

Question and Answer

Community Living Connections

2024 Request for Qualification

	Program Area	Question	Answer
1	Budget and Proposed Deliverables Worksheet	For TCARE® - Caregiver Assessment, does the unduplicated count include people we reach with Step 1, Step 2, and Step 3—or are you just asking us for an unduplicated count for Step 3?	In the Budget and Proposed Deliverables Worksheet, applicants of TCARE® - Caregiver Assessment can include an unduplicated count of individuals served with all levels or TCARE® steps referenced in the service description of TCARE® - Caregiver Assessment. See Guidelines Section B - Service Descriptions, page 6-11.
2	Contract	What is the post-2025 application process going to look like? After 2025, will we have to reapply in a year, or will it just be a contract extension?	Initial awards will be made for the period of January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025. Agreements may be renewed through the 2028 program year contingent upon performance and funding availability. Seattle Human Services Department (HSD) does not intend to repeat this process every year. See RFQ Guidelines, page 3.
3	Rating Criteria	Previously, Information & Assistance and Outreach were one category, but now they are two categories. Is there a benefit to applying for multiple categories? Are more points awarded if you apply for more categories?	Applications will be individually evaluated for qualification and service roster eligibility based on the rating criteria in the RFQ Application, page 17-27. Applicants can include any number of the services in a proposal. The rating criteria for the Service Qualification section of the RFQ Application is specific to each individual service. Applicants should respond to the set of questions for each service they intend to provide and should use rating criteria for the corresponding service as a guide as this is how the raters will score the application. Applications will also be evaluated for funding award where available and requested by an applicant. Points in the Agency Qualification, Service Qualification <i>and</i> Program Budget and Deliverables sections of the RFQ Application will be considered in the funding recommendation. Other factors in the funding recommendation include population served and service coverage, such as geographic region.
4	General	Do I understand correctly that this RFP seeks an org/agency to undertake all of the listed services?	No, individual applicants can include any number of the services described in the RFQ Guidelines in their proposal. HSD intends to fund a maximum of 21 proposals. Community Living Connections services should be available throughout the county as a whole system, or network of agencies. See Guidelines Section E, page 12-13 for more information on Expected Service Coverage.

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5	General	What types of orgs do you expect to apply?	This RFQ is open to any legally constituted entities meeting HSD Agency Minimum Eligibility Requirements and any additional requirements outlined in the guidelines.
6	General	How might I be email-informed of future RFP opportunities?	Prospective applicants can view HSD's Notice of Funding Availability, apply to open funding opportunities, and sign up for notifications about future funding processes at: https://www.seattle.gov/human-services/for-providers/funding-opportunities . HSD will not provide individual notice of changes and applicants are responsible for regularly checking this web page for answers to questions, process updates, clarifications, or amendments.
7	General	When are the information sessions?	HSD will offer two information sessions, one virtual and one in-person, which will be recorded and made available on HSD's Funding Opportunities webpage. Please refer to the Community Living Connections RFQ webpage https://www.seattle.gov/human-services/for-providers/funding-opportunities/2024-community-living-connections-rfq or page 4 of the RFQ Guidelines for more information on the sessions.
8	Submission	It looks like there are two options to submit an application: the online submission portal or email. The portal seems to involve some more steps. For example, it has required fields and does not support saving. Email appears more simple. Is the online submission portal preferred or is email-submission acceptable?	Applicants may apply through the HSD Online Submission System (http://web6.seattle.gov/hsd/rfi/index.aspx) OR via email HSD_RFP_RFQ_Email_Submissions@seattle.gov . Each submission option has specific instructions. Applicants should refer to the RFQ Application and links for submission options and instructions. See page 28. If you encounter issues with the online submission system, please email Sola Plumacher at sola.plumacher@seattle.gov
9	Submission	How many attachments are required? Is it 6?	The number of documents in a complete application depends on several factors, including what services an applicant is applying for, whether an agency is requesting funding, whether there is a fiscal sponsor, non-agency service site and more. Applicants should refer to RFQ Guidelines and Application document for formatting and document naming guidelines (page 16), and completed application requirements (page 28-29). Attachment 1 - Application Checklist is also provided as a tool to help you ensure that your application is complete prior to submission.

