programs or services
- *physical consolidation*: the siting of two or more nonprofit organizations at the same location for the purpose of combining their programs or services
- *project*: an undertaking by a collaboration to improve a component of their participant organizations' infrastructure to mutual advantage

■ C. PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The purpose of the Nonprofit Collaboration Incentive Grant Program is to provide grants for one-time infrastructure costs to implement consolidations of programs or services resulting from the collaboration of two or more nonprofit organizations. The term "programs and services" is broadly defined to include joint ventures involving shared business operations, functions, or services. The State Bond Commission is authorized to issue up to \$5,000,000 to award one-time funding to support such collaborations.

NOTE: The amount of available funding may be reduced if OPM awards any grant funds as a result of a previously issued RFA in May 2010. Any change in the amount of available funding will be posted as an amendment to this RFA on the State Contracting Portal.

Funds awarded under this grant must not be used for salaries, utilities, supplies, ordinary repairs or maintenance, or other ongoing operating costs. No studies will be considered for funding.

Funding may be requested for planning and administrative costs directly related to the consolidation of programs or services. Planning and administrative functions may include, but are not limited to, the general management, oversight, or coordination of the consolidation. Applicants may be required to provide information and documentation related to any planning and administrative costs included in the application.

1. Program Guidelines. The selection of applications will be made on a competitive basis. Applicants and grantees must comply with the following guidelines:

- (a) Eligible applicants must be a collaboration of two or more nonprofit organizations providing services in Connecticut. If selected for a grant award, applicants should plan for and encourage additional nonprofit organizations to join the collaboration in the future.
- (b) Eligible uses of funding are the purchase of, or improvements to, facilities; refinancing of facility loans; equipment purchases; energy conservation, transportation and technology projects; planning and administrative costs related to such purchases, improvements, refinancing, or projects; and relocation expenses related to physical consolidation.
- (c) Grant funds must be used for one-time infrastructure costs to implement consolidations of programs and services resulting from the collaborative efforts of two or more nonprofit organizations. The term "programs and services" is broadly defined to include joint ventures involving shared business operations, functions, or services. Relocation expenses related to physical consolidation may be considered for funding.
- (d) Applications must demonstrate and fully detail projected savings and efficiencies due to the consolidation of programs or services.
- (e) Grantees must adhere to allowable costs as defined in OPM's "Cost Standards" for determining the costs of contracts, grants, and other agreements with organizations that receive funding from the State of Connecticut. Find the cost standards at: http://www.ct.gov/opm/fin/cost_standards

2. Prioritization for the Awarding of Grants. Preference will be given to applications that:

- (a) Have existing contracts with the State of Connecticut to provide health or human services;
- (b) Maximize efficiencies gained by streamlining (e.g., those with greater economies of scale or higher ratios of savings over a three-to-five year period that are equal to, or greater than, the grant award received);
- (c) Maximize the State's investment by leveraging additional funding from federal or private sources;
- (d) Plan for and encourage additional nonprofit organizations to join the collaboration in the future;
- (e) Demonstrate real change (e.g., actual physical consolidation, not merely designating certain staff within one nonprofit organization to perform functions for another nonprofit organization);
- (f) Demonstrate fiscal stability and show sustainable funding in the out years; and
- (g) Consolidate larger scopes of shared business operations, functions, or services, including, but not limited to:
 - (1) fiscal and administrative, such as payroll, billing, fee collection, purchasing, and accounting;
 - (2) human resources, such as staff recruitment and screening, health and retirement benefits, and unemployment insurance;
 - (3) information and technology, such as data collection and analysis.

3. Funding. Grantee selection is at the discretion of the Secretary of OPM, who may select any, part, or none of the applications for possible funding. The award of funding is further contingent upon the review and approval of the State Bond Commission. Applicants may be required to provide additional documentation to support any request to the State Bond Commission for funding.

4. **Supplanting of Funds.** Funding received for any project under this grant program must be used to supplement, and not supplant (take the place of), any federal or private funds received for the project. The possibility of supplanting will be the subject of careful application review, possible pre-award review, post-award monitoring, and audit. Any supplanting of federal or private funds with grant funds is a ground for potential suspension or termination of grant funding, recovery of funds already provided, or other civil or criminal sanctions.
5. **State Liability.** The State shall assume no liability for failed joint ventures or collaborations between nonprofit organizations.

■ D. APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Failure to abide by these instructions may result in disqualification of the application.

1. **Official Contact.** OPM has designated the individual below as the Official Contact for purposes of this Request For Applications (RFA). The Official Contact is the **only authorized contact** for this RFA and, as such, handles all related communications on behalf of OPM. Applicants, prospective applicants, and other interested parties are advised that any communication with any other OPM employee (including appointed officials) or personnel under contract to OPM about this RFA is strictly prohibited. Applicants or prospective applicants who violate this instruction may risk disqualification from further consideration.

Pamela Trotman
Office of Policy and Management
450 Capitol Avenue, MS#52HHS
Hartford, Connecticut 06106-1379
PHONE: 860.418.6359
FAX: 860.418.6495
E-Mail: pamela.trotman@ct.gov

2. **Application Information.** The RFA, amendments to the RFA, and other information associated with the RFA are available in electronic format from the Official Contact or on the Internet at the following locations:

- Office of Policy and Management RFP Web Page
www.ct.gov/opm/RFP
- State Contracting Portal
http://www.biznet.ct.gov/SCP_Search/Default.aspx?Acclast=2

It is strongly recommended that all applicants or prospective applicants interested in this RFA subscribe to receive e-mail alerts from the State Contracting Portal. Subscribers will receive a daily e-mail announcing procurements and addendums that are posted on the portal. This service is provided as a courtesy to assist in monitoring activities associated with State contracting, including this RFA.

Printed paper copies of all documents are also available from the Official Contact upon request.

3. **Contract.** The award of any contract pursuant to this RFA is dependent upon the review and approval of OPM, the State Bond Commission, and OAG. OPM anticipates the following:
 - Total Funding Available: Up to \$5 Million
 - Number of Awards: Multiple

NOTE: The amount of available funding may be reduced if OPM awards any grant funds as a result of a previously issued RFA in May 2010. Any change in the amount of available funding will be posted as an amendment to this RFA on the State Contracting Portal.

- 4. Eligibility Requirements.** Applicants must be a collaboration of two or more nonprofit organizations providing services in Connecticut. Each participant organization of the collaboration must be registered as a 501(c)(3) organization and in good standing with the State of Connecticut and all regulatory authorities. Applicants must demonstrate sufficient technical knowledge and experience to implement the requirements described in this RFA.

NOTE: Individuals who are not a duly formed nonprofit organization (business entity) are ineligible to participate in this RFA.

- 5. Schedule.** Dates after the Evaluation Committee completes the review, rating, and scoring of applications are target dates only (*). Target dates are contingent on action by the OPM Secretary and State Bond Commission. Approval of any application for funding is at their discretion and is not guaranteed. OPM may amend the schedule, as needed. Any change made prior to the application due date (June 22, 2011) will be made by means of an amendment to this RFA. The amendment will be posted on the State Contracting Portal and OPM's RFP Web Page. Notice of any change made after the application due date will be posted only on OPM's RFP Web Page. After June 22, 2011, applicants are advised to monitor OPM's RFP Web Page for announcements concerning this RFA.

- Planning Start Date: November 16, 2009
- RFA Released: March 1, 2011
- Deadline for Questions: March 15, 2011
- Answers Released: March 29, 2011
- Applications Due: June 22, 2011
- Evaluation Completed: September 21, 2011
- (*) Grantee Selection: To Be Determined
- (*) Contingent Contract Negotiations: To Be Determined
- (*) Submission to State Bond Commission: To Be Determined
- (*) Contract Execution: To Be Determined
- (*) Start of Contract: To Be Determined

- 6. Inquiry Procedures.** All questions regarding this RFA must be directed, in writing, to the Official Contact before the deadline specified in the schedule. The early submission of questions is encouraged. Questions will not be accepted or answered verbally – neither in person nor over the telephone. All questions received before the deadline will be answered. However, OPM will not answer questions when the source is unknown (i.e., nuisance or anonymous questions). Questions deemed unrelated to the RFA will not be answered. At its discretion, OPM may or may not respond to questions received after the deadline. OPM may combine similar questions and give only one answer. All questions and answers will be compiled into a written amendment to this RFA. If any answer to any question constitutes a material change to the RFA, the question and answer will be placed at the beginning of the amendment and duly noted as such. OPM will release the answers to questions on the date established in the schedule. OPM will publish any and all amendments to this RFA on the State Contracting Portal and on OPM's RFP Web Page.

- 7. Application Due Date and Time.** The Official Contact is the **only authorized recipient** of applications submitted in response to this RFA. Applications must be received by the Official Contact on or before the due date and time:

- Due Date: Wednesday, June 22, 2011
- Time: 2:00 p.m.

Faxed or e-mailed applications will not be evaluated. When hand-delivering applications by courier or in person, allow extra time due to building security procedures. OPM will not accept a postmark date as the basis for meeting the application due date and time. Applications received after the due date and time may be accepted by OPM as a clerical function, but late applications will not be evaluated. At the discretion of OPM, late applications may be destroyed or retained for pick up by the submitters.

- 8. Multiple Applications.** The submission of multiple applications is not permitted. Each nonprofit collaboration is allowed to submit only one application. The application may contain up to six project applications. (See Section II. Application Components below.)
- 9. Freedom of Information Act.** Applications submitted in response to this RFA are the sole property of the State. Applicants are encouraged NOT to include in their applications any information that is proprietary. Applicants are advised that all materials associated with this RFA are subject to the terms of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), the Privacy Act, and all rules, regulations, and interpretations resulting from them. The FOIA generally requires the disclosure of documents in the possession of the State upon request of any citizen, unless the content falls within certain categories of exemption.

If the information is not readily available to the public from other sources and the applicant submitting the information requests confidentiality, then the information is general considered to be "given in confidence." If the applicant indicates that certain documentation, as required by this RFA, is submitted in confidence, by specifically and clearly marking said documentation as CONFIDENTIAL, OPM will endeavor to keep said information confidential to the extent permitted by law. OPM, however, has no obligation to initiate, prosecute, or defend any legal proceeding or to seek a protective order or other similar relief to prevent disclosure of any information pursuant to a FOIA request. The applicant has the burden of establishing the availability of any FOIA exemption in any proceeding where it is an issue. In no event shall OPM or any of its staff have any liability for disclosure of documents or information in the possession of OPM which OPM or such staff believes to be required pursuant to the FOIA or other requirements of law.

- 10. Conflict of Interest.** A conflict of interest exists when a relationship between an applicant and a public official (including an elected official) or State employee may interfere with fair competition or may be adverse to the interests of the State. The existence of a conflict of interest is not, in and of itself, evidence of wrongdoing. A conflict of interest may, however, become a legal matter if an applicant tries to influence, or succeeds in influencing, the outcome of an official decision for personal or corporate benefit. Applicants are required to disclose any current business relationships (within the last three years) that pose a conflict of interest. OPM will determine whether the conflict of interest poses a substantial advantage to the applicant over the competition, decreases the overall competitiveness of this RFA, or is not in the best interests of the State.

■ E. FORMAT REQUIREMENTS

The application must follow the format requirements described below. Applications that do not comply with these instructions will not be evaluated.

- 1. Original Application; Copies.** Applicants must submit one (1) original paper application; five (5) conforming paper copies of the original application; and one (1) conforming electronic copy of the original application.

The original paper application must carry original signatures and be clearly marked on the cover as "Original." Unsigned applications will not be evaluated. The original application and each conforming paper copy of the application must be complete, properly formatted and outlined, and ready for review by the Evaluation Committee. The electronic copy of the application must be compatible with Microsoft Office Word 2003 or 2007. For the electronic copy, required forms and documentation may be scanned and submitted in Portable Document Format (PDF) or similar file format.

The application forms will not be made available in printable electronic format. Applicants must complete the provided application forms using a typewriter or legible handwriting. This will assure that no inadvertent changes are made to the application forms during their completion and will maintain their formatting integrity for the evaluation process. The Evaluators need to be able to find information in the same location on all the applications submitted. If applicants need to attach additional sheets to the application forms, the sheets must be typewritten or word processed. Forms with handwritten additional sheets will not be accepted or evaluated.

2. Style Requirements. All applications must conform to the specifications below.

- Binding Type: Clips or ring binders only
- Paper Size: 8.5" x 11"
- Paper Color: White
- Font Type: Arial, Verdana, or Times New Roman
- Font Size: 10 or 12 points
- Margins: Minimum 1"

3. Organization. The application must be organized as follows:

Cover Sheet

Table of Contents

Section A. Declaration and Disclosures

Declaration of Confidential Information (*if applicable*)

Conflict of Interest – Disclosure Statements

Section B. General Application

Narrative

Budget

Section C. Project Application(s)

Part 1 – Facility Purchase

Part 2 – Facility Loan Refinancing

Part 3 – Facility Improvement

Part 4 – Equipment

Part 5 – Technology

Part 6 – Transportation

Section D. Participant Organizations

Required Forms

Required Documentation

4. Pagnation. The nonprofit collaboration's name must be displayed in the footer of each page of the application. All pages of the application, including forms and documentation, must be numbered in the footer. For the entire application, use the following format: Page x of xx

5. Packaging and Labeling Requirements. The application must be submitted in sealed packages and be addressed to the Official Contact. The Name and Mailing Address of the Single Point of Contact (see NCIGP Form 1) must appear in the upper left corner of the package. Any application received that does not conform to these packaging or labeling instructions will be opened as general mail. Such an application may be accepted by OPM as a clerical function, but it may not be evaluated. At the discretion of OPM, such an application may be destroyed or retained for pick up by the submitter.

F. EVALUATION OF APPLICATIONS

- 1. Evaluation Process.** It is the intent of OPM to conduct a comprehensive, fair, and impartial evaluation of applications received in response to this RFA. When evaluating applications, negotiating with applicants, and awarding grants, OPM will conform to its written procedures for Personal Service Agreements (pursuant to C.G.S. § 4-217), the State’s Code of Ethics (pursuant to C.G.S. §§ 1-84 and 1-85), and the NCIGP Evaluation Plan developed for the purposes of this RFA.
- 2. Minimum Submission Requirements.** Only applications found to be responsive (that is, in compliance with all instructions and requirements described herein) will be reviewed, rated, and scored. Applications that fail to comply with all instructions and requirements will be rejected without further consideration. To be eligible for evaluation, applications must meet the following minimum submission requirements: (1) be received on or before the due date and time; (2) follow the required format; and (3) be complete.
- 3. Evaluation Committee.** OPM will designate an Evaluation Committee to review, rate, and score eligible applications meeting the minimum submission requirements. At its discretion, the Evaluation Committee may seek the assistance of one or more Technical Advisors having special knowledge or expertise to help in its assessment of information submitted in the applications (e.g., financial statements, projected savings). The contents of all applications, including any confidential information, will be shared with the Evaluation Committee (and possibly Technical Advisors). Attempts by any applicant (or representative of any applicant) to contact or influence any member of the Evaluation Committee shall result in disqualification of the application.
- 4. Evaluation Criteria (and Points).** OPM has established criteria for reviewing and evaluating applications. To be considered for funding, an applicant must receive a minimum average rating of 140 combined points on the General Application AND any Project Application. Bonus points may be added to the final score of any application receiving this minimum average rating.

