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June 4, 2021

# Supplement to CDC-RFA-PS19-1901,

# “Strengthening STD Prevention and

# Control for Health Departments”

***An Outline Compiled by NCSD***

Below is a brief description of what we know about the DIS Supplement based on the recently released [**NOFO**](https://documentcloud.adobe.com/link/review?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:7f8089c9-5c42-4d9c-b784-8825a35f49d8), as well as key elements needed to develop a strong application. This is not an exhaustive list, but it meant to be a resource to help guide your application writing.

**Important Dates and Notes:**

* The funding will be released to jurisdictions BEFORE the application is due. Funding will be made available in June.
* Recipients are required to sign and submit an acknowledgement of receipt of the NOFO guidance as a Grant Note by **Friday, June 11, 2021.**
* Recipients must submit work plans, one-year hiring goals, and budgets through 12/31/21 within **60 days** of receipt of funds.

**Funding Information:**

* These funds are in addition to existing PCHD funding.
* Recipients are encouraged to partner with and offer subawards to local and tribal jurisdictions.
* Recipients will be expected to provide the CDC with copies of and/or access to COVID-19 data collected and evaluations conducted with these funds.

**Key items to consider in your application:**

* Recipients should include in their workplans:
  + Hiring goals and priorities, including those of subrecipients
    - Include mitigation plans to address challenges in meeting goals
    - Identify the community-based organizations with whom they or subrecipients partner and the specific communities those partners support
  + Focus on how diversity, equity, and inclusion will be prioritized to hire and recruit workers from local communities
  + Brief overview of programmatic context and capacity to implement workforce development goals
  + Needs assessment (current organizational structure, staffing, staffing and skills gaps, training, training gaps, and outbreak response capacity)
    - Include organizational charts and policy and procedure documents at the state and local levels



**NOFO OUTLINE**

* Required documents
  + Application for Federal Assistance 424 – one form for supplemental request
  + Budget Information 424a
  + Workplan and budget

**Non-exhaustive list of** [**a**](https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/retrieveECFR?gp=1&SID=df3c54728d090168d3b2e780a6f6ca7c&ty=HTML&h=L&mc=true&n=pt45.1.75&r=PART#sp45.1.75.e)**llowable costs and activities:**

*“The focus of this funding is to build the DIS workforce to strengthen the capacity for STLT public health departments to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and other infectious diseases more effectively.” Be creative about how you want to use these funds – as long as you can explicitly relate your ideas back to supporting the DIS workforce, they should be allowable.* ***NCSD will be compiling and distributing additional resources with further ideas for how to use this funding.***

* The costs, including wages and benefits of recruiting, hiring, training, and retaining disease investigation staff
  + These individuals may be employed by STLT public health departments, nonprofit private or public organizations, clinical settings, or community-based organizations
  + Other mechanisms to expand DIS workforce:
    - COVID-19 Related Support Services (CRSS) contract mechanism through the General Services Administration (GSA) to obtain staff or services
    - Veterans Employment Services
    - Establishing partnerships with academic institutions to create internship and fellowship opportunities
    - Using temporary staffing or employment agencies
* Purchase of equipment and supplies necessary to support DIS
  + PPE
  + Diagnostic tests – with 10% cap
  + Technology
  + Software and technological tools
  + Other equipment needed to perform the duties of the position
* Administrative support services, including travel, training, and certification
* Gap assessment
* Addressing community resilience needs to respond effectively to COVID-19 and other infectious diseases
* Subawards or contracts to tribal and local entities
* Training and education for new and existing staff
* Developing, training, and equipping staff to be ready to respond to COVID-19 and incident infections and outbreaks
* Hire and train a diverse workforce across all levels who are representative of, and have language competence for, the local communities they serve
* Systematic collection of information about the activities, characteristics, and outcomes of programs

## About NCSD

National Coalition of STD Directors is a national organization representing health department STD directors, their support staff, and community-based organizations across 50 states, seven large cities, and eight US territories. NCSD advances effective STD prevention programs and services in every community across the country.