

2017 Targeted Air Shed Grant Program
EPA-OAR-OAQPS-17-06
Questions and Answers
September 8, 2017

Q1: Are corporations eligible to apply for the Targeted Air Shed Grant Program?

A1: No, corporations are not eligible to apply. As noted on page 10 of the Request for Applications (RFA):

“Entities eligible to submit applications under this announcement are those air pollution control agencies, as defined by Section 302(b) of the CAA, that: (a) have responsibilities for development and/or implementation of a SIP or TIP to attain and maintain national ambient air quality standards for either ozone or PM_{2.5} within an area identified in Section I.A of this announcement, and (b) have an active air program grant under Section 103 or 105 of the CAA to carry out those responsibilities.”

Q2: Is the Targeted Air Shed Program limited to the nonattainment areas listed in the RFA?

A2: Consistent with the Consolidated Appropriation Act of 2017, the competition is only open to the top five most polluted areas relative to ozone, annual PM_{2.5}, or 24-hour PM_{2.5} standards. Accordingly, the entities eligible to apply under this RFA are those air pollution control agencies, as defined by Section 302(b) of the CAA, that: (a) have responsibilities for development and/or implementation of a state implementation plan or tribal implementation plan to attain and maintain national ambient air quality standards for either ozone or PM_{2.5} within an area identified pages 3 – 5 of the competition, and (b) have an active air program grant under Section 103 or 105 of the CAA to carry out those responsibilities.

Q3: If one application requests \$4 million for a project that allows participation in three eligible nonattainment areas within a state, how would that be counted towards the application and funding limit? Would it be counted as one grant application per each nonattainment area? Would we need to submit three separate applications, or could we submit one application for one nonattainment area, but still "share" the grant with the other two nonattainment areas?

A3: You can designate the money for the project in any or all of the nonattainment areas you are responsible for under a single application, but the total funding request per application cannot exceed \$4 million. If you decide you will need more than \$4 million to cover all three areas, then submit additional applications for the other nonattainment areas, with each application being for \$4M or less. Also, the maximum number of applications for any one nonattainment area is three. See pages 1, 9, and 12 of the RFA for more details on the funding and application limits.

Q4: What is required to meet the requirement of 3, Attachments, c. Quality Assurance Narrative Statement, listed on page 16 of the RFA. Would a summary of our Department's Quality Management Plan (QMP) and a link to it be sufficient?

A4: EPA has approved this approach in the past under many grants rather than require the recipient to develop a project-specific QA plan. The recipient should commit to modifying their existing QMP if that becomes necessary.