Funding recommendations are at the discretion of the Evaluation Committee, which may recommend any, none, or part of the applications to the Secretary of OPM. The OPM Secretary has full discretion to accept or reject, in whole or in part, any funding recommendation submitted by the Evaluation Committee.

NOTE: As part of its review, the Evaluation Committee will also consider the applicant’s demonstrated commitment to affirmative action, as required by the Regulations of CT State Agencies § 46A-68j-30(10).

GENERAL APPLICATION	POINTS
Narrative	
o Description of Nonprofit Collaboration	15 max.
o Consolidation of Programs or Services	15 max.
o Overview of Projects	15 max.
Budget	
o Line Item Budget	10 max.
o Funding Sources (Leverage)	10 max.
o Sustainability	10 max.
o Benefits and Cost Savings	15 max.
Nonprofit Collaboration	
o Participant Organization Profiles	5 max.
o Financial Statements / Annual Budget	5 max.

PROJECT APPLICATIONS	POINTS	BONUS POINTS
<i>Any Project Application for Equipment, Technology, or Transportation will be awarded an additional 10 bonus points if such project supports a larger capital project (namely, a facility purchase or facility improvement).</i>		
Part 1 – Facility Purchase	100 max.	0
Part 2 – Facility Loan Refinancing	100 max.	0
Part 3 – Facility Improvement	100 max.	0
Part 4 – Equipment	100 max.	10 max.
Part 5 – Technology	100 max.	10 max.
Part 6 – Transportation	100 max.	10 max.
PRIORITY AREAS		BONUS POINTS

Bonus points may be added to the final score of any application receiving a minimum average rating of 140 combined points on the General Application AND any Project Application.

- (a) Applicant has existing contracts with State of CT to provide health or human services 5 max.
- (b) Application maximizes efficiencies gained by streamlining 5 max.
- (c) Application maximizes State’s investment by leveraging additional funding from private or federal sources 5 max.
- (d) Applicant plans for additional nonprofit organizations to join the collaboration in the future 5 max.
- (e) Application demonstrates real change; proposes physical consolidation 5 max.
- (f) Application demonstrates fiscal stability and sustainable funding in the out years 5 max.
- (g) Application proposes consolidation with larger scope of shared business operations, functions, or services 5 max.

5. Meetings with Applicants. The Evaluation Committee may request a meeting with an applicant in order to gain a better understanding of the application. The meeting may involve a site visit. If the Evaluation Committee decides such a meeting is warranted, the Official Contact will notify the applicant and provide detailed procedures for the meeting. Any such meeting will be scheduled at the mutual convenience of the Evaluation Committee and the applicant. An applicant must not use a meeting with the Evaluation Committee to supplement, improve, or amend the application. At its sole discretion, OPM may invite only certain applicants to meetings and may limit the number of attendees per applicant.

6. Grant Selection and Award. Upon completing its evaluation of applications, the Evaluation Committee will submit its recommendations to the Secretary of OPM. The final selection of any application(s) is at the discretion of the Secretary of OPM. Any selected applicant will be notified by OPM and given an

opportunity to negotiate the scope and amount of a possible grant award contract. If the applicant and OPM reach agreement as a result of these negotiations, an applicant may be required to provide additional documentation that will form the basis of a funding request to the State Bond Commission.

- 7. Grant Execution.** If any project is approved by the State Bond Commission, OPM may appoint another State agency as the administrator ("State administering agency") to execute a contract with the successful applicant and to oversee the grantee's implementation of the approved project(s). If OPM is not a party to the contract with the grantee, OPM will continue to exercise its statutory authority related to the overall direction and implementation of the program. The contract is executory and no final commitments can be made until the contract is approved by the Office of the Attorney General.

NOTE: Any resulting contract between the applicant and the State will be posted on the State Contracting Portal. All unsuccessful applicants will be notified by e-mail or U.S. mail, at OPM's discretion, at the conclusion of the evaluation and selection process.

- 8. Grant Payments.** The State must document to the federal government that payments for bond fund projects do not earn interest, even overnight, in grantee accounts. Payments must be made directly to the grantee or be a strict reimbursement. Such documentation enables the State to preserve its ability to issue tax-exempt bonds.

The State does not make payments on "bond fund contracts" directly to the grantee. Deposits are made to an account known as a Tax-Exempt Proceeds Funds (TEPF). Once the account is opened by the grantee, the grantee may write checks on the account for payments to authorized payees. The State and the grantee will receive monthly statements from the TEPF. The grantee shall requisition deposits to the TEPF from the State, using forms that will be provided.

II. APPLICATION COMPONENTS

The application must be organized as follows and include all required components. Applications that do not comply with these instructions will not be evaluated.

Cover Sheet

Applications must include a Cover Sheet (NCIGP Form 1). One participant organization must serve as the Single Point of Contact for the nonprofit collaboration and, as such, be authorized to represent all participant organizations during the application process. In the event an application is selected, all participant organizations in the nonprofit collaboration will be included in the negotiations concerning the scope and amount of a possible grant award contract. If granted an award, one participant organization must serve as a Fiduciary Agent to administer the grant award contract on behalf of the collaboration. The Single Point of Contact for the application and the Fiduciary Agent for the grant award need not be the same organization.

Table of Contents

Applications must have a Table of Contents. The Table of Contents must be consistent with the required organization for the application and must include page numbers. See Section I.E.3 above.

Section A: Declaration & Disclosures**1. Declaration of Confidential Information** (if applicable)

If an applicant deems that certain information required by this RFA is confidential, the applicant must include a Declaration of Confidential Information immediately after the Cover Sheet. An applicant must label the information deemed as CONFIDENTIAL. In the Declaration, the applicant must provide a convincing explanation and rationale sufficient to justify an exemption of the information from release under the FOIA. The explanation and rationale must be stated in terms of (a) the prospective harm to the competitive position of the applicant that would result if the identified information were to be released and (b) the reasons why the information is legally exempt from release pursuant to C.G.S. § 1-210(b).

2. Conflict of Interest – Disclosure Statements

Each participant organization of the nonprofit collaboration must include a disclosure statement concerning any current business relationships (within the last three (3) years) that pose a conflict of interest, as defined by C.G.S. § 1-85. In the absence of any conflict of interest, an applicant must affirm such in the disclosure statement. *Example: "[Name of participant organization] has no current business relationships (within the last three (3) years) that pose a conflict of interest, as defined by C.G.S. § 1-85."* The disclosure statement must be signed and dated by the Authorized Official of the participant organization.

Section B: General Application**1. Narrative**

Applicants must provide a narrative for the application, including, but not limited to, the information below. *Maximum 15 pages (double line spacing).*

a. Description of Nonprofit Collaboration:

- (1) What is the core business of each participant organization?
- (2) How did the participant organizations come together in the collaboration? How were they selected for inclusion? What criteria were used?
- (3) What opportunities does the collaboration present for the participant organizations? What risks?
- (4) What key factors are necessary for the success of the collaboration? Are these factors present?
- (5) What are the plans, if any, for additional organizations to join the collaboration in the future?

b. Consolidation of Programs or Services:

- (1) What programs or services does each participant organization currently provide in Connecticut? For any program or service **not** funded under a State contract, specify the municipality where the organization provides the programs or services.
- (2) What programs or services will the collaboration consolidate?
- (3) What magnitude of change is envisioned? How will the change be measured?
- (4) What is the anticipated timeline for accomplishing the consolidation?
- (5) How will the consolidation impact the delivery of programs or services?
- (6) Will the collaboration involve a physical consolidation or reorganization? If so, describe in detail.
- (7) How – in what ways and to what extent – will the consolidation change the business practices of the participant organizations?

c. Overview of Project Application(s):

- (1) How do the project applications support the consolidation of programs or services?
- (2) What explains the priority ranking (importance) given to the project applications?
- (3) What is the interrelationship of the project applications? How do they fit together as a whole?

2. Budget

Applicants must provide a budget, including, but not limited to, the information below. *Maximum 15 pages (double line spacing), excluding NCIGP Form 2 and its attachment.*

- a. Line Item Budget.** Prepare a line item budget detailing all direct costs associated with implementation of the project(s), including any (1) planning and administrative costs directly related to such project(s) or (2) relocation expenses directly related to physical consolidation. The budget must not include any normal or ongoing operating costs of any participant organization.
- b. Funding Sources (Leverage).** Complete NCIGP Form 2 – Funding Sources (Leverage). For each project application, enter sum of all available funding for the project from all sources. On an attachment, identify all funding sources (name and amount) for each project.
- c. Sustainability.** Discuss the fiscal stability of the consolidation, including the sustainability of the funding sources (identified on NCIGP Form 2) in the out years.
- d. Benefits and Cost Savings.** Explain and quantify the anticipated benefits, cost savings, or efficiencies associated with the consolidation. Project annual savings for each of the five years following its implementation. Explain how the nonprofit collaboration intends to use any anticipated cost savings from the consolidation.

Section C: Project Application(s)

- 1. Parts 1 – 6.** There are six project applications. At a minimum, applicants must submit one project application. At a maximum, applicants may submit six project applications (one for each part). Each project application has its own application form and instructions.

- Part 1. Facility Purchase
- Part 2. Facility Loan Refinancing
- Part 3. Facility Improvement
- Part 4. Equipment
- Part 5. Technology
- Part 6. Transportation

To apply for funding for an energy conservation project or relocation expenses, use Project Application Part 3. See Instructions for details.

NOTE: To be eligible for evaluation, project applications must include all required project forms and documentation. Applications found to be incomplete (without the required forms and documentation) will not be considered.

- 2. Prioritization.** Applicants submitting more than one project application must rank them in order of importance, according to the needs of the nonprofit collaboration. Rank project applications in descending order, from the highest priority (#1) to the lowest priority. Indicate the priority ranking of each project application on the application form itself, in the space provided.

- 3. Procurement Requirements.** The minimum cost of a project procurement is \$10,000. The exception is equipment and technology, where the minimum cost of a procurement is \$5,000. Applicants may request multiple procurements for a project.

All procurements must be competitive, except for a facility purchase or facility loan refinancing. As a general rule, "sole source" procurements are not permitted. One possible exception would be for a vendor having proprietary services or patent rights. In such a case, an applicant must explain in detail the reasons for requesting a waiver from the competitive procurement requirements and provide supporting evidence of the proprietary services or patent rights.

To the extent practicable, applicants are advised to break their procurements into the smallest identifiable units for which bids can be obtained. As funding for the NCIGP is limited, this may enable the Evaluation Committee to recommend partial funding of a project application, or select among the most needed items, if funding the entire project is not feasible.

Within each project application, applicants must prioritize each procurement for the project. Rank procurements in descending order, from the highest priority (#1) to the lowest priority. Use NCIGP Form 3 for this purpose.

Section D: Participant Organizations

Each participant organization in the nonprofit collaboration must submit the forms and documentation below. The required forms must not be altered or used to extend, enhance, or replace any component required by this RFA. Documentation other than that requested below will be discarded and not evaluated.

Note: The required forms and documentation for each participant organization must be bundled together in the application. For example, the forms and documentation for Organization A must be grouped together and organized in the order specified below. Then the forms and documentation for Organization B, then Organization C, and so on.

1. Required Forms

- ___ Participant Organization Profile (NCIGP Form 9)
- ___ State Funding Information (NCIGP Form 10)
- ___ U.S. Department of the Treasury, Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification, Form W-9 (Rev. 1-2003)
- ___ State of Connecticut, Agency Vendor Form SP-26NB-IPDF (Rev. 4/10)
- ___ State of Connecticut, OPM Vendor/Bidder Profile Sheet, OPM-A-15 (Rev. Jun-08)
- ___ State of Connecticut, Nondiscrimination Certification (Rev. 07-08-2009)
* Find applicable form at: http://www.ct.gov/opm/fin/nondiscrim_forms
- ___ State of Connecticut, Acknowledgement of Contract Compliance, Notification To Bidders
- ___ State of Connecticut, Contract Compliance Monitoring Report (Parts I-V)

2. Required Documentation

- ___ Determination letter from the Department of Treasury, Internal Revenue Service, granting the organization exemption from federal income tax under Section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code
- ___ Certificate of Legal Existence, issued by the State of Connecticut, Secretary of the State
- ___ Annual Report Form, State of Connecticut, Secretary of the State (copy of most recent filing)
- ___ List of Board of Directors, including Names and Titles of Officers
- ___ Certified resolution, adopted by the Board of Directors, approving **and** authorizing submission of the application
- ___ Current Annual Budget (Note: Budget must delineate State funding from other sources of funding.)
- ___ Financial Statements. If available, CPA-prepared financial statements for the most recent three years: (1) financial position, (2) activities, (3) cash flow, (4) functional expenses; plus (5) any findings in the most recent audit. Otherwise, copies of IRS Tax Form 990 (Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax) for the most recent three years, plus any additional forms or attachments submitted to the IRS with the return.

ATTACHMENTS

Nonprofit Collaboration Incentive Grant Program

- NCIGP (Forms 1 - 10)
- Project Applications – Forms Grid
- Project Instructions and Applications (Parts 1-6)
- Previously Asked Questions

General

- OPM, RFP Conditions

Other Informational Materials/Documents and/or Required Forms

- OPM Vendor/Bidder Profile Sheet, OPM-A-15 (Rev. Jun-08)
- Standard Contract Language:
 - Form CO-802A
 - Attachment A
 - Attachment B
 - Attachment C
- Forms:
 - Ethics Affidavits and Certifications
 - Nondiscrimination Certification
- Agency Vendor Form SP-26NB-IPDF (Rev. 4/10)
- Department of the Treasury, Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Form W-9 (Rev. 1-2003)
- OPM, Contract Compliance Package

State of Connecticut
Office of Policy and Management
NONPROFIT COLLABORATION INCENTIVE GRANT PROGRAM
COVER SHEET

Instructions: Complete and submit one (1) Cover Sheet with the grant application. One participant organization must serve as the Single Point of Contact for the nonprofit collaboration. If granted an award, one participant organization must serve as a Fiduciary Agent to administer the grant award contract on behalf of the collaboration. The Single Point of Contact for the application and the Fiduciary Agent for the grant award need not be the same organization.

