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Research & Public Service Projects/Instruction & General Base Funding Study  
RFP# 24-950-2710-00038  
Pre-Proposal Conference  
December 12, 2023 1:30pm

Questions & Responses

1. Are Special Schools included within the scope of this project?  
**Answer: The study is specifically for institutions included in the NM Performance Based Funding Formula. Special Schools are not included.**
2. What is the timeline for completion of the Study?  
**Answer: NMHED does not have a definitive timeline established for completion of the study. We are looking to the selected Consultant to determine the timeline for completion. All funds, however, must be expended by June 30, 2024.**
3. Do the funds appropriated for this study extend beyond the current fiscal year?  
**Answer: No. The appropriation has a reversion date of June 30, 2024.**
4. Does the Study call for a steering committee of stakeholders including representatives of Institutions and state government?  
**Answer: Although the study does not call for a steering committee of stakeholders, it does call for the creation of a peer group list for the NM Performance Based Funding Formula that considers the mission, enrollment level, rural/urban setting and student characteristics as part of the review and assessment of the I&G base.**
5. Are Research & Public Service Projects considered to be separate and distinct from Instruction & General base funding?  
**Answer: Research and Public Service Projects (RPSPs) cover a wide range of activities, from funding state agencies (such as the Bureau of Mines and the Office of the Medical Investigator); state programs (such as public radio and television); and programs that might fall under base funding (such as centers to support under-represented students). These programs have been separate and distinct from Instruction & General base funding and are included as separate line-item appropriations to each institution in the General Appropriation Act each year. In 2024, the department adopted a new policy in which all RPSP requests submitted for consideration were evaluated to determine which programs should be included in the Instruction and General base funding of the institution.**

**Additional Questions Submitted Via Email**

1. Does the HED have peer groups it regularly uses for each of the public institutions?



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**Answer: There are historical peer groups for the universities that were developed to benchmark faculty salaries for the original funding formula that was student credit hour based. These peer groups, however, don't reflect the student bodies or characteristics of NM institutions.**

2. Will you please provide an example of a “nonrecurring non-I&G quasi-governmental programs”?

**Answer: There are no nonrecurring non-I&G quasi-governmental programs in New Mexico funded through the RPSP process.**

3. Will DHE identify appropriate parts of state statute to be reviewed by the contractor?

**Answer: Yes, all relevant statutes, rules, and regulations will be made available, and explained, if needed, to the contractor.**

4. Will DHE accept recommendations about performance funding metrics/approaches that are based on criteria other than current practices in other states?

**Answer: Yes, the HED will consider alternative metrics and approaches based on practices not found in other states.**

5. We are having difficulty imagining what would cause us to answer Appendix E Question 4 in the affirmative. Can you provide an example of a case that would require a positive response?

**Answer: Each offerer must complete Appendix E. The department does not have any examples to provide.**

6. Are all institutions represented on the Formula Review Committee? And on the Steering Committee?

**Answer: All higher education institutions are represented in the Formula Review Committee, however not with individual institution representation. New Mexico has three statewide associations that encompass all institution sectors included in the formula, and the Executive Directors of those associations are on the committee.**

7. What is the deadline for completion of the deliverable(s)? (I think you provided an answer to this question on the bidding conference call, but the notes I received were unclear and suggested that you all were working to provide a definitive answer in follow-up, so I'm keeping this question on the list, particularly with respect to the next one.)

**Answer: Deliverables must be received and approved by the department prior to June 30, 2024. Invoicing for said deliverables must be received prior to June 30, 2024 as well.**



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We have significant concerns about the timeline for the project, especially given that our work will, to some degree, require data to be provided by the institutions. Absent very timely submission of data, it will be hard to complete to complete the assignment. These concerns also stem from our experience in working in other states on funding model redesign, projects which have taken longer than the timeline NMHED appears to be working under. With this in mind:

- a. Is it possible to get permission from the legislature to use the funds available after the conclusion of this fiscal year?

**Answer: The chosen vendor will be expected to provide a timeline for completion of the project. This timeline will be used to determine if an extension of the appropriation is needed.**

- b. Are there funds available that would allow NCHEMS to work with the Formula Review Committee after June 30 to ensure that the project has maximum utility to the Committee and HED? We are concerned that, while the technical work can done in the allotted time (presuming timely receipt of data), the effort to process findings and recommendations needed to ensure successful implementation may have to be curtailed in order to allow completion by the June 30 deadline.

**Answer: See above. The chosen vendor will be expected to provide a timeline for completion of the project. This timeline will be used to determine if an extension of the appropriation is needed.**

8. How should the UNM Health Science Center be treated? As a component part of the University of New Mexico or as a free-standing institution? (It should be noted that the Health Sciences Center does not have a separate Unit ID number in IPEDS; as a result peers cannot be developed unless UNM can provide complete data about the HSC in the IPEDS format.)

**Answer: All of the degree programs at the UNM-HSC, with the exception of their MD program, are included in the funding formula. This includes PharmD, Nursing, OT, PT, Biomedical Sciences, etc. The separate state appropriation for the HSC covers their MD program and several hospitals and other services. The Main Campus transfers Instruction and General dollars from the UNM-Main appropriation over to the UNM-HSC for operation of those programs. It will be up to the chosen vendor to determine the review and assessment of all institutions included in the formula.**

9. Is it safe to presume that the Veterinary Medicine School at NMSU should be treated as an integral part of the home institution, as opposed to a separate institution?

**Answer: The Department of Animal and Range Sciences at New Mexico State University offers a pre-professional program in Pre-Veterinary Medicine, however it does not have a veterinary school.**