Sugary Drink Distributor Tax RFPs 2022
Questions and Answers (from email and the virtual info sessions)

Relevant to both RFPs

Q: Can we apply to both RFPs, Health Communities and Healthy Schools?
A: Yes, you may apply for both, but can only be funded for one.

Q: Should the budget submitted include all 3 years?
A: Yes, all 3 years should be submitted as the budget should match the full 3-year workplan.

Q: Is this reimbursable grant. Can awardees receive an advance on awarded funds?
A: It is a reimbursable grant; advances are unfortunately not available.

Q: The link to the SDDTAC 2019 Annual Report linked is no longer active. Can you share a copy of it?
https://www.sfdph.org/dph/files/SDDTAC/83_Sugary_Drinks_Report_R3_0820v1_FINAL.pdf

RFP #05-2022: Healthy Communities

Q: Are fiscally sponsored projects with budgets of less than $1.5 million eligible to apply and participate if the sponsor’s budget is over $1.5 million?
A: Yes. For organizations with fiscal sponsors, it is the budget of the organization who will be doing the work, not the sponsor, that needs to be under $1.5 million.

Q: If there are applications with budgets under $250,000, will they be considered?
A: Yes, budgets for under $250,000 yearly will be considered.

Q: To clarify, are there 6 grants total, broken down by community?
A: Yes, this is correct. We have selected 6 populations who are impacted the most.
Q: We work with low-income populations from a mix of racial backgrounds, will this be considered?
A: Yes, this would be considered. Ideally you would be able to find one of the priority populations that is represented more than the others which you could apply under.

Q: If we are serving several of the priority populations are we eligible for more?
A: The maximum for any one grant is $250,000 even if serving multiple populations.

Q: Can groups who have previously received an SDDT Healthy Community grant apply again and be funded?
A: Yes, previous grantees may apply again.

Q: Are the 10 allotted pages in the application meant for replying to the questions included?
A: Yes.

Q: Are we at a disadvantage if most of our work is on active living and not as much healthy eating?
A: No, you would not be at a disadvantage – it’s okay to do more of one than the other.

Q: How many applicants are there typically?
A: For the last round of this funding there were 32 applicants.

Q: Will preference go to projects that are working with more people with less depth in content or less people with more depth in content?
A: We don’t have criteria or scoring around how many people need to be served versus the depth in content.

Q: Could you specify if this grant is only for conditions related to sugary drinks?
A: The intent is to reinvest funds from the (Sugary Drinks Distributor Tax) SDDT into the communities most impacted by the sugary drink industry and its products. As per the legislation that the voters passed and priorities of both the Sugary Drinks Distributor Tax Advisory Committee (SDDTAC), the focus is on activities designed to address healthy eating and/or active living (HEAL) as well as social determinants of health (SDoH) linking how those SDoH impact HEAL. The Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention (CDC) links the following health conditions to frequent sugary drink intake: obesity, type 2 diabetes, heart disease, kidney diseases, non-alcoholic liver disease, tooth decay and cavities.

Applicants may choose to make the link to other related health conditions; and it is important to recognize that SDDT is the only funding stream for chronic diseases and there are other funding streams for mental health.

Q: We noticed that staff resumes are requested in Section 2B Organizational Capacity/Staff Qualifications of the application. Are resumes submitted as part of the Proposal Narrative and, therefore, included as part of the 10-page limit?
A: Resumes are not counted toward the narrative 10-page limit.

Q: Will SFPHF be able to provide referrals or suggestions of how to recruit specific potential clients within the highest priority target groups, or are the applicant organizations responsible for identifying and recruiting all potential clients?
A: As noted in the RFP: “Applicants must have a demonstrated track record of reaching priority populations and those most impacted by sugary drink consumption. Applicants will be asked to describe how their past work was successful in serving Priority Population/s. Applicants need not be experts in chronic disease prevention or healthy eating/active living (HEAL) programs but must demonstrate expertise and experience reaching Priority Populations.”

Q: Our work is primarily in Alameda and Contra Costa counties, and I did not see any specific eligibility requirements indicating the target population for programs funded by this grant needed to be in San Francisco. Is there a geographical limitation to the grant eligibility criteria?
A: The SDDT is a San Francisco tax and the resulting revenues are only for San Francisco populations.

Q: At the bottom of the logic model on screen it says "Prepare Diverse Community Health Workers/Promotoras", and then lists a number of specific public health professions. Are these the only professions you are looking for, or can the Health Care Workers be doing general work on HEAL activities, and if our proposal does not include preparing people for these specific professions, will we lose points in the scoring?
A: The list of public health professions is not inclusive.

Q: For priority populations to be served, one example provided is transitional Age Youth of various backgrounds. Our question here is, if we serve Transitional Age Youth of all different backgrounds, how do we choose only one priority population?
A: Choose the predominant racial/ethnic group you would be serving and then on the cover sheet it gives the option to identify additional groups.

RFP #06-2022: Healthy Schools

Q: We are a nonprofit organization based in Marin County but we have programs all over the Bay Area. I was wondering if you fund solely organizations based in San Francisco or if that is not necessarily important as long as the organization serves students in San Francisco.

A: As long as you would be able to work with/at an SFUSD site, the home base of your organization, since it’s still in the Bay Area, would be fine.

Q: Is it advisable to apply for the full allotted award or will it be assumed that it will be split between 2 or 3 grantees?

A: You may apply for the amount that makes sense for your organization based on the work you are proposing to complete. Project negotiations are part of the process for the selected organizations, so there is room to negotiate if the work could still be completed for a lower or greater amount.

Q: Can teachers be the priority population for this grant?

A: Teachers do fall under the staff wellness aspect of this grant. There could be student, teacher, and student/family components – the areas of focus should be communicated in the grant proposal, paying attention to the criteria included in the application.

Q: Should there be any progression or component of sustainability across the 3 years of workplans?

A: Applications should be realistic about what you can include within the 3 years and be clear what changes will occur within that timeline or what changes may happen beyond the period of the grant. Sustainability is not necessary. Reference the scoring criteria for scoring related to the workplan.

Q: We've primarily worked at the district level and not with a particular school site. With this grant focusing on targeted schools, if grant recipients are not currently in relationship with a particular school(s), will there be support from the district in facilitating those connections to ensure proposed services/projects are of interest to the school community?

A: SFUSD will be helping to facilitate a direct connection with various school sites to make grant implementation as smooth and easy as possible.
Q: We serve youth at schools with 60% or more free-or-reduced-price lunch across San Francisco, including at several of the priority schools listed. Can you confirm if program services can be across San Francisco, or are they all required to be in the Southeast sector?

A: Yes, the programs can be across San Francisco, however, proposals that strongly focus on schools in the Southeast sector may be prioritized.

Q: Are you looking for projects/programs that have all components focused on a single population being served, or is it acceptable to have a program with multiple components serving slightly different populations?

A: It is acceptable to have a program with multiple components serving slightly different populations.