Name of Nonprofit Collaboration: _____

Total Funding Requested: \$ _____ (for all Project Applications submitted)

Priority of Project Applications: *Rank submitted project applications in descending order, from the highest priority (#1) to the lowest priority.*

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Facility Purchase | <input type="checkbox"/> Facility Improvement | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Facility Loan Refinancing | <input type="checkbox"/> Equipment | <input type="checkbox"/> Technology |

Single Point of Contact Organization: _____

Contact Person: _____ Title: _____

Location: _____ Telephone: _____

E-Mail: _____ Cell: _____

Other Participant Organizations:

Organization Name	Location	Contact Person / Title	Telephone

Identify the intended Fiduciary Agency with an asterisk ().*

State of Connecticut
Office of Policy and Management
NONPROFIT COLLABORATION INCENTIVE GRANT PROGRAM
FUNDING SOURCES (LEVERAGE)

Instructions: Enter sum of all available funding for each project application from other sources. In the *State column, separate out and put in parentheses any funds requested for the project from the NCIGP in this grant application, e.g., (3,000). On an attached sheet, identify all funding sources (name and amount) for each project application.

Project Application	Funding Sources						Project Total
	Federal	*State	Municipal	Private	Loans	Other	
Part 1. Facility Purchase							
Part 2. Facility Loan Refinancing							
Part 3. Facility Improvement							
Part 4. Equipment							
Part 5. Technology							
Part 6. Transportation							
Source Total							

PROCUREMENT DETAILS

Instructions: Submit one copy of NCIGP Form 4 for each procurement for the project. Provide requested information in the space below. *Attach additional sheets as needed to provide full information about the procurement.*

(a) Description and Justification. Describe the procurement and its purpose. Identify and explain the business issue(s) that drive the need for the procurement. Explain how the procurement supports the consolidation of programs or services.

(b) Specification. Provide the written specification for the procurement. NOTE: This specification must be identical to the one used to solicit bids, estimates, or quotations for the procurement.

(c) Graphic. Attach a photograph, drawing, diagram, or other image for the procurement, if feasible and appropriate.

Application Part: _____ **Procurement Priority:** _____ **Item:** _____

PROCUREMENT COSTS
Bids | Estimates | Quotations

Instructions: Use this form to disclose the results of all competitive procurements for the project. List all procurements (items) for the project in descending order, from the highest priority (#1) to the lowest priority. For each procurement, enter vendor information from three written bids, estimates, or quotations. Check the box of the vendor selected for the project.
Make additional copies of this form as needed.

NOTE: The term "vendor" is broadly defined as any individual or entity submitting a written bid, estimate, or quotation in response to an applicant's specifications for a competitive procurement.

Project Application Part ____ Name of Nonprofit Collaboration: _____

Procurement Priority No:	Item: _____					
VENDOR #1 []		VENDOR #2 []		VENDOR #3 []		
_____		_____		_____		
Vendor Name		Vendor Name		Vendor Name		
\$ _____		\$ _____		\$ _____		
Amount		Amount		Amount		

Procurement Priority No:	Item: _____					
VENDOR #1 []		VENDOR #2 []		VENDOR #3 []		
_____		_____		_____		
Vendor Name		Vendor Name		Vendor Name		
\$ _____		\$ _____		\$ _____		
Amount		Amount		Amount		

Procurement Priority No:	Item: _____					
VENDOR #1 []		VENDOR #2 []		VENDOR #3 []		
_____		_____		_____		
Vendor Name		Vendor Name		Vendor Name		
\$ _____		\$ _____		\$ _____		
Amount		Amount		Amount		

Procurement Priority No:	Item: _____					
VENDOR #1 []		VENDOR #2 []		VENDOR #3 []		
_____		_____		_____		
Vendor Name		Vendor Name		Vendor Name		
\$ _____		\$ _____		\$ _____		
Amount		Amount		Amount		

(MODIFIED) LIEN ANALYSIS

Instructions and Definitions of Terms:

Section 1. Replacement Value

Estimate the cost of building a new facility of similar construction type in your area in the current construction environment. Base this estimate on the current estimated construction cost per square foot (including the cost of the land) and multiply by the total square footage of the facility to be renovated or purchased. A local architect might be helpful in developing this estimate since s/he is familiar with published cost standards and market costs. Cite source of standard used to determine the replacement value.

Section 2. Purchase Price / Lease Cost

If owned by a participant organization or holding company of a participant organization, give the amount of purchase price and the year in which purchased. If a leased property, give the cost of the lease per month and yearly amount. Cite current real estate market estimates of rent for a facility of similar type and size (e.g., commercial, residential, etc.). In the case of a leased property, describe any accommodation(s) the landlord has made or will make if a State-funded improvement occurs.

Section 3. Additional Bond Funds

If this request is for purchase (down payment) assistance, explain whether additional funding is requested to renovate this facility. If so, provide an estimate of the cost.

Section 4. Current Liens

List all current (existing or proposed) liens on the property (whether leased or owned) that will be purchased or improved. This listing is all inclusive: including, but not limited to, State of Connecticut liens, municipal liens, or mechanics liens. Cite the date the lien(s) were placed on the property, the total amount of the lien, anticipated termination date of the lien, and the current value. If the current value of the liens, plus the mortgage balance, plus the funds requested in the grant application exceed the current market value, the application will not be considered for funding.

Section 5. Current Mortgage Balance

For owned or leased properties, indicate amount of mortgage balance as of the given date.

Section 6. Current Market Value

Estimate the current market value for both owned and leased properties. The intent here is to approximate current market selling price. If there is a recent (within one year) appraisal and/or assessment, use those amounts as the estimate. A local realtor may be helpful in providing this information.

(MODIFIED) LIEN ANALYSIS

Instructions: Provide requested information in the space below. *Attach additional sheets as needed to provide full information.*

Name of Nonprofit Collaboration: _____

Facility Address: _____

1. REPLACEMENT VALUE \$ _____

Construction Cost Per Square Foot \$ _____ Total Square Footage _____

Cite Source Of Standard _____

2. PURCHASE PRICE / LEASE COST

If applicant-owned property:

Purchase Price \$ _____ Year Purchased: _____

If applicant-leased property:

Lease Per Month \$ _____ Lease Per Year \$ _____

Current Annual Real Estate Market Estimates For Rent: \$ _____

Describe any accommodation(s) the owner has made or will make if a State-funded improvement occurs:

3. USE OF BOND FUNDS:

Is applicant requesting funds to purchase this property? [] yes [] no Amount \$ _____

Is applicant requesting funds to improve this property? [] yes [] no Amount \$ _____

4. CURRENT LIEN VALUE

List below all current (existing or proposed) liens. Give the name of the lien holder, date lien was placed, amount of total lien, anticipated termination date, and current value.

Name of Lien holder	Date Placed	Total Lien Amount	Anticipated Term. Date	Current Value
------------------------	----------------	----------------------	---------------------------	------------------

5. CURRENT MORTGAGE BALANCE FOR OWNED OR LEASED PROPERTY

Balance \$ _____ Balance Date _____

6. CURRENT MARKET VALUE: \$ _____

Attach written appraisal/assessment or letter from realtor with current market value.

There must be at least \$3,000 of equity between the total lien amount and the current market value to be considered for funding.

If there is more than a \$5,000 difference between the purchase price and current market value, explain below (i.e., past renovations increased value, property purchased 20 years ago, etc.).

Signature of Authorized Official

Printed Name of Authorized Official

Date

OWNER STATEMENT

Instructions: The owner of the facility must complete and sign the Owner Statement form. If the facility has more than one owner, each must sign an Owner Statement form. Make additional copies as necessary.

I hereby certify that I am the (an) owner of record of the property located at:

I hereby certify that I will be the (an) owner of record of the property located at:

Address: _____

I hereby understand and agree that if the premises for which a grant-in-aid was made ceases, within ten years of the date of such grant, to be used as a facility for which such grant was made, an amount equal to the amount of such grant, minus ten percent per year for each full year which has elapsed since the date of such grant, shall be repaid to the State and that a lien shall be placed on such land in favor of the State to ensure that such amount will be repaid in the event of such change in use, provided if the premises for which such grant was made are owned by the State, a municipality or a housing authority, no lien need be placed.

Owner Name (Typed)

Owner Signature

Date

Type of Entity: _____
(e.g., corporation, partnership, private individual)

Tax Status of Owner (check one):

501(c)(3) organization:
Specify: nonprofit church organization

State or municipal government

Private individual

Other (explain below) :

OWNER APPROVAL

Instructions: All owners of the facility must sign this Owner Approval form. Attach proof of ownership.

Type of Facility (check one): Applicant-Owned Applicant-Leased

Facility Address: _____

Is there more than one owner of this facility? Yes No

If yes, provide names and addresses of all owners below.

Owner Name(s) and Address(es):

COMPLETE THIS SECTION FOR APPLICANT-LEASED FACILITY:

Name of Tenant [Participant Organization]: _____

How long has the tenant occupied this site? _____ Years _____ Months

What is the end date of the current lease? _____

Can the lease with this tenant be extended? Yes No If yes, how long? _____ Years _____ Months

I, the undersigned, am the / an owner of the above facility. I have read the Project Application – Part 3 (Facility Improvement) concerning my property and approve the work proposed in the application.

Owner Name (Typed)	Owner Signature	Date
Owner Name (Typed)	Owner Signature	Date
Owner Name (Typed)	Owner Signature	Date
Owner Name (Typed)	Owner Signature	Date
Owner Name (Typed)	Owner Signature	Date

State of Connecticut
Office of Policy and Management
NONPROFIT COLLABORATION INCENTIVE GRANT PROGRAM
PARTICIPANT ORGANIZATION PROFILE

Instructions:

Each participant organization in the nonprofit collaboration must complete and submit this form with the NCIGP Application. To answer questions requiring additional explanation, attach sheets as needed.

Legal Name of Organization: _____

Location Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Telephone: _____ E-Mail Address: _____

Name of Authorized Official: _____

Title of Authorized Official: _____

1. BUSINESS INFORMATION

- a. Year Established: _____
- b. Business ID # _____ (as assigned by Secretary of the State)
- c. Organization's Fiscal Year: From _____ To _____
- d. Number of Years at Current Location: _____
- e. Has the organization experienced any management or ownership changes in the last year? [] Yes [] No
If yes, explain.
- f. Is the organization in good standing with the State of Connecticut and all regulatory authorities?
[] Yes [] No *If no, explain.*

2. STATE CONTRACTS

- a. Describe the health or human services that the organization currently provides under State contract, if any.
- b. Has the State ever terminated or suspended a contract with the organization for breach or over concerns about the health or welfare of clients? [] Yes [] No *If yes, explain.*

3. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

- a. Has the organization ever declared bankruptcy? [] Yes [] No *If yes, explain.*
- b. Are any local, State, or federal taxes currently past due (unpaid) by the organization? [] Yes [] No
If yes, explain.

4. OTHER INFORMATION

- a. Is the organization currently involved in, or anticipate, any litigation or other legal claims?
[] Yes [] No *If yes, explain.*
- b. Has any agency of the State of Connecticut or federal government taken any action against your organization or principals of the organization? [] Yes [] No *If yes, explain.*
- c. Does your organization employ or contract with (1) any elected public official or the spouse of any elected public official; or (2) any employee or the spouse of an employee who has supervisory or appointing authority over the Office of Policy and Management? [] Yes [] No *If yes, explain.*
- d. Does your organization have any related parties (including, but not limited to, holding or subsidiary companies)? *If yes, list all related parties under common control and the purpose of each.*

CERTIFICATION

My signature below, for and on behalf of _____, certifies and indicates acceptance of the following: (Name of Organization)

- 1. I have the authority to submit this grant application;
- 2. I have read, understand, and will comply with any grant terms and conditions required by the State administering agency;
- 3. I understand that, if this grant application is approved, I will be required to sign an agreement delineating the terms and conditions of the grant with the State administering agency;
- 4. I understand that funding associated with this grant application is one-time in nature and that there is no obligation for additional funding from the State of Connecticut or the State administering agency;
- 5. I understand that, if this grant application is approved, such funding shall be expended no later than the date specified in the agreement;
- 6. I understand that requests to extend the grant end date shall be submitted in writing to the State administering agency no later than thirty (30) days before the grant end date;
- 7. I understand that unexpended funds shall be returned to the State within sixty (60) days of the grant end date;
- 8. I understand that, if this applicant meets the requirements of the State Single Audit Act, Sections 4-230 through 4-236, as amended, of the Connecticut General Statutes, the applicant is required to submit a State Single Audit, at its own expense, no later than six (6) months after the end of the audit period. If this applicant is not required to submit a State Single Audit, the applicant is required to submit a final accounting of the grant expenditures within sixty (60) days of the grant end date; and
- 9. I hereby certify that the statements contained in the responses to this application and accompanying forms and documents are true to the best of my knowledge and belief and that I know of no reason why the applicant cannot complete the proposed project in accordance with the representations contained herein.

Signature of Authorized Official

Printed Name of Authorized Official

Date

State of Connecticut
Office of Policy and Management
NONPROFIT COLLABORATION INCENTIVE GRANT PROGRAM
STATE FUNDING INFORMATION

Instructions: Each participant organization in the nonprofit collaboration must submit this form with the grant application. Identify all State funding received during the last three State Fiscal Years (ending in 2009, 2010, 2011). List funding in reverse chronological order, starting with SFY 2011. *Make additional copies of this form as needed.*

Name of Participant Organization: _____

SFY	State Agency	Funding \$	Program Name (or Purpose of Funding)
2011			

PROJECT APPLICATIONS – FORMS GRID

The applicant must submit the required forms (indicated by a check mark ✓ below) with a Project Application, Parts 1– 6. Any Project Application that does not include the required forms will not be evaluated or considered for funding. Applicants must submit a minimum of one Project Application. At a maximum, applicants may submit six project applications (one for each part).

Project Application ⇒ Form ⇓	PART 1 Facility Purchase	PART 2 Facility Loan Refinancing	PART 3 Facility Improvement	PART 4 Equipment	PART 5 Technology	PART 6 Transportation
Project Application	Part 1 ✓	Part 2 ✓	Part 3 ✓	Part 4 ✓	Part 5 ✓	Part 6 ✓
Project Cost Summary NCIGP Form 3	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Procurement Details NCIGP Form 4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Procurement Cost Bids Estimates Quotations NCIGP Form 5	n/a	n/a	✓	✓	✓	✓
<i>Do not submit the required forms below (indicated by a check mark ✓) with the application. If selected for a possible grant award, applicants will receive a notice from OPM about submitting these forms. See the Project Instructions for details.</i>						
(Modified) Lien Analysis NCIGP Form 6	✓	✓	✓	n/a	n/a	n/a
Owner Statement NCIGP Form 7	✓	✓	✓	n/a	n/a	n/a
Owner Approval NCIGP Form 8	n/a	n/a	✓	n/a	n/a	n/a

n/a = not applicable

FACILITY PURCHASE

A. GENERAL INFORMATION

- 1. Funding Limit.** Funding for a facility purchase is available in an amount up to 30% of the lowest appraisal, or 30% of the actual purchase price of the facility if the actual purchase price is lower than the appraisal.

The Part 1 project application is limited to one facility (one location).

NOTE: In the absence of a recent appraisal, an applicant may use the municipality's assessed value of the property to calculate the amount of the grant funding request. This calculated amount is only an estimate for the purposes of the application. If selected for a possible grant award, the applicant will be required to submit one (or two) appraisals to satisfy the requirements of this RFA. Only recent appraisals, i.e., those prepared during the previous 365 days, are acceptable. The amount of any subsequently awarded grant will be adjusted according to the lowest appraised value of the facility. (See Section C for more details.)