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10	General	Will the information session slides be available on the website?	A recording and information session slides will be made available on HSD's Funding Opportunities webpage. Please refer to the Community Living Connections RFQ webpage https://www.seattle.gov/human-services/providers/funding-opportunities/2024-community-living-connections-rfq and question 7.
11	Submission	Are multiple RFQ submissions acceptable?	HSD will consider your latest submission as the final submission if there are multiple attempts in applying. Once your application has been submitted, you will receive a written confirmation. If you encounter issues with the online submission system, please email Sola Plumacher at sola.plumacher@seattle.gov . See RFQ Guidelines and Application page 28.
12	Budget and Proposed Deliverables Worksheet	Are we to submit separate proposed budget for each service that we are applying for?	Only one Proposed Program Budget and Proposed Personnel Detail Budget is required for applicants requesting funding. Applicants should refer to and utilize the excel template which includes columns for "Requested HSD Funding for Services for Older Adults and Adults with Disabilities" and "Requested HSD Funding for Services for Caregivers." Costs for services proposed in those respective categories may be combined in the Proposed Program Budget and Proposed Personnel Detail Budget. These columns refer to the Service Descriptions and Participant Eligibility Criteria described in the RFQ Guidelines. Services for Caregivers are delineated in the RFQ Service Descriptions beginning on page 8.
13	General	How much time would you estimate it would take an applicant to prepare an application. Do you think someone who has experience doing this might need a week?	The time it may take an applicant to prepare an application is dependent on several factors, including the number of services an applicant is applying for, whether they are requesting funding, whether they need to gather letters of intent, and other factors.
14	General	Are electronic signatures acceptable?	A physical signature or verified electronic signature (i.e., DocuSign) from an Authorized Representative of Applicant/Lead Agency is required on the RFQ Attachment 2 – Application Cover Sheet. Requested signatures on other attachments or Cover Sheet fields may be electronic.

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15	Rating Criteria	If an organization is going to collaborate with an applicant is there anything in the letter of intent that would be helpful to include?	Please refer to the application questions and corresponding rating criteria in RFQ Application Section 1 – Agency Qualification, Part B Partnerships and Collaboration, for information on how letters of intent and narrative pertaining to collaborations will be evaluated.
16	Guidelines	I see that the participant eligibility criteria states that available funding primarily is primarily for adults age 60+. What does this mean? Is it possible to get some funding for adults under age 60 with disabilities?	The funding available through this RFQ is a mix of federal, state and local dollars. Several of these fund sources have restrictions, including age or geography. Available funding to serve adults with disabilities under age 60 is limited. Applicants of Information Assistance and Care Coordination must show match in personnel costs to support service to adults with disabilities under age 60. HSD is not specifying a minimum required percentage of match. It is possible to be awarded funding to serve adults under age 60 with disabilities.
17	Guidelines	Can you clarify what you mean by only one applicant funded per region under the service coverage section and Region Coordination heading?	Section E of the RFQ Guidelines establishes service coverage requirements for Region Coordination, Care Coordination and Respite Coordination, which are services described in Section B of the RFQ Guidelines. Only one agency will be awarded funds for Region Coordination services per geographic region. Agencies may apply to be the Region Coordinator in more than one region
18	Guidelines	Qualification and educational experience requirements are outlined for Care Coordination. If agency calls it case management or client advocacy would these qualifications apply? Can they refer to these staff differently?	Individual agencies may have their own personnel classifications and position titles. The qualifications in Section G of the RFQ Guidelines would pertain to staff than an applicant proposes provide the respective services described in the RFQ Guidelines.