**RFA 2024.1.B Historically Black College and University (HBCU) Inclusive Postsecondary (IPSE) Planning RFA**

**RFA Q&A**

1. **Are all University of North Carolina System (UNC System) institutions (i.e.,** [**https://www.northcarolina.edu/institutions/**](https://www.northcarolina.edu/institutions/)**) already registered with the Secretary of State?**

**Answer**: Yes, it is our understanding that this is true. Information about registering with the Secretary of State is provided because all non-profits, universities, not-for-profits, for-profits, or government agencies are eligible to apply for this RFA whether they are in state or out of state. This is important to note if there is an organization taking the lead on an application that wants to collaborate and/or subcontract with an HBCU. Organizations not registered to do business in the State of North Carolina will need to complete the required paperwork with the NC Secretary of State’s office if awarded the contract. Information can be found at: <https://www.sosnc.gov/>. NOTE: This process does not have to be completed to submit an application for this grant.

1. **Is the required 25% non-federal match included in the $80,000 or in addition to the $80,000 listed in the RFA**?

**Answer:** Typically, a DD Council (e.g., NCCDD) can pay for up to 75% of the total cost of a project or activity with federal funds. This means the cost share (or match) amount required is, typically, 25%. For the HBCU IPSE Planning RFA, NCCDD will provide up to $80,000 per year for up to three years and require from the successful applicant 25% (i.e., up to $26,667) of the total costs (i.e., up to $106,667) per year for up to three years in non-federal matching funds.

1. **Do the character limits in DD Suite include characters and spaces?**

**Answer:** Yes. Character limits in DD Suite includes characters and spaces. In the Project Outline section, character limits include: Executive Summary [2500]; Qualifications [2500]; Detailed Narrative [4000]; Accomplishments [3000]; Methodology [2500]; Sustainability of Initiative [2000]; and Monitoring Activities [2500]. If someone needs to exceed the character limits to strengthen their application or provide more detail on any area, attachments can be added to the application. There is no limit to the number of attachments that can be included in the application. All attachments will be considered a part of the application and forwarded to the RFA application review committee when received.

1. **What is the Council’s vision for IPSE in the future? What is the Council hoping to accomplish by engaging HBCUs?**

**Answer:** This information is outlined in Section II and Section III of the RFA. Information on NCCDD's Five-Year State Plan (2022-2026) is also included in the RFA and accessible at <https://nccdd.org/the-council/five-year-plan.html>.

1. **Is the scope of work expected from this initiative in alignment with the funding being provided for it?**

**Answer:** This is a planning grant. The successful applicant will demonstrate how the organization will design and implement an IPSE at an HBCU. The deliverables in the RFA outline that year 1 of 3 is for IPSE plan development. The successful applicant will implement the 1-year plan they devised during the first three months of the contract. It is also expected that the successful applicant will launch the IPSE they designed by the end of year 2 of the contract. IPSEs vary in size and delivery of supports. The successful applicant should specify projected cohort size and maximum capacity. The RFA Application Review committee will review and score all completed applications (application and all attachments) based on the plan outlined in the applications.

The Council intends to fund up to $80,000 per year for up to three years to the successful applicant. It is expected through the progression of the grant that the successful applicant will seek additional funding to implement and sustain an IPSE program on the HBCU campus. Think College and the Southeastern Postsecondary Education Alliance (SEPSEA) are available to partner with the successful applicant. There are 10 states in SEPSEA. Each state has programs that have successfully completed the Comprehensive Transition and Postsecondary Program (CTP) designation process and that are past or present recipients of Transition Programs for Students with Intellectual Disability (TPSID) Model Demonstrations funding. The successful applicant will also have access to other resources including guidebooks for creating and sustaining an IPSE on their campus.

All HBCUs interested in starting a IPSE on their campus are invited to join the [HBCU Summit](file:///C:\Users\twhite31\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Outlook\NFSIS0JI\HBCU%20Summit%20Invitation.pdf). The summit will be held August 9-11, 2023 in Atlanta, GA. You can reach out to Dr. Kristin Johnson at [krjohnson@astate.edu](mailto:krjohnson@astate.edu) for additional information.