- 2. Restrictions.** Funding must be used for the down payment on a facility to be purchased. Funding is not available for the purchase of land or for new construction. NOTE: The facility purchase project must not involve any related party transactions.
- 3. Timeline.** The review and approval process for applications submitted in response to this RFA may take six to nine months. This timeline should be taken into consideration when purchasing a facility.
- 4. Surplus State Property.** Applicants that wish to purchase a facility must review the listing of available surplus State property in the desired area. All available excess State property must be considered before a search begins for any other property for purchase. Contact Shane Mallory at the CT Department of Public Works (860-713-5682) and Terry Obey at the CT Department of Transportation (860-594-2462) to inquire about available surplus State property. Alternatively, applicants may search for surplus State property on the Internet at: www.ct-surplus-property.com
- 5. Advertising.** If no suitable surplus State property is found, applicants are required to advertise their needs and specifications in a newspaper having a substantial circulation in the area where property is sought. A copy of the newspaper advertisement must be sent to the CT Association of Realtors. Address: 111 Founders Plaza, Suite 1101, East Hartford, CT 06108; FAX (860) 290-6615; PHONE (860) 290-6601.
- 6. Mortgage Commitment Agreement.** Successful applicants (grantees) must provide the State administering agency with a copy of the fully executed mortgage commitment agreement. This is not a letter of intent, but an actual commitment. This document does not need to be submitted with the application. However, the mortgage commitment agreement must be submitted prior to the execution of the contract.
- 7. Lien Receipt and Copy.** Receipt of funds for a facility project requires the filing of lien in the town where the property is located. The lien will remain in effect for ten years. The State administering agency will provide grantees with instructions for the lien filing. Grantees are responsible for the filing costs.
- 8. Change of Ownership.** Grantees must notify the State administering agency immediately of any plans to change ownership of a funded facility, as such a change affects that status of the grantee's bond fund contract with the State.

B. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- 1. Application for Facility Purchase.** Submit Project Application – Part 1, with all required forms and related documentation.
- 2. Project Cost Summary** (NCIGP Form 3). List all procurement costs related to the project. Show how requested grant funds and other funds will be used for these costs.
- 3. Procurement Details** (NCIGP Form 4). Applicants must submit one copy of NCIGP Form 4 for each procurement for the project. For the facility purchase itself, in Section (b) Specification, provide a detailed description of the facility (e.g., style, type of construction, number of stories, acreage).
- 4. Purchase Agreement.** If an applicant has a formal Agreement To Purchase the facility, include a copy with the Project Application. Be advised that the review and approval process for applications submitted in response to this RFA may take six to nine months. This timeline should be taken into consideration when negotiating the terms of any purchase and determining the closing date. The State assumes no responsibility for any purchase made prior to approval of the State Bond Commission and the execution of a contract.

In the absence of a formal purchase agreement with the seller, an applicant must submit a written status report on the anticipated purchase. The report must include, at a minimum, the following information: name and address of the seller, a description of the facility and its condition, any contingencies associated with the facility purchase, disclosure of any monies or deposits given, and the terms of any tentative agreement (or "agreement in principle") that the applicant has with the seller.

- 5. Assessor's Card.** If an applicant uses the municipality's assessed value of the property to calculate the amount of the grant funding request, include a copy of the assessor's card.

C. GRANT AWARD REQUIREMENTS

If selected for a possible grant award, the applicant will be required to submit additional documentation (listed below) within 60 calendar days after OPM's Official Contact sends the applicant written instructions to do so. If an applicant needs additional time to comply with this requirement, a request for an extension may be directed to the Official Contact. Applicants who fail to submit the requirement documentation within the time allowed may be deemed unresponsive and will not be considered further. The documents will be reviewed by the Evaluation Committee for sufficiency. If deemed sufficient, the applicant may be invited to negotiate a grant award contract. If deemed insufficient, the application will not be considered further.

NOTE: Do not submit this additional documentation with the application. For those applicants selected for a possible grant award, OPM will issue instructions at the conclusion of the evaluation process for submitting the additional documentation.

- 1. Appraisals.** If the facility to be purchased is valued at less than \$100,000, then one independent appraisal is to be prepared and submitted. If the facility to be purchased is valued at \$100,000 or more, two independent appraisals must be prepared and submitted. One appraisal may be done by the financial institution that grants the mortgage, unless the financial institution is the owner of the facility. The other must be done by a MIA-certified appraiser (Member of the Appraisal Institute). Any appraisal submitted in fulfillment of the requirements of this RFA must have been prepared within the previous 365 days.
- 2. (Modified) Lien Analysis Form** (NCIGP Form 6). If the current value of any liens on the property, plus the (anticipated) mortgage balance, plus the requested funding amount (for the facility purchase) exceeds

the current market (appraisal) value of the property, the facility purchase will not be considered for funding.

- 3. Engineering or Inspection Report.** The applicant must provide an engineering or inspection report on the facility regarding the presence of lead paint, asbestos, radon, underground storage tanks, or other environmental hazards, including the ramifications of removal or abatement.

NOTE: Removal or abatement costs of potential hazards must be taken into account when requesting grant funds. The majority of pre-1978 construction contains lead paint. If a facility is to be used for residential purposes, strict guidelines concerning lead paint apply if a child age six or under will be living at the facility.

- 4. Code Compliance.** All improvement projects must comply with all State or local fire, health and safety codes. Applicants must submit documentation that the facility and site meets (or will meet) all applicable licensing, local and State zoning, building, fire health, and safety codes for the anticipated use of the facility.
- 6. Owner Statement** (NCIGP Form 7). The participant organization(s) that expect to purchase the facility will be considered the owner(s) for the purposes of this RFA and must complete the Owner Statement.
- 7. Certified Resolution.** The participant organization(s) that expect(s) to purchase the facility must submit a certified resolution, adopted by the Board of Directors, authorizing the Executive Director or other designated representative to act on behalf of the Board of Directors to purchase the facility.
- 8. Agreement To Purchase.** If not previously submitted with the initial application, provide a copy of the Agreement To Purchase. The Agreement To Purchase must contain language stating that the property will not continue to be shown prior to the closing date. Be advised that the review and approval process for applications submitted in response to this RFA may take six to nine months. This timeline should be taken into consideration when negotiating the terms of the purchase and determining the closing date. The State assumes no responsibility for any purchase made prior to approval of the State Bond Commission and the execution of a contract.

FACILITY PURCHASE**Application Priority No.** _____**Instructions:** See Project Instructions – Part 1 for Facility Purchase. Complete Project Application – Part 1.
Include all required forms and documentation with the project application.**GENERAL INFORMATION**

Name of Nonprofit Collaboration: _____

Facility Address: _____

Are local or State approvals required for the intended future use of this facility? [] yes [] no

If yes, have the approvals been obtained? [] yes [] no

Purchase Price of Facility: \$ _____**Requested Funding for Facility Purchase Project:** \$ _____

See Project Instructions to determine the allowable Funding Limit.

Total Square Footage: _____ *Ordinary Living Space: _____ Date Built: _____

*Ordinary living space is that used by clients or staff during the normal course of the day, such as living rooms, bedrooms, bathrooms, kitchen areas, pantries, interior hallways, TV rooms, dining rooms, laundry rooms, basement recreational areas, enclosed porches, or staff offices. Ordinary living space does not include basement storage areas, attics, interior and exterior stairways, furnace rooms, or outside areas (such as open porches, decks, etc.).

If Applicant-Leased:

Name of Tenant Organization: _____ Length of Tenancy: ____ Years ____ Months

Date Current Lease Ends: _____ Current Rent: \$ _____ Per Year

QUESTIONS*Answer the questions below. Attach additional sheets as needed.*

1. What is the purpose of this project? How does it support the consolidation of programs and services?
2. If facility is applicant-leased:
How many State agency clients are currently served at this location (SFY 2010)? _____
How many other clients? _____
How much operational funding is received under State contract (SFY 2010) at this location? _____
3. Is this facility a surplus State property? [] yes [] no
If no, was all available excess State property considered for purchase? [] yes [] no
If yes, what locations were considered? If no, explain.

4. Did the applicant advertise the need and specifications for a facility in a newspaper having a substantial circulation in the area where this facility is located? yes no If yes, attach copy of advertisement. If no, explain.
5. If advertised in a newspaper, did the applicant send a copy of the advertisement to the CT Association of Realtors? yes no If no, explain.
6. How is the facility currently used? Explain.
7. Will any space in the facility be used in the future by any other individual or entity? yes no If yes, explain. Include the name of each individual or entity, the square footage to be used by each individual or entity, and whether the entity is exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
8. Will the applicant own the facility but lease the land? yes no If yes, explain.
9. Is this site under foreclosure proceedings? yes no If yes, explain.
10. Are any individuals or companies that provide goods or services, including the rental of property or the loaning of funds to this facility, related through family association, common ownership, control, or business association to any of the owners, operators, or officials of this facility? yes no If yes, list all related parties under common control and the purpose of each.

FACILITY LOAN REFINANCING

A. GENERAL INFORMATION

- 1. Funding Limit.** Funding for facility loan refinancing is available in an amount up to 30% of the lowest appraisal, or 30% of the actual purchase price of the facility if the actual purchase price is lower than the appraisal. Funds must be used to pay down a facility loan. Applicants may also wish to replace an existing debt obligation with one having more favorable provisions; reduce the interest rate to a lower one; extend the repayment schedule; or move from a variable-rate to a fixed-rate loan. Other refinancing needs of the nonprofit collaboration related to the consolidation of programs or services will also be considered for funding. Successful applicants (grantees) are expected to be able to continue servicing any refinanced facility loan in the out years.

The Part 2 project application is limited to one facility (one location).

NOTE: An applicant may use the assessed value of the property to calculate the amount of the grant funding request. This calculated amount is only an estimate for the purposes of the application. If selected for a possible award, the applicant will be required to submit one (or two) appraisals to complete the application process. An appraisal prepared during the previous 365 days is acceptable. The amount of any subsequently awarded grant will be adjusted according to the lowest appraised value of the facility. (See Section C below for more details.)

- 2. Restrictions.** Applications for the refinancing of a facility loan will be considered if at least one participant organization in the nonprofit collaboration owns the facility in question. Facilities owned by individuals or entities that are not participants in the nonprofit collaboration are not eligible for funding. NOTE: The facility loan refinancing project must not involve any related party transactions.
- 3. Timeline.** The review and approval process for applications submitted in response to this RFA may take six to nine months. This timeline should be taken into consideration when seeking loan refinancing.
- 4. Refinanced Facility Loan Agreement.** Successful applicants (grantees) must provide the State administering agency with a copy of the fully executed facility loan agreement after refinancing. This is not a letter of intent, but the actual facility loan agreement.
- 5. Lien Receipt and Copy.** Receipt of funds for a facility project requires the filing of lien in the town where the property is located. The lien will remain in effect for ten years. The State administering agency will provide grantees with instructions for the lien filing. Grantees are responsible for the filing costs.
- 6. Change of Ownership.** Grantees must notify the State administering agency immediately of any plans to change ownership of a funded facility, as such a change affects that status of the grantee's bond fund contract with the State.

B. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- 1. Application for Facility Refinancing Loan.** Submit Project Application – Part 2, with all required forms and related documentation.
- 2. Project Cost Summary** (NCIGP Form 3). List all procurement costs related to the project. Show how requested grant funds and other funds will be used for these costs.

3. **Procurement Details** (NCIGP Form 4). Applicants must submit one copy of NCIGP Form 4 for the project. In Section (b) Specification, provide a detailed description of the facility (e.g., style, type of construction, number of stories, acreage).
4. **Assessor's Card**. If an applicant uses the municipality's assessed value of the property to calculate the amount of the grant funding request, include a copy of the assessor's card.
5. **Current Loan Agreement**. Applicants must submit a copy of the current loan agreement for the facility with the application.

C. GRANT AWARD REQUIREMENTS

If selected for a possible grant award, the applicant will be required to submit additional documentation (listed below) within 60 calendar days after OPM's Official Contact sends the applicant written instructions to do so. If an applicant needs additional time to comply with this requirement, a request for an extension may be directed to the Official Contact. Applicants who fail to submit the requirement documentation within the time allowed may be deemed unresponsive and will not be considered further. The documents will be reviewed by the Evaluation Committee for sufficiency. If deemed sufficient, the applicant may be invited to negotiate a grant award contract. If deemed insufficient, the application will not be considered further.

NOTE: Do not submit this additional documentation with the application. For those applicants selected for a possible grant award, OPM will issue instructions at the conclusion of the evaluation process for submitting the additional documentation.

1. **Appraisals**. If the facility to be improved had a purchase price of less than \$100,000, then one independent appraisal is to be prepared and submitted. If the facility had a purchase price of \$100,000 or more, two independent appraisals must be prepared and submitted. One appraisal may be done by the financial institution that granted the mortgage, unless the financial institution is the past or current owner of the facility. The other must be done by a MIA-certified appraiser (Member of the Appraisal Institute). Any appraisal submitted in fulfillment of the requirements of this RFA must have been prepared within the previous 365 days. In all transactions, the facility loan refinancing must be an "arm's length" transaction.
2. **(Modified) Lien Analysis Form** (NCIGP Form 6). If the current value of any liens on the property, plus the mortgage balance, plus the requested funding amount (for the facility loan refinancing) exceeds the current market (appraisal) value of the property, the facility loan refinancing project will not be considered for funding.
3. **Engineering or Inspection Report**. The applicant must provide an engineering or inspection report on the facility regarding the presence of lead paint, asbestos, radon, underground storage tanks, or other environmental hazards, including the ramifications of removal or abatement.

NOTE: Removal or abatement costs of potential hazards must be taken into account when requesting grant funds. The majority of pre-1978 construction contains lead paint. If a facility is to be used for residential purposes, strict guidelines concerning lead paint apply if a child age six or under will be living at the facility.

4. **Code Compliance**. All improvement projects must comply with all State or local fire, health and safety codes. Applicants must submit documentation that the facility and site meets (or will meet) all applicable licensing, local and State zoning, building, fire health, and safety codes for the anticipated use of the facility.

- D. Owner Statement** (NCIGP Form 7). The participant organization(s) that enter(s) into an agreement to refinance the facility loan will be considered the owner(s) and must complete the Owner Statement.

FACILITY LOAN REFINANCING**Application Priority No.** _____**Instructions:** See Project Instructions – Part 2 for Facility Loan Refinancing. Complete Project Application – Part 2. Include all required forms and documentation with the project application.**GENERAL INFORMATION**

Name of Nonprofit Collaboration: _____

Facility Address: _____

Type of Project: Pay Down Loan
(check all that apply) More Favorable Provisions
 Reduce Interest Rate Extend Repayment Schedule
 Other: _____

Total Cost of Facility Loan Refinancing Project: \$ _____**Requested Funding for Facility Loan Refinancing Project:** \$ _____

See Project Instructions to determine the allowable Funding Limit.

