



**ILLINOIS
CRIMINAL JUSTICE
INFORMATION AUTHORITY - SPRINGFIELD**

524 S. 2nd Street • Suite 220 • Springfield, Illinois 62701 • (312) 793-8550

**Safe From the Start Planning
NOFO # 2116-2612**

RESPONSE TO APPLICANT QUESTIONS

Friday, October 20 – Thursday, October 26, 2023

AmpliFund

Question

I have set up an account with the Amplifund and when I go into the applications it does not give me any items to choose from. I have read the instructions on how to get to funding but my page is blank. I believe I am doing something wrong or perhaps they won't show up until the GATA portal is completely done. Can you give me some direction?

Answer

Try closing all windows, clearing the cache, and starting again. If you still get a blank list, click the "i" icon in the top right corner of your screen. This will trigger a pop up box that will connect you to Zendesk.
If this does not work, please let me know.

Budget

Question

Ok, so in the duration portion of it we would put. 50 instead of 1.0 as I am assuming it is talking 1 full year for a unit?

Answer

The AmpliFund unit of measure is a year, so you should enter .5.

Question

For this grant application budget portion. Are we writing the budget for the entire 18 months or just the 6 months planning portion?

Thank you!

Answer

The budget should be for the 6 month planning period.

Allowable Expenses

Question

As we build our proposed budget, we would love additional clarity around the allowability of the below expenses to support families' access the services and economic stability:

Transportation

Does ICJIA allow transportation support in the form of RideShares/Taxis

Direct Client Assistance

Does ICJIA allow funds to be used to support direct client assistance for expenses impacting their safety and stability such as rental support, support for groceries, support for utilities/cell phone, etc?

Answer

To determine if expenses are allowable, you will want to refer to Section D, *Application and Submission Information*, Subsection 6, *Funding Restrictions*, within the NOFO Instructions.

If selected, ICJIA will work with grantees to ensure that budgeted expenses are allowable.

Friday, October 13 – Thursday, October 19, 2023

Link to Recorded Technical Support Webinar

Question

We were unable to attend the live technical support meeting. We have went to the listed ICJIA youtube channel and have been unable to locate the recorded video of this training. Could you send me a link to this recorded video if available?

Answer

I'm sorry you had trouble accessing the webinar. Here is the link to the recording:
<https://illinois.webex.com/illinois/ldr.php?RCID=2da8558cf270c79fd64315822aa3c85b>

Clarification of Previously Posted Answer

Currently funded SFS projects may apply for a separate Planning Grant to fund an SFS project at a new site or location.

Eligibility and Program Requirements

Question

My organization is interested in applying for the Safe from the Start funding opportunity, but we wanted to make sure we understood the requirements. We already work with a collaboration of members with the aim of preventing child abuse and neglect. Would we be able to write for this existing collaboration or does this need to be a newly created coalition? Also, are there requirements we need to fulfill that would designate us as a Safe from the Start Coalition or can we just follow the Safe from the Start program model?

Thank you!

Answer

Thank you for your questions regarding the SFS NOFO instructions. Please see the answers and supporting information from the NOFO instructions below.

SFS can be a subgroup of a larger or existing organization, coalition, or task force; however, the SFS-focused group must follow the SFS Program Model.

Program Model (See page 6, Program Description):

The Safe from the Start (SFS) Planning Program is designed to assist in the development, implementation, and evaluation of comprehensive and coordinated community-based models to identify, assess, and serve children, primarily ages 0 to 5, who have been exposed to violence in their homes and/or communities.

The SFS Program Model consists of three major components:

1. Coalition and collaboration building
2. Direct services
3. Public awareness

Program requirements (See page 11, Program Requirements):

All SFS planning grant activities must be guided by the SFS Program Model and SFS Evaluation Protocol

Sites must submit all reporting requirements, including quarterly and year-end reports.

Coalition Membership (See page 8, Evidenced Based Programs for Children, Program Design, Coalition Building and Collaboration):

State and local agency, including community-based organizations, collaboration and coordination is required. Sites may satisfy this requirement by forming a SFS Coalition dedicated to addressing young children's exposure to violence in their communities.

Deliverables (See page 12, Performance Plan, Deliverables Chart):

Applications will be assessed on the proposal's ability to meet the deliverables, including their plan to engage and invite community stakeholders to become members of the local Safe From the Start (SFS) Coalition and secure membership by creating Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) agreements between those agencies and members and the local Safe From the Start program.

Question

We are a current SFS implementation provider. Are we eligible to apply for a new SFS planning grant to plan a SFS program in a new and different community?

Answer

Existing providers may apply for a new planning grant; however, this planning grant would be a different grant that would need to be used to for a separate SFS project site/location from your existing project site/location.

Eligible applicants include public agencies and nonprofit organizations located within Illinois. Service planning and activity must be within Illinois and applicants must be pre-qualified to do business with the State of Illinois. (Within the NOFO instructions, please see page 14, Eligibility Requirements).

Friday, October 6 – Thursday, October 12, 2023

No questions this week.

Post Date – Thursday, October 5, 2023

Program Design Requirements

Question

For this application, the NOFO states that "primarily ages 0-5". We want to know if it is allowable to serve children outside of this age range or are we restricted to only ages 0-5? Thank you!

Answer

Safe From the Start primarily serves young children (birth to 5 years of age) who have been exposed to violence in the home or community and their families or caregivers. Children older than five years living in the home, such as siblings, maybe served if the primary client is ages 0-5.

(SFS Planning NOFO Instructions, Direct Services, Services to the Target Population, pg. 10)

Eligibility

Question

My organization is already a recipient of Safe From the Start funding. We saw this opportunity opened up and were a little confused. Is this only for organizations that do not already receive funding? Or would we be eligible to apply for funds for another one of our programs?

Answer

The Safe From the Start (SFS) Planning Notice of Funding Opportunity is for organizations interested in planning for and starting a SFS Program. Current SFS Implementation programs do not need to apply.

Match Requirement

Question

Under the "Award Information" heading on the program page online at il.amplifund.com, it is stated that there is a matching requirement for this program, however, a specific amount of required match is not provided. Can you please advise the amount of the required cash/in-kind match for this program?

Answer

I apologize for the error. There is no match requirement.