State of Michigan

Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs

Cannabis Regulatory Agency

VETERAN MARIJUANA RESEARCH (VMR) GRANT PROGRAM

RESPONSE TO INQUIRIES
(POSTED: APRIL 26, 2022)

Question 1:

Does the program allow for collaboration with out of state institutions?

Answer 1:

Yes.

Question 2:

Do the proposed studies need to be purely clinical, or can incorporate analytical analysis with clinical analysis?

Answer 2:

The funds must be spent on clinical trials that are approved by the United States food and drug administration and sponsored by a non-profit organization or researcher within an academic institution. The organization must be able to demonstrate a history of garnering FDA approval for clinical trials and administering grant funding to researchers for clinical trials.

Question 3:

Is preference given to applications that keep the majority of awarded funds in the State?

Answer 3:

Yes. Also, when awarding subcontracts, the selected applicant(s) must ensure that preference is given to products manufactured in or services offered by Michigan-based firms.

Question 4:

Is preference given to applications that can continue to support the State in regards to compliance after the study?

Answer 4:

All selected applicants are expected to support the state with compliance, at all times.

Question 5:

Does the commercial supply chain for cannabis apply solely instate to Michigan only licensees for the study?

Answer 5:

The clinical trials must be approved by the United States food and drug administration.

Question 6:

Is the program designed solely for Veterans?

Answer 6:

Yes. These clinical trials must be designed solely to research the efficacy of marijuana in treating the medical conditions of United States armed services veterans and preventing veteran suicide.

Question 7:

Does the program allow for the purchase of equipment for the study to be used for other studies not grant related?

Answer 7:

The purchase of equipment not specifically listed in your approved budget must have prior written approval of the Grant Administrator. Equipment is defined as non-expendable personal property having a useful life of more than one year. Such equipment will be retained by the Grantee unless otherwise specified at the time of approval.

The budget narrative should include the anticipated cost of each item, a detailed explanation of the item's purpose, and how it relates to the project being funded. Be as detailed as possible.

Indirect costs are costs not directly or specifically related to the grant program. Indirect costs are costs of administering the organization and must be spread over a number of products, services, or grant programs proportionately. Examples include office supplies and equipment, utilities, rent, maintenance and repair, insurance, accounting and bookkeeping services, and legal services. In addition to administrative costs, indirect costs must be identified, labeled clearly, and the sum of both administrative costs and indirect costs may not exceed 10% of the overall grant. Selected applicant(s) will be reimbursed for its proportional share of indirect costs. This grantee should allocate a portion of the selected applicant(s)'s indirect costs and not 100% of the organization's total indirect cost.

Question 8:

Does the program allow for an endowment fund which would continue the study?

Answer 8:

The funds allocated from this grant program may be supplemented by other funds.

Question 9:

Is preference given to applicants with a plan to continue the study with a specific delivery?

Answer 9:

All proposals received will be subject to an evaluation by the Joint Evaluation Committee. The evaluation will be conducted to select organizations to perform the proposed grant project within the established timeline. All proposals will receive an initial screening to ensure that the eligibility criteria are met.

Proposals failing to meet the eligibility requirements described in Section I-B will be rejected automatically. Proposals meeting the eligibility requirements will be evaluated based on the following factors:

- Experience and Financial Stability of the Organization (40 points)
- Work Plan (20 points)
- Management Summary (20 points)
- Budget and Budget Narrative (20 points)

Question 10:

Is preference given to applicants that can provide salary caps for administrative roles for the study?

Answer 10:

All proposals received will be subject to an evaluation by the Joint Evaluation Committee. The evaluation will be conducted to select organizations to perform the proposed grant project within the established timeline. All proposals will receive an initial screening to ensure that the eligibility criteria are met. Proposals failing to meet the eligibility requirements described in Section I-B will be rejected automatically. Proposals meeting the eligibility requirements will be evaluated based on the following factors:

- Experience and Financial Stability of the Organization (40 points)
- Work Plan (20 points)
- Management Summary (20 points)
- Budget and Budget Narrative (20 points)

Question 11:

Is the program for the purpose of a pharmaceutical company to produce results based on the study?

Answer 11:

No.

Question 12:

Does the program require that administration is done within Michigan?

Answer 12:

No.

Question 13:

Does the program require that production is done within Michigan?

Answer 13:

No.

Question 14:

Does the program expect that the study will identify a specific delivery system that is submitted to the FDA?

Answer 14:

Yes.

Question 15:

Are non-clinical trial applications accepted and reviewed?

Answer 15:

No.

Question 16:

Is Yale University eligible as primary organization seeking funding?

Answer 16:

Yes, all organizations are eligible who meet the following criteria:

- must be a non-profit organization or an academic research institution that can demonstrate a history of garnering FDA approval for clinical trials and administering grant funding to researchers for clinical trials
- must be registered as a vendor in SIGMA VSS (State Integrated Governmental Management Applications, Vendor Self-Service).
- outline plans to coordinate and manage research into the efficacy of marijuana in treating the medical conditions of United States armed services veterans and preventing veteran suicide
- demonstrate a history of garnering FDA approval for clinical trials
- demonstrate a history of administering grant funding to researchers for clinical trials