Current Loan Agreement

Name and Address of Borrower: _____

Name and Address of Lender: _____

Original Principal: \$ _____ Current Balance: \$ _____

Original Interest Rate: _____ Original Term: _____

Annual Payment: \$ _____ (principal and interest) Current Payoff Date: _____

QUESTIONS*Answer the questions below. Attach additional sheets as needed.*

1. What is the purpose of this project? How does it support the consolidation of programs and services?
2. How many State agency clients are currently served in this facility (SFY 2010)? _____
 How many other clients? _____
 How much operational funding is received under State contract (SFY 2010) at this location? _____
3. Is the applicant currently working with a lending institute to refinance this debt? yes no
 If yes, explain.

4. Is the applicant in default under any current loan agreement? yes no If yes, explain.
5. Are there other outstanding financial obligations related to this facility not included in the project application? yes no If yes, explain.
6. Has the applicant received a past loan for purchasing or refinancing this facility from another State or federal agency? yes no
If yes, provide the name of the State or federal agency, purpose and amount of the loan, transaction date, and outstanding balance.
7. How is the facility currently used? Explain.
8. Will any space in the facility be used in the future by any other individual or entity? yes no
If yes, explain. Include the name of each individual or entity, the square footage to be used by each individual or entity, and whether the entity is exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
9. Is this site under foreclosure proceedings? yes no If yes, explain.
10. Are any individuals or companies that provide goods or services, including the rental of property or the loaning of funds to this facility, related through family association, common ownership, control, or business association to any of the owners, operators, or officials of this facility? yes no If yes, list all related parties under common control and the purpose of each.

FACILITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

A. GENERAL INFORMATION

- 1. Funding Limit.** Funding for facility improvements is available in an amount up to 30% of the lowest appraisal, or 30% of the actual purchase price of the facility if the actual purchase price is lower than the appraisal. The minimum cost for each facility improvement procurement is \$10,000. Therefore, the minimum funding request for a facility improvement procurement is \$3,000.

The Part 3 project application is limited to one facility (one location).

NOTE: An applicant may use the assessed value of the property to calculate the amount of the grant funding request. This calculated amount is only an estimate for the purposes of the application. If selected for a possible award, the applicant will be required to submit one (or two) appraisals to complete the application process. An appraisal prepared during the previous 365 days is acceptable. The amount of any subsequently awarded grant will be adjusted according to the lowest appraised value of the facility. (See Section C below for more details.)

- 2. Timeline.** The review and approval process for applications submitted in response to this RFA may take six to nine months. This timeline should be taken into consideration when seeking bids, estimates, or quotations, and selecting vendors for the project.
- 3. Project Categories.** Facility improvement projects may include alterations, repairs, and improvements to fire, health and safety systems, or infrastructures (including, but not limited to, electrical, plumbing, or energy conservation measures).

All facility improvement projects must be categorized as follows:

- CC = State or local fire, health or safety code compliance requirement
- CR = State or local fire, health or safety code recommendation
- UP = Upgrade
- ER = Essential Renovation
- EC = Energy conservation

Code compliance issues must be documented by the responsible State or local official. The code and section related to the noncompliance must be cited. Code recommendations must also be documented by the responsible State or local official. The code and section related to the recommendation must be cited, when appropriate.

An improvement project undertaken to meet code requirements in a facility occupied by State clients must be given the highest priority.

Upgrades are projects that would enhance the functioning or appearance of a facility. Upgrades are not normal or routine maintenance (i.e., the day-to-day activities necessary for a facility, its systems, or equipment to perform their intended function). The need for upgrades must be documented and explained by the applicant.

Essential renovations are projects to prevent further deterioration of a facility.

Energy conservation projects reduce energy usage or increase energy efficiency in a facility. Examples include, but are not limited to, conducting and implementing recommendations of an energy audit; or the

acquisition, installation, or modification of existing or new equipment to reduce energy consumption and related costs.

An “energy conservation” project can include new windows, roofing, or siding if the products are ENERGY STAR qualified or if they meet the criteria established by the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code. Energy Star qualified products are listed on the Internet at <http://www.energystar.gov>. The International Energy Conservation Code can be purchased on the Internet at <http://www.iccsafe.org>. Any “energy conservation” products procured with grant funds must be ENERGY STAR qualified or meet the criteria established by the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code.

If the products are not Energy Star qualified, or do not meet the established IECC criteria, the project would fall under one of the other categories listed above (i.e., CC, CR, UP, ER).

Relocation expenses are allowable for costs more than \$10,000 directly related to the consolidation of programs and services. Applicants must use a licensed moving company and select the vendor (mover) through a competitive procurement. Ancillary expenses such as disconnects and reconnects for utility services, cleaning services, etc. will not be considered for funding.

NOTE: If an applicant wishes to apply ONLY for relocation expenses, only include Submission Requirements B.1 – B.4 (below) with the Project Application – Part 3. The Grant Award Requirements in Section C will not apply.

4. **Restrictions.** Exterior painting will not be funded, unless the building has a historical designation and documentation of the designation is submitted with the application. Applications may be submitted for siding. Interior painting, carpeting, etc. will not be funded unless required as part of a larger facility improvement project. NOTE: The facility improvement project must not involve any related party transactions.
5. **Architectural Fees.** Funds requested for architectural fees must not exceed 10% of the total amount of funding requested for all procurements for the facility.
6. **Lien Receipt and Copy.** Receipt of funds for a facility project requires the filing of lien in the town where the property is located. The lien will remain in effect for ten years. The State administering agency will provide grantees with instructions for the lien filing. Grantees are responsible for the filing costs.
7. **Insurance.** Grantees must require that all contractors bidding on improvement projects have a certificate of insurance covering public liability and worker’s compensation. Requirements for public liability and worker’s compensation must be stated in the written specification used to solicit bids from contractors. If the selected contractor is a sole employee and, therefore, does not carry worker’s compensation, the applicant must state such in the project application.
8. **Performance Bond.** For all improvement projects where the selected contractor’s bid is greater than or equal to \$50,000, a performance bond in favor of the State and in an amount not less than 100% of the bid (covering the labor and material of the selected contractor for the improvement project) must be submitted and on file with the State administering agency prior to payment of invoices. This is the mechanism through which the quality and performance of the work being financed with the State’s bond funds is guaranteed. It is general practice for contractors in private industry to procure the performance bond. A performance bond is acquired from an insurance or bonding company by the contractor. The requirement for a performance bond must be stated in the written specification used to solicit bids from contractors. A performance bond does not have to be submitted with the application.

9. **Change of Ownership or Tenancy.** Grantees must notify the State administering agency immediately of any plans to change ownership or tenancy of a funded facility, as such a change affects that status of the grantee's bond fund contract with the State.

B. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

1. **Application for Facility Improvement.** Submit Project Application – Part 3, with all required forms and related documentation.
2. **Project Cost Summary** (NCIGP Form 3). List all procurement costs related to the project. Show how requested grant funds and other funds will be used for these costs.
3. **Procurement Details** (NCIGP Form 4). Applicants must submit one copy of NCIGP Form 4 for each procurement for the project. In addition to the standard information requested on the form, include the following:
 - (a) Documentation of any State or local fire, health, or safety code violations or recommendations.
 - (b) For an upgrade or essential renovation, include an explanation and rationale for the project.
 - (c) For an energy conservation project, any energy audit findings, and documentation that purchased products are ENERGY STAR qualified or meet the criteria established by the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code.
 - (d) For bathroom or kitchen remodeling, indicate the make and model of any fixtures and accessories. Specifications for roof replacement or building siding work must indicate the material to be installed and the guarantee required.
4. **Written Bids** (NCIGP Form 5). Applicants must include written bids from three responsible and qualified bidders for the project.

Bids must be sought through advertisement of the project specification in a newspaper having substantial circulation in the area. If, following advertisement in a newspaper a change is made to the project specification, the amended specification must be re-advertised to allow all prospective bidders an opportunity to bid. Bids must be on the bidder's letterhead or form, typewritten, dated and signed by an authorized agent of the company. Bids that do not follow this format or have hand written changes will not be accepted as valid.

A copy of the advertisement must be submitted with the Part 3 Application. Applicants must also post the advertisement on the State of CT's Contracting Portal at http://www.das.state.ct.us/Purchase/Portal/Portal_Home.asp

If the project is selected, the lowest responsible and qualified bidder will be funded for each procurement. The lowest responsible and qualified bidder is defined as the one whose bid is the lowest received and who possesses the skill, ability and integrity necessary to perform the work based on past performance and financial responsibility. The website www.contractors.com may be helpful in researching potential contractors in your area.

C. GRANT AWARD REQUIREMENTS

If selected for a possible grant award, the applicant will be required to submit additional documentation (listed below) within 60 calendar days after OPM's Official Contact sends the applicant written instructions to do so. If an applicant needs additional time to comply with this requirement, a request for an extension may be directed to the Official Contact. Applicants who fail to submit the requirement documentation within the time allowed may be deemed unresponsive and will not be considered further. The documents will be reviewed by the Evaluation Committee for sufficiency. If deemed sufficient, the applicant may be invited to negotiate a grant award contract. If deemed insufficient, the application will not be considered further.

NOTE: Do not submit this additional documentation with the application. For those applicants selected for a possible grant award, OPM will issue instructions at the conclusion of the evaluation process for submitting the additional documentation.

- 1. Appraisals.** If the facility to be improved had a purchase price of less than \$100,000, then one independent appraisal is to be prepared and submitted. If the facility had a purchase price of \$100,000 or more, two independent appraisals must be prepared and submitted. One appraisal may be done by the financial institution that granted the mortgage, unless the financial institution is the past or current owner of the facility. The other must be done by a MIA-certified appraiser (Member of the Appraisal Institute). Any appraisal submitted in fulfillment of the requirements of this RFA must have been prepared within the previous 365 days.
- 2. (Modified) Lien Analysis Form (NCIGP Form 6).** If the current value of any liens on the facility, plus the mortgage balance, plus the requested funding amount (for the facility improvement project) exceeds the current market (appraisal) value of the property, the facility improvement project will not be considered for funding.
- 3. Engineering or Inspection Report.** The applicant must provide an engineering or inspection report on the facility regarding the presence of lead paint, asbestos, radon, underground storage tanks, or other environmental hazards, including the ramifications of removal or abatement.

NOTE: Removal or abatement costs of potential hazards must be taken into account when requesting grant funds. The majority of pre-1978 construction contains lead paint. If a facility is to be used for residential purposes, strict guidelines concerning lead paint apply if a child age six or under will be living at the facility.

- 4. Code Compliance.** All improvement projects must comply with all State or local fire, health and safety codes. Applicants must submit documentation that the facility and site meets (or will meet) all applicable licensing, local and State zoning, building, fire health, and safety codes for the anticipated use of the facility.
- 5. Current Lease.** If the facility is not owned by a participant organization of the nonprofit collaboration, applicants must submit a copy of the current lease.
- 6. Owner Statement (NCIGP Form 7).** If the facility is leased by the applicant, the State requires information regarding the tax status of the owner(s). If the owner is a nonprofit organization, copies of the owner's Certificate of Legal Existence and 501(c)(3) determination letter from the U.S. Department of Treasury, Internal Revenue Service, must be submitted.
- 7. Owner Approval (NCIGP Form 8).** The owner's written approval of the improvement project is required for each applicant-leased or applicant-owned facility. Attach proof of ownership to the form.

FACILITY IMPROVEMENT

Application Priority No. _____

Instructions: See Project Instructions – Part 3 for Facility Improvement. Complete Project Application – Part 3. Include all required forms and documentation with the project application.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Name of Nonprofit Collaboration: _____

Facility Address: _____

Are local or State approvals required for the intended future use of this facility? yes no

If yes, have the approvals been obtained? yes no

Type of Project: Code Compliance Code Recommendation
(check all that apply) Upgrade Essential Renovation
 Energy Conservation
 Relocation
 Other: _____

Total Cost of Facility Improvement Project: \$ _____

Requested Funding for Facility Improvement Project: \$ _____

See Project Instructions to determine the allowable Funding Limit.

Requested Funding for Architectural Fees: \$ _____

Applicants may request funding for architectural fees associated with Project Application – Part 3. Such fees should not exceed 8–10% of the total cost of the facility improvement project. If included, explain on an attachment all such fees. Applicants may be required to provide additional information and documentation related to any architectural fees.

Total Square Footage: _____ *Ordinary Living Space: _____ Date Built: _____

*Ordinary living space is that used by clients or staff during the normal course of the day, such as living rooms, bedrooms, bathrooms, kitchen areas, pantries, interior hallways, TV rooms, dining rooms, laundry rooms, basement recreational areas, enclosed porches, or staff offices. Ordinary living space does not include basement storage areas, attics, interior and exterior stairways, furnace rooms, or outside areas (such as open porches, decks, etc.).

Type of Facility (check one): Applicant-Owned Applicant-Leased

If Applicant-Leased:

Name of Tenant Organization: _____ Length of Tenancy: ____ Years ____ Months

Date Current Lease Ends: _____ Current Rent: \$ _____ Per Year

QUESTIONS

Answer the questions below. Attach additional sheets as needed.

1. What is the purpose of this project? How does it support the consolidation of programs and services?
2. How many State agency clients are currently served at this location (SFY 2010)? _____
How many other clients? _____
How much operational funding is received under State contract (SFY 2010) at this location? _____
3. Provide a detailed description of the facility (e.g., style, type of construction, number of stories, previous improvements, general condition).
4. How is the facility currently used? Explain.
5. Is any space in the facility now used by any other individual or entity? yes no
If yes, explain. Include the name of each individual or entity, the square footage used by each individual or entity, and whether the entity is exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
6. If applicant-owned: Are the real estate taxes on this site paid up-to-date? yes no
If no, explain. Amount of unpaid taxes: _____
7. Is this site under foreclosure proceedings? yes no If yes, explain.
8. Has the applicant received past funding for improving this facility from another State or federal agency?
 yes no
If yes, provide the name of the State or federal agency, purpose and amount of the funding, and funding date.
9. Are any individuals or companies that provide goods or services, including the rental of property or the loaning of funds to this facility, related through family association, common ownership, control, or business association to any of the owners, operators, or officials of this facility? yes no If yes, list all related parties under common control and the purpose of each.
10. Will completion of the facility improvement project result in future increases to any of the following operations expenses: (*check if yes*) personnel expenses; social security or other fringe expenses; consultant or contractual services expenses; travel expenses; consumable expenses; rent expenses; equipment or capital asset expenses; other expenses.
For all checked boxes, explain cost increase and provide a full fiscal year projection.
11. Was the lowest responsible and qualified vendor chosen for each procurement? yes no
If no, explain.
12. Were the requirements for public liability and worker's compensation insurance stated in the written specification(s) used to solicit bids? yes no If no, explain.
13. Is any bidder selected for a project at this facility a sole employee and, therefore, does not carry worker's compensation? yes no If yes, provide name and address of bidder.
14. Was the requirement for a performance bond stated in the written specification(s) used to solicit bids?
 yes no If no, explain.

