

2019 Enhancing Capacity to Use GIS for a Multisector Approach to

Reducing the Burden of Heart Disease and Stroke and Increasing Cardiovascular Health Equity

**Frequently Asked Questions**

We will continue to update this list of questions and answers as additional questions are received and processed. Please consult this document regularly.

*Updated 2/12/2019*

**ELIGIBILITY**

**Can state health departments apply for this opportunity?**

This RFA is specifically for health departments or other organizations participating in CDC’s Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) cooperative agreement (CDC-RFA-DP18-1813). There are other GIS opportunities currently available for state health departments.

**Can a sub-awardee of a REACH grantee apply for this opportunity?**

No, this opportunity is only available to the direct REACH grantee.

**FUNDING**

**How much funding is available?**

No funds will be provided directly to grantees that are selected to participate. Grantees will receive technical assistance and training provided by the NACDD, CDC, and CEHI/Rice University, as well as educational license authorization for ArcGIS Pro software for one year.

**How many grantees are expected to be awarded?**

We expect to award up to two (2) grantees.

**TIMELINE**

**What is the timeline for this project?**

March 8, 2019 – Application Deadline  
 March 18, 2019 – Notice of Award  
 April, 2019 – Pre-Workshop Webinar  
 May/June, 2019 – 2.5 Day Workshop  
 Ongoing through project period – Technical assistance and support, ocassional conference calls

July 31, 2019 – Project End Date

**CORE GIS TEAM**

**Please distinguish the roles of people on the Core GIS Team vs. the Extended Team.**

The members of the Core Team are required to attend all pre-workshop activities (conference calls, webinars, etc.) and the workshop. Members of the Extended Team provide feedback, support and guidance to the Core Team members on a wide array of topics including which maps to create, the display of the data on the maps, partner engagement, and overall use of GIS to enhance program planning, evaluation, and or disease surveillance.

**Will all staff members in the Core GIS Team need to participate in all of the pre-workshop activities?**

Yes. The pre-workshop activities are designed to involve all members of the Core Team.

**Will all staff members in the Core GIS Team need to participate in the in-person workshop?**

Yes. The workshop will require involvement of all members of the Core Team.

**Regarding the composition of the Core GIS Team, what is the appropriate mix of staff?**

There is no pre-determined optimal mix of staff roles. It really depends upon the priorities and needs within the grantee organization, along with the vision for how GIS will be used to address the existing priorities within the organization. The team should also include staff working with blood pressure and/or cholesterol efforts, and should include a mix of programmatic, epidemiology/surveillance, and evaluation staff.

**Are you looking for members of the Core GIS Team to have any specific level of GIS experience?**

No specific level of GIS experience is required; however, the training is designed for individuals with moderate, little, or no previous GIS training. Staff members with extensive GIS experience could serve well as members of the Extended Team.

**Does the GIS Team Lead need to be a member of the Core GIS Team?**

Yes, the GIS Team Lead will play integral coordinating role in the array of activities included with this award.

**The application document includes space for 12 Core GIS Team members. If we have more than 12 members on the Core Team, where should we include their information?**

In the final (twelfth) box, add an asterisk (\*) or other special character to indicate a line break and use the same application structure to add information of additional team members.

**EXTENDED TEAM**

**Is there a limit to the number of people that can serve on the Extended Team?**

The Extended Team is not limited in size. If you need additional space on the application to add more members, please use the “Additional Text” section at the end of the application.

**Do members of the Extended Team need to attend the pre-workshop activities (conference calls, webinars) and the in-person workshop?**

Members of the Extended Team are welcome to attend, however, only Core Team members are required to attend pre-workshop activities and the in-person workshop.

**DATA REQUIREMENTS**

**Is it expected that local-level data sets are individual records (e.g. patient level), or can they be aggregate (e.g. tract level)?**

The datasets can include individual level data, point data, or aggregate-level data. The main consideration is that the datasets are appropriate for addressing the proposed projects. If an applicant proposes using individual record data, it is expected that all necessary data use agreements are in place and confidentiality rules are adhered to.

**2.5 DAYS IN-PERSON WORKSHOP**

**What will be the focus of the in-person workshop?**

The 2.5 days in-person workshop will be designed to expand the grantee’s capacity to leverage GIS for multi-sector approaches to heart disease and stroke prevention. The workshop will focus on applied GIS skills relevant to grantee’s proposed work.

**What partners will be involved in the workshop?**

In addition to the Core Team, grantees should invite multisector partners, stakeholders, and members of the extended team to participate in the 2.5 days in-person workshop facilitated by CEHI/Rice University. Partners may include individuals/organizations who are stakeholders in heart disease and stroke prevention and have a relevant interest in the specific issues addressed by the grantee’s selected mapping project.

**Who will be responsible for planning the workshop?**

The grantee will work in collaboration with CEHI/Rice University to plan the in-person workshop. The grantee will be responsible for securing a workshop location with adequate computer technology.

**EVALUATION/SELECTION**

**Do selection criteria exist for the RFA?**

Yes, “Evaluation Criteria” are listed in the RFA.