

## **VWV Competitive Grants Process FAQs**

**November 6, 2018 – November 19, 2018**

**I don't see an opportunity for a renewal of the formula AmeriCorps grant in eGrants. Am I doing something wrong? Or is it not available yet?**

- The formula grant renewal is not yet available in eGrants. Only the competitive grant should be available. If you are a formula program applying for competitive funding then you can access the competitive grant. However, if you wish to remain as a formula grant you do not need to complete a renewal until Spring 2019. It is optional for a formula program to apply for competitive funding.

**Can you all tell me what evaluation tier we fell in? Also, is there a way we can find out how we scored on each section?**

- You can review feedback from CNCS after your last successful recompetete application. The feedback is sent to Volunteer West Virginia from CNCS via email and then forwarded to your staff.
- No, there is not a way to find out how each individual section was scored. CNCS does not provide this information.

**Do programs that are applying for competitive continuation have to update performance measures?**

- Yes, continuation programs must follow the new NOFO instructions, which includes updating performance measures.

**Can I view the points that CNCS gives for each section of my competitive grant application?**

- No, you do not have access to the points that CNCS awarded for each section of your competitive grant application. However, CNCS does send feedback if you are competing in a new competitive grants cycle. It includes an evidence and evaluation review in addition to an overall feedback document and is sent via email.

**Am I submitting to competitive or formula when I participate in this application process?**

- This application process is for competitive funding. Formula funding is not submitted until March 2018. It is optional to submit for competitive funding. Please review the recommendation that you received from Volunteer West Virginia at the beginning of this process. The technical assistance and training, however, are applicable for both application processes.

**Will I have the chance to edit my application after the first deadline in December?**

- Yes, there will be a review and edit period before the final submission

**When we get feedback from the competitive process can we incorporate that into our formula submission?**

- No, if you do not receive competitive funding the first application you submitted in December is the version that will be entered into the Formula competition in the spring. You can not edit the competitive submission and resubmit to formula because that would give an unfair advantage over other formula applicants.

**How do we request an alternative match?**

- To request an alternative match, submit all documents to Volunteer West Virginia. The documents for alternative match are submitted at the time of the first submission date in December. We will then submit to CNCS. You will need to budget for the required match and then submit a budget modification if you are awarded the alternative match.
- You will need to provide justification for the alternative match. Please see the 2019 ASN Application Instructions, starting on page 37, for more information.
- Per Attachment G: Alternative Match Instructions in the 2019 ASN Application Instructions “The alternative match requirement will be in effect for whatever portion of the three-year project period remains or if applying as a new grantee, for the upcoming three-year grant cycle.”

**How do I show that I serve economically distressed sites if my program’s main office is in Charleston?**

- You will need to list the sites that are economically distressed by finding the Beale Codes or that the site meets the requirements for ‘severely economically distressed county’ as outlined in the Attachment G: Alternative Match Instructions in the 2019 ASN Application Instructions.

**Additional Notes:**

- We are working on posting the PowerPoint slides from the November 15 training to the website. Our trainers would like to review them beforehand and will get us the final slides in the next several weeks.
- Several questions were repeated after our last call. Please see the last FAQ for Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> – Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> posted on our website under the Grants Section, Competitive Grants Process.
- The competitive NOFO is now open on eGrants.