EQUIPMENT

A. GENERAL INFORMATION

- 1. Funding Limit.** For an equipment project, funding is available in an amount up to 60% of the lowest bid for each procurement. (See Section B.4 below.) The minimum cost for an equipment procurement is \$5,000 per item (unit). Therefore, the minimum funding request for an equipment procurement is \$3,000 per item (unit).

Equipment is defined as nonexpendable, tangible personal (non-real estate) property with a normal useful life of at least one year. Expenditures for equipment with an acquisition cost of \$5,000 or greater per item (unit) are considered capital expenditures. Acquisition cost is defined as the net invoice unit price of an item of equipment, including the cost of any modifications, attachments, accessories, or auxiliary apparatuses necessary to make the item usable for the purpose for which it is acquired.

Applicants may apply for funds for capital equipment related to the consolidation of programs or services. Examples include, but are not limited to, office equipment (such as photocopiers, printers) and office furniture.

- 2. Timeline.** The review and approval process for applications submitted in response to this RFA may take six to nine months. This timeline should be taken into consideration when seeking bids, estimates, or quotations, and selecting vendors for the project.
- 3. Restrictions.** Equipment must be movable. Equipment funds will not be awarded to purchase any equipment that is permanently affixed to, or made part of, a facility and that cannot be removed without damaging walls, ceilings, or floors or without impairing the facility in some manner (such as built-in shelving, cabinets, lockers, security systems, fire and burglar alarm systems). Funding for such purchases may be requested using Part 3 – Facility Improvement. NOTE: The equipment project must not involve any related party transactions.

Applicants have the option of purchasing equipment through State contracts administered by DAS or purchasing equipment through other vendors.

- (a) Applicants who receive at least 60% of their funding from the State or federal government may purchase equipment through State contracts administered by the Department of Administrative Services (DAS). Applicants may search for DAS contracts by Key Word or by Commodity on the State Contracting Portal at: http://www.das.state.ct.us/Purchase/Portal/Portal_Home.asp
- (b) Applicants who receive less than sixty percent (60%) of their funding from the State or federal government may purchase equipment through other vendors.

- 4. Project Scope.** The Evaluation Committee will take into consideration whether the equipment application is a component part of a larger capital project (i.e., a facility purchase or facility improvement project) or whether it is a smaller “stand alone” project. Requests for equipment that support larger capital projects deemed worthy by the Evaluation Committee will be rated more favorably.
- 5. Property Ownership and Control.** Grantees will own any equipment purchased with grant funds. Grantees must document the assignment of ownership and usage, and maintain these documents so they are available to the State administering agency. The grantee (owner) will be responsible for the proper insurance, licensing and permitting, and maintenance of all purchases.

Grantees must maintain a property control record for each equipment item with the following information: (1) date of purchase; (2) name and address of vendor; (3) year, make, and model of equipment item; (4) serial number; and (5) if applicable, date of disposition; method of disposition; and amount received or trade-in value.

- 6. Repayment.** The applicant must commit to the continued use of any equipment purchased with grant funds for not less than five years. If the grantee ceases to use the purchased equipment for any reason, an amount equal to the amount of the grant funding for the equipment, minus twenty percent per year for each full year that has elapsed since the date of the contract, shall be repaid to the State.

B. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- 1. Application for Equipment.** Submit Project Application – Part 4, with all required forms and related documentation.
- 2. Project Cost Summary** (NCIGP Form 3). List all procurement costs related to the project. Show how requested grant funds and other funds will be used for these costs.
- 3. Procurement Details** (NCIGP Form 4). Applicants must submit one copy of NCIGP Form 4 for each procurement for the project.
- 4. Written Bids** (NCIGP Form 5). Applicants must include written quotations from three responsible and qualified vendors for each equipment procurement. Quotes must include the total amount (price), payment terms, delivery date, freight costs, and warranty. Quotes must be on the vendor's letterhead or form, typewritten, dated and signed by an authorized agent of the company. Quotes that do not follow this format or have handwritten changes will not be accepted as valid. If the equipment purchase requires installation, specify the amount of time (i.e., hours, days) required to do the work. If the project is selected, the vendor with the lowest quotation for each procurement will be funded.

EQUIPMENT

Application Priority No. _____

Instructions: See Project Instructions – Part 4 for Equipment. Complete Project Application – Part 4. Include all required forms and documentation with the project application.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Name of Nonprofit Collaboration: _____

Type of Project: Office Equipment
(check all that apply) Office Furniture
 Other: _____

Total Cost of Equipment Project: \$ _____

Requested Funding for Equipment Project: \$ _____

See Project Instructions to determine the allowable Funding Limit.

QUESTIONS

Answer the questions below. Attach additional sheets as needed.

1. What is the purpose of this project? How does it support the consolidation of programs and services?
2. Did the applicant receive quotes through the State contracts administered by DAS?
 yes no If no, explain.
3. Was the lowest responsible and qualified vendor chosen for each procurement? yes no
If no, explain.

TECHNOLOGY

A. GENERAL INFORMATION

- 1. Funding Limit.** For technology projects, funding is available in an amount up to 60% of the lowest bid for each procurement. (See Section B.4 below.) The minimum cost for a technology procurement is \$5,000. Therefore, the minimum funding request for a technology procurement is \$3,000.

NOTE: Unlike Equipment (Part 4), the procurement cost for Technology is **not** per item (unit).

Applicants may apply for funds to develop and implement projects related to the consolidation of programs and services. Funds may be used to purchase new technology or upgrade existing technology. Types of technology include, but are not limited to, telecommunications equipment (such as telephone systems, peripheral devices, cabling, pagers, and radios), personal computers, laptops, peripherals, software, servers, and networks. Other technology needs of the nonprofit collaboration related to the consolidation of programs or services will also be considered for funding – including, but not limited to, rental, rental with option to buy, or lease agreements.

- 2. Timeline.** The review and approval process for applications submitted in response to this RFA may take six to nine months. This timeline should be taken into consideration when seeking bids, estimates, or quotations, and selecting vendors for the project.
- 3. Restrictions.** The State's Department of Information and Technology (DOIT) provides Information and Technology (IT) contracts for State agencies that may also be used by nonprofit organizations. Applicants should make every effort to purchase technology and related equipment through State contracts administered by DOIT. Applicants may use other vendors for technology purchases and related equipment if the item is not available through DOIT's contracts. NOTE: The technology project must not involve any related party transactions.

Applicants may use DOIT contracts by (a) contacting the awarded vendor, (b) referencing the contract, and (c) receiving a written quotation. The list of available IT Contracts and Vendor Information can be accessed from the left side navigation bar on DOIT's home page at <http://www.ct.gov/doit>

If any vendor problem arises, DOIT's IT Contract and Purchasing Division should be notified by completing and submitting the DOIT Vendor Performance Report form. To access the form, go to DOIT's home page. On the left side navigation bar, click on the IT Contracts and Purchasing link. Once on the IT Contracts and Purchasing page, scroll down to the fifth bullet under the "Notices To Agencies" section, and click on the DOIT Vendor Performance Report link.

- 4. Project Scope.** The Evaluation Committee will take into consideration whether the technology application is a component part of a larger capital project (i.e., a facility purchase or facility improvement project) or whether it is a smaller "stand alone" project. Requests for technology that support larger capital projects deemed worthy by the Evaluation Committee will be rated more favorably.
- 5. Property Ownership and Control.** Grantees will own any technology purchased with grant funds. Grantees must document the assignment of ownership and usage, and maintain these documents so they are available to the State administering agency. Grantees will be responsible for the proper insurance, licensing and permitting, and maintenance of all purchases.

Grantees must maintain a property control record for each technology item with the following information: (1) date of purchase; (2) name and address of vendor; (3) year, make, and model of technology item; (4) serial number; and (5) if applicable, date of disposition; method of disposition; and amount received or trade-in value.

6. **Repayment.** The applicant must commit to the continued use of any technology purchased with grant funds for not less than five years. If the grantee ceases to use the purchased technology for any reason, an amount equal to the amount of the grant funding for the equipment, minus twenty percent per year for each full year that has elapsed since the date of the contract, shall be repaid to the State.

B. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

1. **Application for Technology.** Submit Project Application – Part 5, with all required forms and related documentation.
2. **Project Cost Summary** (NCIGP Form 3). List all procurement costs related to the project. Show how requested grant funds and other funds will be used for these costs.
3. **Procurement Details** (NCIGP Form 4). Applicants must submit one copy of NCIGP Form 4 for each procurement for the project.
4. **Written Bids** (NCIGP Form 5). Applicants must include written bids from three responsible and qualified vendors for each technology procurement or lease agreement. Bids must include the total price, payment terms, delivery date, freight costs, and warranty. Bids must be on the vendor's letterhead or form, typewritten, dated and signed by an authorized agent of the company. Bids that do not follow this format or have handwritten changes will not be accepted as valid. Bids for system work, networking installation, cabling, or data conversion must specify the amount of time (i.e., hours, days) required to do the work. If the project is selected, the vendor with the lowest bid for each procurement will be funded.

TECHNOLOGY

Application Priority No. _____

Instructions: See Project Instructions – Part 5 for Technology. Complete Project Application – Part 5. Include all required forms and documentation with the project application.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Name of Nonprofit Collaboration: _____

Type of Project: [] Telecommunications
(check all that apply) [] Computers [] Laptops [] Hardware [] Software
[] Servers
[] Networks
[] Peripheral Devices
[] Other: _____

Total Cost of Technology Project: \$ _____

Requested Funding for Technology Project: \$ _____

See Project Instructions to determine the allowable Funding Limit.

QUESTIONS

Answer the questions below. Attach additional sheets as needed.

1. What is the purpose of this project? How does it support the consolidation of programs and services?
2. Did the applicant receive quotes through the State contracts administered by DOIT?
[] yes [] no If no, explain.
3. Was the lowest responsible and qualified vendor chosen for each procurement? [] yes [] no
If no, explain.

TRANSPORTATION

A. GENERAL INFORMATION

- 1. Funding Limit.** Funding is available for the purchase or modification of vehicles. Other transportation needs of the nonprofit collaboration related to the consolidation of programs and services will also be considered for funding.

For vehicle purchases, funding is available in an amount up to 60% of the lowest quotation. (See Section B.5 below.) If a vehicle is purchased through a DAS-approved contract, funding is available in an amount up to 60% of the actual purchase price. (See Section 3(a) below.) The minimum cost for each transportation procurement is \$10,000. Therefore, the minimum funding request for a transportation procurement is \$6,000

Funding is also available for vehicle modifications designed to accommodate persons with disabilities. The total cost of modifications (including labor charges) for each vehicle cannot exceed 25% of the vehicle's value. The value of the vehicle must be verified by a standard source (such as the Kelley Blue Book or Edmunds).

- 2. Timeline.** The review and approval process for applications submitted in response to this RFA may take six to nine months. This timeline should be taken into consideration when seeking bids, estimates, or quotations, and selecting vendors for the project.
- 3. Restrictions.** Applicants have the option of purchasing vehicles through State contracts administered by DAS or purchasing vehicles through other vendors. NOTE: The transportation project must not involve any related party transactions.
 - (a) Applicants who receive at least 60% of their funding from the State or federal government may purchase vehicles through State contracts administered by DAS. DAS vehicle contracts can be found at the following link:
http://www.biznet.ct.gov/SCP_Documents/Results/9212/010_0239.pdf
 - (b) Applicants who receive less than sixty percent (60%) of their funding from the State or federal government may purchase vehicles through other transportation vendors. Vehicles must meet the standards for gasoline mileage ratings and comply with the requirements set forth in the federal standards concerning alternative-fueled vehicles:
<http://www.cga.ct.gov/2009/pub/chap058.htm#Sec4a-67d.htm>
- 4. Project Scope.** The Evaluation Committee will take into consideration whether the transportation application is a component part of a larger capital project (i.e., a facility purchase or facility improvement project) or whether it is a smaller "stand alone" project. Requests for transportation that support larger capital projects deemed worthy by the Evaluation Committee will be rated more favorably.
- 5. Property Ownership and Control.** Grantees will own any vehicles purchased with grant funds. Grantees must document the assignment of ownership and usage, and maintain these documents so they are available to the State administering agency. Grantees will be responsible for the proper insurance, licensing and permitting, and maintenance of all purchases.

Grantees must maintain a property control record for each vehicle with the following information: (1) date of purchase; (2) name and address of vendor; (3) purchase price; (4) year, make, and model of vehicle; (4) vehicle identification number (VIN); and (5) if applicable, date of disposition; method of disposition; and amount received or trade-in value.

6. **Repayment.** The applicant must commit to the continued use of any vehicle purchased or modified with grant funds for not less than five years. If the grantee ceases to use the purchased or modified vehicle for any reason, an amount equal to the amount of the grant funding for the equipment, minus twenty percent per year for each full year that has elapsed since the date of the contract, shall be repaid to the State.
7. **How To Calculate Costs.** Applicants must calculate the cost of each transportation procurement. Use the examples below as guidance.

EXAMPLE 1:

Procurement Cost = Vehicle Purchase (60% of purchase price using DAS-approved contract)

EXAMPLE 2:

Procurement Cost = Vehicle Purchase (60% of lowest quotation of other vendor)

EXAMPLE 3:

Procurement Cost = Modification (25% of vehicle's value)

EXAMPLE 4:

Procurement Cost = Vehicle Purchase (60% of lowest quotation) + Modification (25% of vehicle's value)

B. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

1. **Application for Transportation.** Subject Project Application – Part 6, with all required forms and related documentation.
2. **Project Cost Summary** (NCIGP Form 3). List all procurement costs related to the project. Show how requested grant funds and other funds will be used for these costs.
3. **Procurement Details** (NCIGP Form 4). Applicants must submit one copy of NCIGP Form 4 for each procurement for the project.
4. **Written Quotations for Purchases** (NCIGP Form 5). Applicants must include written quotes from three responsible and qualified vendors for each vehicle procurement. Quotes must include the total amount (price) of the purchase, the make and model of the vehicle, and vehicle identification number. Quotes must be on the vendor's letterhead or form, typewritten, dated and signed by an authorized agent of the company. Quotes that do not follow this format or have hand written changes will not be accepted as valid. If the project is selected, the vendor with the lowest quotation for each procurement will be funded.
5. **Estimates for Modifications** (NCIGP Form 5). Applicants must include written estimates from three responsible and qualified vendors for the modification of each vehicle. Vendors must be licensed auto repair stations in Connecticut. Estimates must include the total amount (price) of the modification, a description of the work to be done, the make and model of the vehicle, and vehicle identification number. Estimates must be on the vendor's letterhead or form, typewritten, dated and signed by an authorized agent of the company. Estimates that do not follow this format or have handwritten changes will not be accepted as valid. If the project is selected, the vendor with the lowest estimate for each procurement will be funded.

