

1. My organization, XXXXXXX has a strong track record of working with transgender youth organizations and social entrepreneurs, but toward the older end 18-24. As you are, I'm sure well aware, the current political climate around trans kids in and around K-12 has been quite fraught, negatively impacting youth themselves as well as the organizations that seek to support them. For that reason, our arts business incubator programming has engaged primarily youth from 18-24 who are seeking arts social entrepreneurship as both a means of economic mobility and avoiding survival sex work.

The organizations led by and serving trans youth we have supported have directly provided food, gender affirming surgery, academic scholarship, and rent aid to over 900 of their young artist peers.

Therefore, we'd like to know if our programming and our age group would be a fit for this RFP.

**No. This program is geared specifically for programs directly targeting youth between the ages of 11 and 18.**

2. Is there a limit on the number of applications one organization can submit (each for different program sites)?

**No; there is no limit. As per the RFP "Applicants may apply to serve more than one service area but must complete and submit a separate proposal for each program location. In the case that an applicant is eligible for more than one contract award, QDA reserves the right to determine, based on the applicant's demonstrated organizational capacity and QDA's best interests, how many and which service area contract(s) the applicant will receive. Each service area will be considered a separate competition, therefore, proposals for individual service areas will be compared to one another. QDA will award contracts based upon need, programmatic, and geographic distribution."**

3. We have one cohesive program that operates at multiple high schools - can we submit a single proposal for serving youth at all of those sites?

**Only if the high schools are in the same service area. Service area refers to a clearly defined location within Queens County, which can be narrowed to specific neighborhoods (such as Long Island City, Cambria Heights, Elmhurst, Jackson Heights, Astoria, Forest Hills, Flushing, etc.) The program must serve exclusively within the boundaries of Queens, serve Queens borough students, and be located within the specified service area. For example, if the program will operate at 3 schools in, say, Elmhurst, then yes, you may operate the program out of all three schools. However, if the schools are in different service areas, then individual proposals, one for each service area, must be submitted.**

4. Will preference be given to school-based programs over community center or CBO-based ones?

**No. In fact, we encourage community center and CBO based programs to apply as they tend to recruit a more diverse population from the entire neighborhood, rather than from just one school.**

5. Do we need an existing NICRA agreement to request up to 10% for indirect costs on all budget categories?

**No, you do not. All organizations can claim the 10% in indirect costs.**

6. What is the capacity for stipends as a percentage of the budget? This would translate into incentives that may be for attraction and retention of youth in the program such as gift cards or other items.

**There are no percentage of budget restrictions for stipends. We will evaluate the stipends in your proposal budget based upon the reasonableness per student relative to the purpose for the stipends.**

7. Regarding the eligible expenses language on p13 of the RFP, "Applicants may request up to 10% for indirect costs on all budget categories except sub-contractor costs," will QDA accept a federally approved negotiated indirect cost rate agreement for this program? Our rate is also approved by the NYC Mayor's Office of Contract Services and is applied to all of our City contracts.

**No. The maximum indirect cost rate allowable is 10%.**

8. Regarding D.3. on p11 of the RFP, could you please confirm that the chart of the five largest grants found in Appendix 3 should be included as an attachment and not count towards the 15-page narrative limit?

**The list of your organization's 5 largest grants should be included as an attachment. It will not count toward the 15 page narrative limit. However, if you feel that discussing these grants within the proposal will assist us in determining your ability to fulfill your obligations under the grant, please feel free to discuss those grants within the 15 page narrative limit as well.**