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Learning Systems International
FGP/SCP Replacement Competition Applicant Q&A Session

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15:00:35 >> Good afternoon and thank you for joining us. Before starting let's review the features we will use for this event. Audio for the event is broadcasting by phone and online.

15:00:58 Event is lecture only. Microphones are muted to reduce background noise. To adjust audio to the computer, go to bottom left of the screen, click the small arrow next to the speaker and select a speaker, [indiscernible] -- others get better quality by phone so if you have audio difficulties, you may want to try a different connection method.

15:01:02 There are several features we will use at the top of the screen click view options button and select exit full screen to display the chat panel on the right side of the slides.

15:01:24 If you need technical assistance for this event, email us at AmeriCorps webinarsupport@lsidc.com. The chat panel is disabled for attendees and will be used by presenters to provide links and resources and you could ask questions in the Q&A panel.

15:01:36 Select closed captioning icon for captioning in English and if you wish to view captioning in Spanish, select the Stream Text link posted in chat to view them in your browser.

15:01:45 We are recording the event. Let's start the recording and turn it over to our presenters.

15:01:50 >> Recording in progress

15:02:02 >> Hello and welcome to the FGP/SCP Replacement Competition Applicant Q&A Session. We are happy to have you.

15:02:29 Thank you for attending. My name is Debra Truchon and I'm the program officer for AmeriCorps Seniors. It's always a pleasure to host the webinars. We are glad to answer questions you have today, and I am joined today with my colleague Emily Flanagan, who will be fielding questions from the Q&A box.

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15:02:52 We will see all your questions in the Q&A pod. I want to take the opportunity to review all the questions that we can. In the event we are not able to, please send any questions you have to the email address on the screen.

15:02:58 Additional information and resources could be found on the opportunity for funding page that you see on the screen.

15:03:22 There have been trainings that have been posted on the opportunity for funding page. Make sure to take advantage of those. We have one more training on the docket for January 19, understanding performance measures for foster grandparents and Senior Companion Program so take advantage of those.

15:03:53 There is a disclaimer for today -- we hope to get through all the questions but there are some questions we cannot answer because of the type of opportunity that this is. We cannot provide individual coaching or advice. It's a competitive process and we want to get great applications and we want to make sure it's as fair as possible for everyone involved.

15:04:07 We cannot tell you what to put in your application. We cannot tell you whether to start the program this way or that way. That's all up to you as the applicant. I hope we can help you understand rules and regulations and tools available but it's up to you to put together the best application as possible.

15:04:34 The AmeriCorps Seniors is currently accepting applications for the AmeriCorps seniors foster grandparents and Senior Companion Program. For this opportunity of replacement. You can submit application between now and February 3 by 5 PM Eastern standard Time.

15:04:46 We encourage everyone to submit applications early. Just in case there's technical issues you run into issues about submitting documents. Try to get them in early.

15:04:51 Please make sure to review Appendix A to make sure you are applying for open area.

15:05:11 Highlighting here are the states that currently have open opportunities. In blue you will see states in which there are opportunities for the Foster

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Grandparent Program and in purple, there are states for which there are opportunities for the Senior Companion Program.

15:05:25 And Appendix A is important, any counties listed on Appendix A are the only areas currently open as a replacement opportunity.

15:05:52 Make sure to follow the Appendix A. Very important document we have is Notice of Funding Opportunity, covers things like how long the award is, what is the review process, are there any match requirements for this opportunity where information should include in the application and what the priorities are for AmeriCorps Seniors in hoping to fund.

15:06:21 You could find Notice of Funding Opportunity on the FGP SCP replacement page found on the website. Make sure to go there if you have not already and review the document. It's important, it's the blueprint. Read it forward and backwards, upside down and get to know well to make sure you are addressing all the important areas for this application.

15:06:52 I want to highlight resources which cover the NOFO Appendix A. I went to highlight Appendix B, national performance measures instructions that helps you walk through the prior year for the program you are applying for and helps you with output outcome matching. We have appendix C definitions.

15:07:20 If you are new to AmeriCorps, we love our acronyms so unless you want to look up a term, this is a great resource. AmeriCorps Seniors grant application instructions gives you the step-by-step guidance on how to complete applications through eGrants so those who are new, this is a great resource.

There are two appendixes in the grant application instructions, the first is workplan development worksheet so if your new to doing performance measures and you're navigating between the notice as well as appendix A

15:07:41 And then you get into eGrants, you could use this worksheet to map out what you want to plug into eGrants. Office of grant administration did a great job of including budget checklist so if you are new to completing the budget, that's a resource for you to make sure you covered everything as you work through the document.

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15:07:57 We have the FAQs. Sometimes we have additional items and we expand on those in the FAQs. All these documents can be found on the funding of opportunity page.

15:08:06 If you have your questions, please put those in the Q&A box now.

15:08:43 Any questions?