TRANSPORTATION**Application Priority No.** _____

Instructions: See Project Instructions – Part 6 for Transportation. Complete Project Application – Part 6. Include all required forms and documentation with the project application.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Name of Nonprofit Collaboration: _____

Type of Project: Vehicle Purchase
(check all that apply) Vehicle Modification (Persons with Disabilities)
 Other: _____

Total Cost of Transportation Project: \$ _____**Requested Funding for Transportation Project:** \$ _____

See Project Instructions to determine the allowable Funding Limit.

QUESTIONS

Answer the questions below. If any answer requires an explanation, attach additional sheets as needed.

1. What is the purpose of this project? How does it support the consolidation of programs and services?
2. If a vehicle purchase, did the applicant receive quotes through the State contracts administered by DAS?
 yes no If no, explain.
3. Was the lowest responsible and qualified vendor chosen for each procurement? yes no
If no, explain.
4. Does the applicant expect to generate any revenue from this transportation project? yes no
If yes, explain.

**State of Connecticut
Office of Policy and Management**

**NONPROFIT COLLABORATION INCENTIVE GRANT PROGRAM
REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS (RFA)**

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
June 18, 2010
Updated March 1, 2011**

NOTE: On May 20, 2010, OPM released the first RFA for the NCIGP. Below are **selected** questions asked by prospective applicants about the first RFA and the NCIGP. Some answers have been updated to reflect more accurately the requirements of the second RFA released on March 1, 2011. The deadline for submitting questions about the second RFA is March 15, 2011.

GENERAL

1. Will there be a listing provided of all interested parties who have submitted questions about this RFA?

No such listing will be provided. Answers will be posted without identifying the source of the questions.

2. Will there be rolling decisions?

No. All applicants will be notified at the conclusion of the evaluation process. Applicants selected by the OPM Secretary will be provided an opportunity to negotiate a possible grant award contract. The funding of selected projects is contingent upon approval of the State Bond Commission.

3. What is the anticipated number of awards? What is the anticipated average award? What is the anticipated maximum award possible?

OPM has not anticipated the number or amount of grant awards. There is no anticipated average or maximum award. The number of grant awards, if any, and their amounts will be determined at the completion of the evaluation process. Final selection of applications is at the discretion of the OPM Secretary, who may select any or none of the applications for funding. Funding of any selected application is further contingent upon the State Bond Commission's approval.

4. Is there a recommended floor or a ceiling amount of money for these applications?

OPM has not established a "floor" (minimum funding amount) or "ceiling" (maximum funding amount) that applicants should request in their applications.

5. What is the expected time frame for approval by the State Bond Commission?

There is no expected time frame for approval by the State Bond Commission.

6. If funding is awarded, would the collaborating organizations need to form a separate (organizational) entity to administer the funds?

Successful applicants will not be required to form a separate entity to administer (expend) the funds. If granted an award, one participant organization must serve as a Fiduciary Agent to administer the grant award contract on behalf of the collaboration.

ELIGIBILITY

7. Eligible applicants for the NCIGP must be a collaboration of two or more nonprofit organizations providing services in Connecticut. May one or more of these nonprofit organizations be a State agency or a church?

A State agency is not a nonprofit organization and, therefore, does not meet the eligibility requirements for the NCIGP. A church or any other entity that is a duly formed 501(c)(3) organization is eligible to form a collaboration and submit an application.

8. Are nonprofit organizations outside the health and human services field eligible to apply? How much weight will be given to the requirement of “having existing contracts with the State to provide health and human services”?

The RFA requires applicants to be a collaboration of two or more nonprofit organizations providing services in Connecticut. Eligible applicants include, but are not limited to, nonprofit organizations in the health and human services field. There is no requirement that an applicant have existing contracts with the State to provide health and human services. However, if a nonprofit organization has such an existing contract, the application may receive up to 5 bonus points in the evaluation process.

9. Can a nonprofit collaboration of two or more organizations submit its own application as a lead applicant, and then be part of an application involving two or more different organizations (with a different lead applicant)? Or is a nonprofit eligible to participate in only one application?

The term “applicant” is defined as a collaboration of two or more nonprofit organizations that submits an application in response to this RFA. Each collaboration is permitted to submit only one application. By extension, each nonprofit organization within the collaboration is limited to one application. The RFA does not use the term “lead applicant.” The RFA requires the applicant (collaboration) to identify a Single Point of Contact for communications purposes only. All participant organizations in the collaboration have equal status for the purposes of this solicitation. In the event the applicant is selected for an award, the collaboration will need to identify one of its participant organizations to serve as a Fiduciary Agent to administer the grant award contract on behalf of the collaboration.

COLLABORATIONS

10. Is there a limit to the number of collaborating agencies that can submit an application?

There is no limit on the number of nonprofit organizations that can participate in a collaboration that submits an application.

11. Will the RFA support collaboration of nonprofits who are doing group purchasing of services? Or does a consolidation of programs or services have to be a characteristic of the collaboration?

The NCIGP supports one-time infrastructure costs to implement the consolidation of programs and services resulting from the collaboration of two or more nonprofit organizations. The RFA broadly defines “programs and services” to include joint ventures involving shared business operations, functions, or services. The “group purchasing” of services may fall under this broad definition, as “purchasing” is a business function. However, the “group purchasing” of services must involve the consolidation of the purchasing functions of the collaborating organizations. If the project only involves the activity of purchasing, where the organizations maintained their separate (non-consolidated) purchasing functions, the project would not be favorably evaluated.

12. If a nonprofit merged with one or more other nonprofit organizations in the past two years and is still working on merging business functions, is the project eligible for funding? Or does the nonprofit have to be in the pre-merger stage to apply? If a nonprofit is in a post-merger stage, will it receive equal consideration to those applicants in the pre-merger stage?

Applicants must be a collaboration of two or more nonprofit organizations providing services in Connecticut. If the questioner is a merged (single) organization, the questioner would have to collaborate with at least one other nonprofit organization to be considered eligible. Applicants meeting all the requirements of the RFA will be given equal consideration. Further, the NCIGP will not assume responsibility for payment for any costs or expenses incurred prior to the award of a grant as a result of this solicitation.

NOTE: The NCIGP does not require applicants to merge (legally become a new, single organization), but only to consolidate (combine) their programs or services through a collaboration (working together on a joint venture).

13. Will collaboration/consolidation projects that are partially underway by the time the evaluation process is completed be considered for funding?

Projects that are already underway are not eligible for funding. The NCIGP is limited to new projects undertaken by collaborations.

14. Can the successful applicant develop an application process to engage additional collaborators?

A successful applicant may develop its own process for encouraging and inviting additional nonprofit organizations to join the collaboration.

15. What does it mean that “If selected for a grant award, applicants should plan for and encourage additional nonprofit organizations to join the collaboration in the future”?

Applicants must be a collaboration of two or more nonprofit organizations providing services in Connecticut. A successful applicant is encouraged (but is not required) to allow additional nonprofit organizations to join its collaboration after the grant award. This means that the State is encouraging funded collaborations to expand beyond their original scope (size, membership), but does not require them to do so.

16. Should the application include a procedure and plan for engaging additional collaborators?

The RFA requires applicants to describe plans, if any, for additional organizations to join the collaboration in the future. If the collaboration has such plans, the applicants should provide a detailed statement setting forth the approach that will be taken when doing so. Applicants are not expected to develop or include a formal plan or procedure with their applications.

17. Must all nonprofit organizations within the collaboration complete the required forms and documents?

Each participant organization within the collaboration must complete and submit the required forms and documentation. The forms and documentation for each participant organization must be bundled separately.

GENERAL APPLICATION

18. There are 15 pages maximum for the narrative. Does this include the project application(s)?

The Narrative is limited to 15 pages (double line spacing). The Budget is also limited to 15 pages (double line spacing), excluding the required NCIGP Form 2 and its attachments. The project applications do not have page limits.

19. Can we project a more cost effective way of using staff in the cost savings and efficiency component of the RFA?

No. The intent of the grant is to achieve actual cost savings and efficiencies.

PROJECT APPLICATIONS

20. Clarify Section C.2 - Prioritization. What explains the priority given to project applications?

Applicants must submit at least one project application. Applicants may submit a maximum of six project applications (one for each of the six parts). If an applicant submits more than one project application, the applicant must indicate the priority order of the project applications submitted. For example, if an applicant submits Project Application – Part 4 (Equipment) and Project Application – Part 6 (Transportation), the applicant must rank order the two applications in descending order, from the highest priority to the lowest priority. In this example, the applicant might make Transportation the #1 priority and Equipment the #2 priority. At the top of each project application form is a field where the applicant indicates the priority of the application: Application Priority No. ____

21. Can "energy conservation" include new windows and roofing and siding? Can this occur at more than one location under one project?

An "energy conservation" project can include new windows, roofing, or siding if the products are ENERGY STAR qualified or if they meet the criteria established by the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code. Energy Star qualified products are listed on the Internet at <http://www.energystar.gov>. The International Energy Conservation Code can be purchased on the Internet at <http://www.iccsafe.org>. If the products are not Energy Star qualified, or do not meet the established IECC criteria, the project would fall under the category of "upgrade" or "essential renovation," depending on the current condition of the facility. Use Project Application – Part 3, Facility Improvement Project, to apply for funds for these procurements. An applicant may submit only one Part 3. The Part 3 project application is limited to one facility (one location). All procurements for all project applications must support the consolidation of programs and services.

22. What constitutes a "project" application? For example, under technology, if we applied for both hardware and software to accomplish two different tasks (such as electronic health records software, plus a server to consolidate other IT functions), does this constitute one or two projects?

The RFA includes six project applications. An applicant may submit one application for each of the six projects. Each project application may include multiple procurements. In the example given above, the technology project would involve procurements for hardware, software, and a server. These separate procurements would be considered one technology project.

23. Can a collaboration work with an already identified consultant (e.g., software developer) or does there need to be a competitive procurement process to identify consultants to work on projects?

All procurements must be competitive, except for a facility purchase or facility loan refinancing. As a general rule, "sole source" procurements are not permitted. One possible exception would be for a vendor having proprietary services or patent rights. In such a case, an applicant must explain in detail the reasons for requesting a waiver from the competitive procurement requirements and provide supporting evidence of the proprietary services or patent rights.

24. Is there an upper (funding) range that should not be exceeded for a technology project?

The RFA does not include a funding range or limit for any project, including technology. An applicant must adhere to the funding limits and restrictions described in the instructions for each project application.

25. What limits, if any, are there to the type of capital items that may be included in the application (e.g., desks, servers, computers)?

See the instructions for each Project Application (Parts 1-6) for general information about funding limits, restrictions, and other conditions related to the project.

26. Technology projects do not require "unit" bidding. What method of bidding do you recommend for technology projects? For example, software that is needed for a particular purpose is often confined to only one or two vendors. Also, there may be software products already known to us that are far superior to any other offering. Must three bids be obtained in these circumstances?

Technology projects, like all other projects, must adhere to the competitive procurement requirements detailed in the RFA. The minimum cost of a technology procurement is \$5,000; an applicant may request funding in an amount up to 60% of the lowest bid for a technology procurement. A technology procurement may involve more than one item (e.g., multiple computers) that add up to the \$5,000 minimum. The rules are different for an equipment procurement, where each (separate) item must have a minimum cost of \$5,000.

27. Does the grant allow for contracted provider services expenses for set up of new equipment and technology infrastructure, in addition to the actual equipment and software costs?

Funds may be requested for the purchase and installation (set up) of new equipment and technology. All procurements for equipment and technology must be competitively procured, including installation. The written bids for projects that include installation or other labor charges must specify the amount of time (i.e., hours, days) required to do the work.

28. For a technology project that would implement networking of systems across a number of nonprofits, a major cost is the people who have the expertise to implement the networking. Can this cost be built into the technology project application? For example, if the total project is \$100,000 and hardware is \$75,000 (with \$25,000 of the networking support cost), then does the maximum 60% reimbursement for the grant apply to the whole project or only to hardware costs?

An applicant may request funding to cover the costs of implementing a network system for the collaboration. The funding limit of 60% of the lowest bid for each procurement would apply to both the hardware and networking support costs.

29. Can funds be used for donor or financial software under the technology application?

Funds may be requested to purchase donor or financial software, provided the procurement meets the requirements of the RFA.

30. If a product is developed out of this proposal (i.e., software), will the State have any ownership or vesting rights?

Yes. The State's rights are disclosed in State of Connecticut, Office of Policy and Management, RFP Conditions, Section C: "Any product, whether acceptable or unacceptable, developed under a contract awarded as a result of the RFP is to be the sole property of the State."

31. Does a technology project only get 10 extra points if it is connected to a larger capital project (namely, a facility purchase or facility improvement) for which there is a separate project application?

To be awarded the additional 10 bonus points, a technology project must support a larger capital project. If the technology project does not support a larger (and separate) capital project, it is not eligible for the bonus points. The larger capital project is defined as a facility purchase or facility improvement, which would require an applicant to submit a Part 1 or Part 3 project application.

32. Can "transportation" include things like actual vehicles? A van?

An applicant may request funding for vehicle purchases or modifications by submitting Transportation Project Application – Part 6. The type of vehicle to be purchased or modified is decided by the applicant. An applicant must adhere to the procurement requirements, as described in the Transportation Project Instructions – Part 6. All procurements must support the collaboration's consolidation of programs and services. Further, any transportation project will be awarded an additional 10 bonus points *if* such project supports a larger capital project (namely, a facility purchase or facility improvement).

COSTS

33. Can the cost associated with the consolidation of two or more nonprofit organizations (such as legal and accounting fees) be covered with NCIGP funds if the fees are part of a larger effort to introduce shared technology?

Legal and accounting fees are allowable "planning and administrative costs" when associated with a project application.

34. If the (technology) system is offered to for use by the community at large (i.e., net meeting site), can some of the funds pay for legal fees needed to work out memorandums of agreement?

See Question 33.

35. Can grant funds go toward salaries?

Additional costs for salaries directly associated with the implementation of a project are allowable. Salaries associated with the normal or ongoing activities of any participant organization are not allowable.

36. (Applicable Only to the State's POS Contractors)

If an applicant's OPM-approved Cost Allocation Plan dictates that more than 5% of funds should be allocated towards administration, is the applicant still considered in compliance with the OPM cost standards?

OPM does not review or approve Cost Allocation Plans. The Cost Standards do not specify the percentage of funds that must be allocated for administration. Questions concerning compliance with OPM's Cost Standards must be directed to the State agency that executed the Purchase of Service (POS) contract with the organization.

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT

RFP CONDITIONS

All proposers must be willing to adhere to the following conditions and must positively state this in the proposal by completing the **OPM Vendor/Bidder Profile Sheet (OPM-A-15, June 2008)**.

- A. The State is an Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action employer and does not discriminate in its hiring, employment, or business practices. The State is committed to complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) and does not discriminate on the basis of disability, in admission to, access to, or operation of its programs, services, or activities.

