

Illinois Multi-tiered System of Supports Network (IL MTSS-N) NOFO/RFP On-line Question and Answer (Q&A) Forum

Q: May two entities file a joint application for the IL MTSS-N grant?

A: No. The award will establish a single administrative agent. An applicant may establish, and must detail in the application, any sub-contract information with another entity if necessary for operational support.

Q: What, if any, are the other projects that also will now be supported through the IL MTSS-Network that must be budgeted and supported by the AA? If there are other projects that will be supported in addition to the existing I RTI-Network, what are the expected personnel needs and/or other project needs?

A: The previous work of I-RtI Network and ISTAC will be undertaken by the IL MTSS-N as developed through the collaborative work completed by the projects over the FY16 period by ISTAC and the I-RtI Network to scale up for statewide delivery of professional development in the form of training, coaching and technical assistance. Required partners to achieve the goals and objectives of the IL MTSS-N are identified in the NOFO. It is anticipated that the IL MTSS-N will need to scale up the number of Implementation Coach level personnel well above the levels previously employed by the I-RtI Network and ISTAC previously.

Q: If the IL MTSS-Network is to be the sole provider of all efforts, what is the content above and beyond what historically has been delivered through the I RTI-Network (e.g., early intervention through (universal) screening, tiered interventions of increasing intensity, frequent progress monitoring, use of RTI as a component of SLD eligibility determination)?

A: The previous work of both I-RtI Network and ISTAC will be undertaken by the IL MTSS-N as developed through the collaborative work completed by the two projects over the FY16 period to scale up for statewide delivery. The program plan will be developed with the Statewide Administrator in collaboration with ISBE in July 2017. The awardee will provide the operational supports necessary to scale up the IL MTSS-N statewide to achieve the program goals and objectives through a regional delivery system for training, with additional coaching and technical assistance for districts identified by ISBE.

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Q: Is the IL MTSS-Network an effort to ramp up to scale with expected personnel and other needs beyond what is currently allocated to the I RTI network?

A: Yes. The previous work of I-RtI Network and ISTAC will be undertaken by the IL MTSS-N as developed though the collaborative work completed by the projects over the FY16 period by ISTAC and the I-RtI Network to scale up for statewide delivery. It is anticipated that current I-RtI Network and ISTAC staff will be afforded the opportunity to maintain continuous employment through the IL MTSS-N, and that staffing levels will exceed the current combined staffing of the I-RtI Network and ISTAC in order to scale up statewide through a regional delivery systems aligned with the Statewide System of Supports structure as described in the NOFO.

Q: Is there access to previous budget allocations for the projects' components?

A: Budget and expenditure details of previous programs can be accessed through a FRIS Inquiry located on the ISBE.net webpage. Budget guidance for the IL MTSS-N administrative agent grant is provided in the NOFO/RFP and in the Bidders' Webinar. The IL MTSS-N is a new program developed through combining responsibilities and activities of previous projects, including required partners, to provide a statewide scale up of the work accomplished through FY16. It is anticipated that applicants will prepare a budget proposal that best addresses the new program requirements.

Q: The RFP lists anticipated salaries/personnel costs only for the current IL RTI Network. Where can we find the CURRENT/expected personnel costs for ISTAC project(s) to describe more accurately our proposed budget?

A: The IL MTSS-N is a new program developed through combining responsibilities and activities of previous projects, including required partners, to provide a statewide scale up of the work accomplished through FY16. The anticipated costs in the NOFO/RFP are based on a totality of the previous projects and are provided only as a frame from the previous projects. Applicants may choose to make salary proposals that do not stay within the anticipated salary ranges listed in the NOFO/RFP. It is anticipated that applicants will prepare a budget proposal, including salary schedules and personnel costs, that best addresses the new program requirements regardless of whether an employee of the IL MTSS-N was employed by one of the previous project or not. The only limiting requirement regarding staffing from the I-RtI Network involves percent of full time employment for those employees who are currently employed part time and wish to continue to do so.

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Q: When will we be able to register for pre-qualification on the State of Illinois GATA Web Portal?

A: Information about the process for prequalifying will be available soon on the new grant portal website: www.grants.illinois.gov . The requirements for prequalification which may be completed prior to the prequalification registration web portal opening include ensuring the possession of a Commercial and Government Entity (CAGE) Code available through System for Award Management (SAM) user account, and a Dun & Bradstreet data universal number system (DUNS) number in order to receive federal funding. If you do not currently possess either, you may register for these numbers at the following websites: www.sam.gov/portal/SAM/#1 and <http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>.

Q: What are the indirect cost rates for this RFP?

A: ISBE will honor the indirect cost rate that the applicant has previously negotiated with the federal government or with ISBE. IHEs are restricted to a maximum indirect cost rate of 8% or other indirect cost rate calculated by their federal cognizant agency, whichever is less.

Q: Is the administrative agent responsible for providing and/or reviewing any MTSS content used by IL MTSS-N?

A: The administrative agent is not responsible for reviewing MTSS content used by the IL MTSS-N. The administrative agent is responsible for providing the organizational supports necessary for program staff who will be employed by the administrative agent to achieve the program goals and objectives identified in the NOFO/RFP and the annual program plan.