

WAGEES Bidders' Conference
July 19 and 26, 2018
FAQs

Q. Many of the target areas say “and surrounding area”. What is meant or included in the surrounding area?

A. The target areas name specific communities for the WAGEES expansion, many of which include the “surrounding area”. The reason for this was to be inclusive of organizations which may not be located within municipal boundaries or that serve areas just outside municipal boundaries, but still serve the target area. RFP evaluators will specifically be looking for organizations that have a local attachment to the community at large.

Q. How much service must be provided to a participant to count for enrollment into the program?

A. To be enrolled in the WAGEES program, a participant must meet the eligibility criteria (referred to by the Department of Corrections and assessed by them as a medium- to high-risk for recidivism). The participant must also complete the intake, INSIT assessment and Individual Service Plan with the WAGEES case manager. It is expected that most organizations will utilize partners to assist with providing services which is acceptable and encouraged. The funded subgrantee is responsible for all performance including that of the partners. Potential subgrantees are discouraged from designing program proposals in which they only coordinate services and do not provide any activities or services directly.

Q. The budget template for the RFP proposal includes a reference to “other indirect costs/ admin overhead” followed by a statement that such costs require an approved Indirect Rate Calculation (line 29). Who approves this rate calculation?

A. The Latino Coalition for Community Leadership (LCCL) Financial Manager will approve these agreements for funded subgrantees. The calculations are usually based on square footage or personnel costs. Proposal budgets may include indirect costs / admin overhead however the final budget is subject to negotiation and approval by the LCCL Financial Manager.

Q. How do we report recidivism?

A. The LCCL data management system, Case Mgr, will include a form to track recidivism. For the purpose of WAGEES, recidivism is defined as incarceration on new charges during participation in the WAGEES program. It is important that WAGEES recidivism not be compared to the recidivism rate at the Department of Corrections which are defined and calculated differently. It is not expected that subgrantees continue to track a participant after exit from the program.

Q. Can the LCCL provide a list of the attendees on the bidders' conference webinars?

A. LCCL does not have a way to track all attendees to the bidders' conferences as attendance does not require a personal or organization name.

Q. Will the subgrantee in the Denver Metro area be required to serve all the communities listed for that target area including Englewood, Lakewood, Adams County, etc?

A. No, the subgrantee must have a local attachment to one of these communities in the Metro area however it is not expected that subgrantee serve all of those areas.

Q. What cost per participant should be included in our budget proposal?

A. Each organization may propose its own budget therefore a cost per participant may vary. The average cost per participant for the WAGEES program is about \$3,000 which is reflected in the target area grant award and enrollment goals outlined in the RFP Guidance.

Q. Do we need to have a reasonable footprint in the target area to get funded?

A. The LCCL is looking for organizations that have a strong attachment to the community they propose serving. Programs that are looking to expand to new areas will not be as strong as those that have an existing and reasonable attachment to the community they propose serving.

Q. How does funding flow to the subgrantee?

A. Subgrantees may request one month worth of the operating expenses in advance (equivalent to 1/9 of the total grant award for the 9 month period). Following this advance, if requested, costs must be submitted to the LCCL for reimbursement. Reimbursement may be submitted up to twice a month. Generally there is a two week turnaround on reimbursements.

Q. How do referrals work in the WAGEES program?

A. Participants in the WAGEES program must be referred by the Department of Corrections (DOC) using the WAGEES referral process. Referrals may occur one of two ways. First, certain DOC staff may make a direct referral (eg. Parole officer, community reentry specialist, etc.). Second, a reverse referral may be utilized by the subgrantee for walk-ins. In this case, the subgrantee collects the relevant information about the potential participant and provides the reverse referral to the DOC for evaluation and final referral. This entails ensuring the participant is on parole and assessed at a medium- to high-risk. Individuals under DOC supervision in the community corrections system may also participate in WAGEES once that process is finalized late this year.

Q. What if a participant does not have an LSI score? How do we get the LSI score?

A. The DOC is responsible for the LSI assessment and scoring upon which the participants risk level is based. Subgrantees will not be responsible for performing an LSI assessment to determine a participant's risk level.

Q. Will we automatically receive referrals from the DOC?

A. Yes, the DOC currently provides referrals to WAGEES subgrantees. It is expected these referrals will ramp up especially in communities where WAGEES is relatively new. Traditionally, the WAGEES program has seen about 50% of referrals made directly by the DOC while the other 50% are reverse referrals.

Q. How do I know the number of parolees in my community and if I can achieve the enrollment goal for my target area?

A. The RFP Guidance document includes the number of parolees being released in each target area. This information was used to develop the enrollment goals for each target area which are specified in the RFP guidance.

Q. How long will it be before participants from Community Corrections can participate in WAGEES?

A. The LCCL hopes to develop a referral process for Community Corrections by mid December.

Q. Can one agency apply for multiple target areas?

A. Yes, however the likelihood of being awarded a grant in multiple target areas will depend on the agency's attachment and history of service in each community.

Q. Can a governmental agency apply?

A. No, governmental entities are not eligible for WAGEES. However, if a quasi-governmental agency holds a separate 501c3 status, that separate non-profit agency is eligible for WAGEES.

Q. Is it acceptable to apply using a partnership of multiple organizations?

A. Yes, partnerships are acceptable and encouraged. Please include in the proposal an explanation of each partner and how the services tie to achievement of the WAGEES performance measures. The subgrantee is responsible for all performance including that of any partners.

Q. Can our proposal include leadership programs?

A. Yes, programs should follow a strength based approach to the provision of participant services that focuses on the assets of participants as well as barriers to achieve an appropriate balance for success. This approach would be built around four goals:

1. Preparation for and success in employment.
2. Improving educational achievement.
3. Support for participant stability (i.e. mentoring, housing, behavioral health, transportation).
4. Services to develop the potential of the participants as citizens and leaders.

Q. For faith-based non-profits, are religious activities allowed?

A. WAGEES funding may not be used for any inherently religious activities.

Q. Can WAGEES funds be used to pay rent at a transitional housing unit the subgrantee owns and runs?

A. Yes, housing costs are an allowable expense in WAGEES. The amount of the expense depends on the subgrantee's budget. Typically, WAGEES subgrantees will cover 1 – 3 months of rent for participants that are receiving housing services.

Q. Can WAGEES funding be used on family members of participants?

A. No, WAGEES funding may only be used for direct services provided to the participant who has met all eligibility criteria for WAGEES (referred by DOC, on parole and assessed at a medium- to high-risk of recidivism). However, family reunification is an allowable activity and expense; many of those services may benefit family members of the participant.