- B. All proposals in response to this RFP are to be the sole property of the State. Proposers are encouraged **NOT** to include in their proposals any information that is proprietary. All materials associated with this procurement process are subject to the terms of State laws defining freedom of information and privacy and all rules, regulations and interpretations resulting from those laws. The Connecticut Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) generally requires the disclosure of documents in the possession of the State upon request of any citizen, unless the content of the document falls within certain categories of exemption. An example of an exemption is a "trade secret," as defined by Connecticut General Statutes Section 1-210(b)(5)(A). Confidential information must be separated and isolated from other material in the proposal and labeled **CONFIDENTIAL** and enclosed in a separate envelope.

If the proposer indicates that certain documentation, as required by this RFP, is submitted in confidence, by specifically and clearly marking said documentation as **CONFIDENTIAL**, OPM will endeavor to keep said information confidential to the extent permitted by law. OPM, however, has no obligation to initiate, prosecute or defend any legal proceeding or to seek a protective order or other similar relief to prevent disclosure of any information pursuant to a FOIA request. As set forth below, the proposer has the burden of establishing the availability of any FOIA exemption in any proceeding where it is an issue. In no event shall OPM or any of its staff have any liability for disclosure of documents or information in the possession of OPM which OPM or such staff believes to be required pursuant to the FOIA or other requirements of law.

IMPORTANT NOTE: If the information is not readily available to the public from other sources and the proposer submitting the information requests confidentiality, then the information generally is considered to be "given in confidence." A convincing explanation and rationale sufficient to justify each exemption from release consistent with Section 1-210(b) of the Connecticut General Statutes shall be prepared by the proposer and shall accompany the proposal. The rationales and explanation shall be simply stated in terms of the prospective harm to the competitive position of the proposer that would result if the identified information were to be released, and you shall state the reasons why you believe the materials are legally exempt from release pursuant to Section 1-210(b) of the Connecticut General Statutes.

- C. Any product, whether acceptable or unacceptable, developed under a contract awarded as a result of the RFP is to be the sole property of the State.
- D. Timing and sequence of events resulting from this RFP will ultimately be determined by the State.
- E. The proposer's proposal shall remain valid for a period of 180 days after the closing date for the submission and may be extended beyond that time by mutual agreement.
- F. All proposed costs must be fixed through the period of the agreement. No cost submissions that are contingent on a State action will be accepted.
- G. The State may amend or cancel this RFP, prior to the due date and time, if the State deems it to be necessary, appropriate or otherwise in the best interests of the State. Failure to acknowledge receipt of amendments, in accordance with the instructions contained in the amendments, may result in a firm's proposal not being considered.
- H. The personnel identified in the proposer's response to this RFP will be the persons actually assigned to the project. Any additions, deletions or changes in personnel from the proposal during the course of the project must be approved by the State, with the exception of personnel who have terminated employment. Replacements for personnel who have terminated employment are subject to approval by the State. At its discretion, the State may require the removal and replacement of any of the proposer's personnel who do not perform adequately, regardless of whether they were previously approved by the State.
- I. Any costs and expenses incurred by proposers in preparing or submitting proposals are the sole responsibility of the proposer.
- J. A proposer must be prepared to present evidence of experience, ability, service facilities, and financial standing necessary to satisfactorily meet the requirements set forth or implied in the proposal.
- K. No additions or changes to the original proposal will be allowed after submission. While changes are not permitted, clarification of proposals may be required by the State at the proposer's sole cost and expense.
- L. Proposers may be asked to give demonstrations, interviews, presentations or further explanation to the RFP Selection Committee.
- M. The proposer represents and warrants that the proposal is not made in connection with any other proposer and is in all respects fair and without collusion or fraud. The proposer further represents and warrants that they did not participate in any part of the RFP development process, had no knowledge of the specific contents of the RFP prior to its issuance, and that no agent, representative or employee of the State participated directly in the proposer's proposal preparation.
- N. All responses to the RFP must conform to instruction. Failure to include any required signatures, provide the required number of copies, meet deadlines, answer all questions, follow the required format, or failure to comply with any other requirements of this RFP may be considered appropriate cause for rejection of the response.

- O. The proposer accepts the State's **Standard Contract Language**.
- P. Depending on the nature of the proposal, the State may require the proposer to furnish a performance bond upon award of the contract.
- Q. This RFP is not an offer and neither this RFP nor any subsequent discussions shall give rise to any commitment on the part of the State or confer any rights on any proposer unless and until a contract is fully executed by the necessary parties. The contract document will represent the entire agreement between the proposer and the State and will supersede all prior negotiations, representations or agreements, alleged or made, between the parties. The State shall assume no liability for payment of services under the terms of the contract until the successful proposer is notified that the contract has been accepted and approved by the State and by the Attorney General's Office. The contract may be amended only by means of a written instrument signed by the State, the proposer, and the Attorney General's Office.
- R. Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes § 4a-81, bids or proposals for state contracts with a value of \$50,000 or more in a calendar or fiscal year, excluding leases and licensing agreements of any value, shall include a **Consulting Agreement Affidavit** attesting to whether any consulting agreement has been entered into in connection with the bid or proposal. Such affidavit shall be required if any duties of the consultant included communications concerning business of such State agency, whether or not direct contact with a State agency, State or public official or State employee was expected or made. As used herein "consulting agreement" means any written or oral agreement to retain the services, for a fee, of a consultant for the purposes of (A) providing counsel to a contractor, vendor, consultant or other entity seeking to conduct, or conducting, business with the State, (B) contacting, whether in writing or orally, any executive, judicial, or administrative office of the State, including any department, institution, bureau, board, commission, authority, official or employee for the purpose of solicitation, dispute resolution, introduction, requests for information or (C) any other similar activity related to such contract. Consulting agreement does not include any agreements entered into with a consultant who is registered under the provisions of Chapter 10 of the general statutes as of the date such affidavit is submitted in accordance with the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes § 4a-81.
- S. Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes § 1-101qq, bids or proposals for a large state construction or procurement contract shall include an **Affirmation of Receipt of Summary of State Ethics Laws** affirming that the key employees of such proposer have received, reviewed and understand the Summary and agree to comply with the provisions of the State ethics laws. "Large state construction or procurement contract" means any contract, having a cost of more than five hundred thousand dollars, for (A) the remodeling, alteration, repair or enlargement of any real asset, (B) the construction, alteration, reconstruction, improvement, relocation, widening or changing of the grade of a section of a state highway or a bridge, (C) the purchase or lease of supplies, materials or equipment, as defined in Section 4a-50 of the Connecticut General Statutes, or (D) the construction, reconstruction, alteration, remodeling, repair or demolition of any public building. Furthermore, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes § 1-101qq, the proposer shall incorporate and include the Summary in all contracts with any subcontractor or consultant working or assisting the Contractor with the large state construction or procurement contract. The proposer shall require in said

contracts that the key employees of any subcontractor or consultant affirm that they have received, reviewed and understand the Summary and agree to comply with the provisions of the State ethics laws. The proposer shall supply such affirmations to OPM promptly.

- T. With regard to a State contract as defined in P.A. 07-1 having a value in a calendar year of \$50,000 or more or a combination or series of such agreements or contracts having a value of \$100,000 or more, the authorized signatory to this submission in response to the State's solicitation expressly acknowledges receipt of the State Elections Enforcement Commission's notice advising prospective state contractors of state campaign contribution and solicitation prohibitions, and will inform its principals of the contents of the notice. See Exhibit A.

RIGHTS RESERVED TO THE STATE

The State reserves the right to award in part, to reject any and all bids in whole or in part for misrepresentation or if the proposer is in default of any prior State contract, or if the bid or proposal limits or modifies any of the terms and conditions and/or specifications of the RFP. The State also reserves the right to waive technical defect, irregularities and omissions if, in its judgment, the best interest of the State will be served.

The State reserves the right to correct inaccurate awards resulting from its clerical errors. This may include, in extreme circumstances, revoking the awarding of a contract already made to a proposer and subsequently awarding the contract to another proposer. Such action on the part of the State shall not constitute a breach of contract on the part of the State since the contract with the initial proposer is deemed to be void *ab initio* and of no effect as if no contract ever existed between the State and the proposer.

EXHIBIT A

NOTICE TO EXECUTIVE BRANCH STATE CONTRACTORS AND PROSPECTIVE STATE CONTRACTORS OF CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION AND SOLICITATION BAN

This notice is provided under the authority of Connecticut General Statutes Section 9-612(g)(2), as amended by P.A. 07-1, and is for the purpose of informing state contractors and prospective state contractors of the following law (italicized words are defined below):

Campaign Contribution and Solicitation Ban

No state contractor, prospective state contractor, principal of a state contractor or principal of a prospective state contractor, with regard to a state contract or state contract solicitation with or from a state agency in the executive branch or a quasi-public agency or a holder, or principal of a holder of a valid prequalification certificate, shall make a contribution to, or solicit contributions on behalf of (i) an exploratory committee or candidate committee established by a candidate for nomination or election to the office of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, State Comptroller, Secretary of the State or State Treasurer, (ii) a political committee authorized to make contributions or expenditures to or for the benefit of such candidates, or (iii) a party committee;

In addition, no holder or principal of a holder of a valid prequalification certificate, shall make a contribution to, or solicit contributions on behalf of (i) an exploratory committee or

candidate committee established by a candidate for nomination or election to the office of State senator or State representative, (ii) a political committee authorized to make contributions or expenditures to or for the benefit of such candidates, or (iii) a party committee.

Duty to Inform

State contractors and prospective state contractors are required to inform their principals of the above prohibitions, as applicable, and the possible penalties and other consequences of any violation thereof.

Penalties for Violations

Contributions or solicitations of contributions made in violation of the above prohibitions may result in the following civil and criminal penalties:

Civil penalties--\$2000 or twice the amount of the prohibited contribution, whichever is greater, against a principal or a contractor. Any state contractor or prospective state contractor which fails to make reasonable efforts to comply with the provisions requiring notice to its principals of these prohibitions and the possible consequences of their violations may also be subject to civil penalties of \$2000 or twice the amount of the prohibited contributions made by their principals.

Criminal penalties—Any knowing and willful violation of the prohibition is a Class D felony, which may subject the violator to imprisonment of not more than 5 years, or \$5000 in fines, or both.

Contract Consequences

Contributions made or solicited in violation of the above prohibitions may result, in the case of a state contractor, in the contract being voided.

Contributions made or solicited in violation of the above prohibitions, in the case of a prospective state contractor, shall result in the contract described in the state contract solicitation not being awarded to the prospective state contractor, unless the State Elections Enforcement Commission determines that mitigating circumstances exist concerning such violation.

The State will not award any other state contract to anyone found in violation of the above prohibitions for a period of one year after the election for which such contribution is made or solicited, unless the State Elections Enforcement Commission determines that mitigating circumstances exist concerning such violation.

Additional information and the entire text of P.A 07-1 may be found on the website of the State Elections Enforcement Commission, www.ct.gov/seec. Click on the link to "State Contractor Contribution Ban."

Definitions:

"State contractor" means a person, business entity or nonprofit organization that enters into a state contract. Such person, business entity or nonprofit organization shall be deemed to be a state contractor until December thirty-first of the year in which such contract terminates. "State contractor" does not include a municipality or any other political subdivision of the state, including any entities or associations duly created by the municipality or political subdivision exclusively amongst themselves to further any purpose authorized by statute or charter, or an employee in the executive or legislative

branch of state government or a quasi-public agency, whether in the classified or unclassified service and full or part-time, and only in such person's capacity as a state or quasi-public agency employee.

"Prospective state contractor" means a person, business entity or nonprofit organization that (i) submits a response to a state contract solicitation by the state, a state agency or a quasi-public agency, or a proposal in response to a request for proposals by the state, a state agency or a quasi-public agency, until the contract has been entered into, or (ii) holds a valid prequalification certificate issued by the Commissioner of Administrative Services under section 4a-100. "Prospective state contractor" does not include a municipality or any other political subdivision of the state, including any entities or associations duly created by the municipality or political subdivision exclusively amongst themselves to further any purpose authorized by statute or charter, or an employee in the executive or legislative branch of state government or a quasi-public agency, whether in the classified or unclassified service and full or part-time, and only in such person's capacity as a state or quasi-public agency employee.

"Principal of a state contractor or prospective state contractor" means (i) any individual who is a member of the board of directors of, or has an ownership interest of five per cent or more in, a state contractor or prospective state contractor, which is a business entity, except for an individual who is a member of the board of directors of a nonprofit organization, (ii) an individual who is employed by a state contractor or prospective state contractor, which is a business entity, as president, treasurer or executive vice president, (iii) an individual who is the chief executive officer of a state contractor or prospective state contractor, which is not a business entity, or if a state contractor or prospective state contractor has no such officer, then the officer who duly possesses comparable powers and duties, (iv) an officer or an employee of any state contractor or prospective state contractor who has *managerial or discretionary responsibilities with respect to a state contract*, (v) the spouse or a *dependent child* who is eighteen years of age or older of an individual described in this subparagraph, or (vi) a political committee established or controlled by an individual described in this subparagraph or the business entity or nonprofit organization that is the state contractor or prospective state contractor.

"State contract" means an agreement or contract with the state or any state agency or any quasi-public agency, let through a procurement process or otherwise, having a value of fifty thousand dollars or more, or a combination or series of such agreements or contracts having a value of one hundred thousand dollars or more in a calendar year, for (i) the rendition of services, (ii) the furnishing of any goods, material, supplies, equipment or any items of any kind, (iii) the construction, alteration or repair of any public building or public work, (iv) the acquisition, sale or lease of any land or building, (v) a licensing arrangement, or (vi) a grant, loan or loan guarantee. "State contract" does not include any agreement or contract with the state, any state agency or any quasi-public agency that is exclusively federally funded, an education loan or a loan to an individual for other than commercial purposes.

"State contract solicitation" means a request by a state agency or quasi-public agency, in whatever form issued, including, but not limited to, an invitation to bid, request for proposals, request for information or request for quotes, inviting bids, quotes or other types of submittals, through a competitive procurement process or another process authorized by law waiving competitive procurement.

“Managerial or discretionary responsibilities with respect to a state contract” means having direct, extensive and substantive responsibilities with respect to the negotiation of the state contract and not peripheral, clerical or ministerial responsibilities.

“Dependent child” means a child residing in an individual’s household who may legally be claimed as a dependent on the federal income tax of such individual.

“Solicit” means (A) requesting that a contribution be made, (B) participating in any fund-raising activities for a candidate committee, exploratory committee, political committee or party committee, including, but not limited to, forwarding tickets to potential contributors, receiving contributions for transmission to any such committee or bundling contributions, (C) serving as chairperson, treasurer or deputy treasurer of any such committee, or (D) establishing a political committee for the sole purpose of soliciting or receiving contributions for any committee. Solicit does not include: (i) making a contribution that is otherwise permitted by Chapter 155 of the Connecticut General Statutes; (ii) informing any person of a position taken by a candidate for public office or a public official, (iii) notifying the person of any activities of, or contact information for, any candidate for public office; or (iv) serving as a member in any party committee or as an officer of such committee that is not otherwise prohibited in this section.