

Fiscal Year 2021 Frequently Asked Questions for Technical Assistance to Brownfields Communities (TAB) Grants (as of 11/19/20)

1. I see that Letters of Support are not required as they were five years ago. In preparation for this RFA we started requesting Support Letters a couple months ago and have amassed quite a few. Can we include them in the attachments despite the fact that they are no longer required?

Answer: EPA will not review the Support Letters even if you include them. As per section IV.C. Content and Form of Application Submission. The only attachments that will be reviewed are Milestones schedule and Documentation of applicant eligibility, if applicable. Any additional documentation submitted with your application will not be reviewed.

2. Page 11 of the RFA states, "EPA reserves the right to reject all applications and make no awards under this announcement, make less awards than expected, not to make awards for each area, or make multiple awards in an area." I'm wondering if you can provide some clarification on the final clause of this statement. If entity A and entity B both apply to be the TAB provider for Region X but entity B makes a better case for providing TA to a specific State in Region X, could the region be subdivided by state between entities A and B?

Answer- No. EPA does not intend to make awards that subdivide the geographic areas listed on pages 6 and 7 of the solicitation among multiple technical assistance providers. EPA anticipates making 11 awards, one for each geographical area including all states in that area. As stated on page 7 of the RFA "Applicants must provide technical assistance to communities throughout their entire geographic area. Please note that the amount of funding provided to selected recipients will be commensurate with the level and amount of technical support being proposed. Those recipients proposing to provide less technical assistance may receive less funding than recipients proposing to provide a greater amount of technical assistance or serving a larger geographic area." And threshold criterion #3 on page 14 that states "Applications must include technical assistance to communities within the entire geographical area that the project addresses."

3. Regarding graphics, will an applicant be penalized if a small number of simple graphics that help illustrate points made in written sections are used, or organization logos on letter head/footers, if we stay within the specified page limits?

Answer: No, using an organization's logo on letter head/footers will not penalize an applicant. Applicants may choose to organize some information in a table, the RFA includes a couple sample tables for various information if you want to use them.

4. It appears that letters of support or commitment (to document leverage, for example) are not to be included in applications. Is that correct?

Answer: Yes. As per section IV.C. Content and Form of Application Submission. The only attachments that will be reviewed are Milestones schedule and Documentation of applicant eligibility, if applicable. Any additional documentation submitted with your application will not be reviewed