15:09:00 >> Debbie, still giving our attendees a couple more minutes to type in the questions if they have them but at the moment, no questions have been submitted.

15:09:20 >> On the registration we had quite a few people familiar with what we currently have in the way of a grant, encouraging to see programs in a way to expand.

15:09:33 >> The first question submitted is -- Willoughby open opportunities for funding in other areas of the US and does the service need to be located in the state that it serves?

15:09:57 >> The first part of the question, as of right now, for FGP SCP opportunities, we only have open the areas that have [indiscernible] program. If funds become available, more opportunities will arrive but currently we are only looking to fill replacement.

15:10:21 The second part of the question is yes. I applying for a county on Appendix A, that means that the services will be provided in that area. Both the volunteers and the clients will be served in those areas.

15:10:38 >> Thank you, Debbie.

15:11:03 We will give folks another couple minutes to type in the questions. Remember, this is your time to ask us anything and if we possibly can answer, we will.

15:12:03 We have a second question, do you need to be a 501(c)(3) and is it allowed to have a fiscal sponsor with EIN?

15:12:25 >> I will pull open the actual notice so we could look at the eligibility requirements.

15:12:32 Can you confirm you could see my screen?

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15:12:42 >> Yes. You may want to zoom in a bit.

15:13:19 >> Okay. In section C, C 1, the following entities can apply to be a grantee, Indian tribe, institutions of higher education, local government, nonprofits, or a state government so whoever completes the application and assigns as authorizing individual has to fit into that organization.

15:13:30 >> Thanks, Debbie.

15:14:34 >> We will be posting this recording on the funding opportunity page, so in the event you don't have any more questions and you need to move on to other things so for you to leave the webinar and then go back to the FGP SCP funding opportunity page and then you could watch or read through the closed captioning that will be posted. We try to post everything at least a week out from when the recordings are done.

15:14:50 Give us that time because we need that time to do the closed captioning and the Spanish translation so we try to do that with a week out.

15:15:13 While we wait for additional questions, I am going to cover the sponsor, grantee [indiscernible]. We had the one question about location so this might be helpful.

15:15:47 There are two key terms you need to know to understand how AmeriCorps Seniors and FGP SCP work. The first is a sponsor, which we use synonymously with grantee. Organization it receives AmeriCorps funding and legally responsible for the grant fund.

15:16:02 If you submit an application to this competition opportunity, you will need someone to sign that says I officially accept responsibility for everything I am seeing in the organization that has the authority.

15:16:38 That is the sponsor. They are legally responsible. There's also another step organization called the Station. Community partner work AmeriCorps Senior volunteers and foster grant and or senior companion -- again, volunteer stations are where AmeriCorps Senior volunteers and foster grandparents senior companion to serve and they could be nonprofits, proprietary healthcare facilities or public agencies.

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15:17:06 Some may convert -- make play cement wide variety of station and others need to focus on the specific stations for example organization provides educational programs, might choose to focus efforts as volunteers on education within specific schools that serve as a stations.

15:17:22 Sponsor organization could serve as AmeriCorps Senior volunteers station so you could have volunteers serve their own programs if you are the organization applying for funds. Organizations between sponsor and station is [indiscernible] memorandum of understanding.

15:17:35 AmeriCorps Seniors sponsors work with volunteer stations under signed MOU and project would assign AmeriCorps Senior volunteers that volunteer at the station.

15:18:05 What that means is you have a grantee or a sponsor that is receiving funds. You have stations out in communities the grantee provides management of the grant in the volunteers and the station provide on-site supervision and management and performance data backup back to the grantee so they can enter it back to us at AmeriCorps.

15:18:17 This is in the memorandum of understanding, MOU.

15:18:32 >> I don't see any additional questions that have popped up.

15:18:58 >> If you have questions in the chat -- would it be helpful to cover VSYs and how they are calculated? Please put that in the Q&A box, put yes or no.

15:19:36 Would it be helpful to cover VSYs during this time? Please put your answer in the Q&A box.

15:20:12 Would it be helpful to cover performance measures?

15:20:30 Would it be helpful to cover performance measures during this time?

15:21:01 I am going to give five minute request for any additional questions.. We will conclude this in five minutes if we don't get any additional questions in the Q&A box.

15:22:24 Do you want to share if you get your question answered while we have been on the call, and you don't have any additional questions, we will be posting

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this on the funding opportunity page for the FGP SCP replacement opportunity. If you feel that you don't want to miss out, we will post it on the website so if you have your question answered, feel free to move on. Thank you for joining us today.

15:23:38 Two minute warning. If you have any questions, please put those in the Q&A box.

15:25:41 Okay, thank you to everyone who has joined the FGP SCP question and answer session today. Thank you again for your time and thank you for your interest in the AmeriCorps Seniors program. We look forward to seeing your application and hopefully continuing to serve. We will conclude this webinar.

15:25:45 >> Thank you everyone and have a wonderful day.

15:25:52 [End of session]

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