

Questions & Answers

Please note that all questions and answers have been paraphrased. If your questions have not been answered after reviewing the responses below, please send them to the Grants Services Resource Account at RA-LI-BWDA-GS@pa.gov.

Q: Is the 17-page limit for the narrative, and does not include the Grant Action Plan and the Worker Protection Certification Form?

A: The Grant Action Plan and the Worker Protection Certification Form are not part of the 17-page total. Note: the one-page Application Form and the one-page Project Summary Cover Page **are** included in those 17 pages. Therefore, the Narrative itself cannot go beyond 15 pages.

Q: Can you please explain #5 Capacity Building under the 5 Required Activities?

A: The purpose of this section was to learn about an applicant's capacity to develop and implement an emergency plan. This came out of COVID, we want to see there is guidance in place prior to an emergency, so in the event of an emergency a plan has already been established and can be implemented quickly.

Q: Regarding the Rapid Response component; can you please elaborate? We don't want to propose something Rapid Response is already doing.

A: We wanted to put a little more emphasis on the collaboration between these grantees and the Rapid Response team. You don't necessarily need to infer what Rapid Response would or would not be doing, you can tailor your response to how you would address this. If you include something the Rapid Response is already doing, your response wouldn't be "wrong", but rather it would help demonstrate your understanding of the complete picture.

Q: Can you talk about disallowable costs? If we propose looking at what other states are doing etc., we are concerned we may propose something that could potentially be a disallowed use of funds. If we propose a disallowed cost, would that disqualify us?

A: If you have specifics you would like to run by us, please send those questions to the Grants Services Resource Account at RA-LI-BWDA-GS@pa.gov by March 13, 2023. If you do inadvertently propose a disallowed cost, your application would **not** be disqualified for that reason.

Q: As a small business I don't have the capacity to take on this whole project, but would like to partner with other applicants, can I do that?

A: Yes. You have a few options, you can contact your Local Workforce Development Board, or, if you send you contact information in as a Q&A, we will post it so other applicants will be able to contact you to explore a partnership. Also, awardees are announced via a press release, so even if you end up not participating in the application process, you may want to contact an awardee to discuss a potential partnership during the life of their grant. There are also occasions where grantees will put out their own RFPs that you may be eligible to apply for.

Q: Is this a grant, and if not, do we pay this back?

A: Yes, this is a grant.

Q: Is it possible to access the list of businesses that submitted notification for worker adjustment and Retraining in the last four years? The information is useful in determining which sector or kind of business is recording a trend of submitting notification for worker adjustment and retention. "Pennsylvania is committed to prioritizing strategies and solutions that will identify at-risk businesses earlier".

A: Please refer to the PA Department of Labor & Industry's [WARN Notices](#).

Q: Does the state have targeting criteria for "at-risk businesses" or ESG will need to develop its own targeting criteria? "A decrease in the number of layoffs for family sustaining positions statewide by 1,000".

A: You would develop this through your own data analysis.

Q: What is the current number of layoffs for family sustaining positions and where can we find it? "Financial stabilization to at least 25 businesses per year".

A: Please visit the [U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics](#) for data.

Q: What is the operational definition of "Financial Stabilization" under this award? "conducting analyses of the partners, vendors, or suppliers of an at-risk business to assess their risks, vulnerabilities, and needs from a potential closing or shift in production.

A: That would be something you as the applicant would be providing us. It may be one definition, or it may be different for each business, as several variables may factor into this (i.e., history, sector, region, current economic climate, etc.).

Q: How do we obtain personal business information on these businesses to classify them as at-risk? Are they usually willing to provide information on the status of their businesses when they are told there are aversion services to help?

A: This would be a strategy you as the applicant may wish to provide us. We assume you would initially be connecting with your targeted businesses based on your preliminary research, possibly about the sector, the unemployment rate in the region, forecasts and projections, or even company websites. How much a business is or is not willing to disclose may be related to some degree to your ability to forge a collaborative relationship with them.

Q: Where can we find the list of previous awardees of the SLAP project?

A: Awardees are announced via Press Release, which are posted alongside the SLAP NGA. The current SLAP grantee is:

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