

ESD

Original question/answer

Q1. Do you need a bank commitment for the remaining 70% of the funding?

A1. No bank commitment is needed. The idea is to make your idea stand out but providing as much information as possible on the application.

Revised question and answer in appropriate format:

Q. How much of the project budget costs must be covered by other funding sources when the application is submitted?

A. To have the strongest application, list all funding sources that are committed to the costs of the project budget.

Original question/answer

Q3. We are about to break ground on a project. Should we hold off until the CFA process is complete?

A3. No. The funding was designed to incentivize new projects. If you are ready to break ground then this is not an appropriate program for you.

Revised question and answer in appropriate format:

Q. Can a project begin or costs be incurred prior to a CFA award?

A. The CFA award should incentivize a project to move. A project that begins prior to a CFA award would suggest that funding is not needed to incentivize a project.

Original question/answer

Q5. Can ESD money be used to pay for a building that has already been purchased via financed mortgage, but still in repayment?

A5. No.

Revised question and answer in appropriate format:

Q. Is repayment of an existing mortgage an eligible reimbursable expense?

A. No. (note, you can also refer back to the question above: Can a project begin prior to a CFA award?)

Original question/answer

Q6. Can an existing incubator receiving funding for expansion?

A6. Yes.

Revised question and answer in appropriate format:

Q. Is the expansion of the facilities of an existing business an eligible reimbursable expense?

A. Yes

Original question/answer

Q7. Could an incubator specifically target worker cooperatives?

A7. Unsure.

Revised question and answer in appropriate format:

ESD-L&G is unclear how to reword/respond

Original question/answer

Q8. How does the REDC view a project that has not passed through local planning approval yet?

A8. That would be considered under project readiness when scoring the application.

Revised question and answer in appropriate format:

Q. If local planning approval is needed but is not ready at the time of application submission, how will that affect my submission?

A. The application may be submitted and additional approvals needed will be considered under project readiness when scoring the application.

Original question/answer

Q9. What if approvals aren't ready at the time of application deadline, but would become award time?

A9. The REDC's will follow-up during review period to check on status of project.

Revised question and answer in appropriate format:

Q. If local planning approval is needed and is obtained after an application is submitted, how will that affect the application?

A. The REDC's will follow-up during review period to check on status of project as needed.

Original question/answer

Q4. What if we are involved in StartUP-NY? Does Startup NY participate in CFA Funding?

A4. ?

Revised question and answer in appropriate format:

ESD-L&G is unclear how to reword/respond

Original question/answer

Q - Would the research and development center within a manufacturing company qualify for the ESD incubator program?

A - (MB) - Not if the center only serves the company that it is a part of.

Revised question and answer in appropriate format:

ESD-L&G is unclear how to reword/respond

Original question/answer

Q - Can you tell me more about the international program you mentioned in the program intro?

A - (MB) - Global NY Funding is not yet available. It should be available by the end of 2015. It will be available outside the CFA timeframe.

Revised question and answer in appropriate format:

ESD-L&G is unclear how to reword/respond

Original question/answer

Q - Will incubator funding also be in arrears or a monthly voucher?

A - (MB) - It will be based on program delivery and other milestones.

Revised question and answer in appropriate format:

ESD-L&G is unclear how to reword/respond

Original question/answer

Q5. Can a purchase order be issued before the award is made?

A5. No. Project cannot commence. The funds are for projects that need funding to start with which is the purpose of these grants.

Revised question and answer in appropriate format:

Q. Can a project begin or costs be incurred prior to a CFA award?

A. The CFA award should incentivize a project to move. A project that begins prior to a CFA award would suggest that funding is not needed to incentivize a project.

Original question/answer

Q6. Regarding the MBWE rule: will there be an unpleasant surprise at the end if we did not meet the goal? Any other conditions or requirements other than MWBE that would prevent a project from starting?

A6. ?

Revised question and answer in appropriate format:

Q. Are there penalties for not meeting MWBE goals?

- A. A project that does not meet MWBE goals may be subject to liquidated damages. [This response needs to be confirmed with the MWBE group. Waivers are often sought but that is probably not something we want to publicize.]

Original question/answer

Q7. Do you have to demonstrate that you have 100% of the needed funding already in place?

A7. Not really.

Revised question and answer in appropriate format:

Q. How much of the project budget costs must be covered by other funding sources when the application is submitted?

A. To have the strongest application, list all funding sources that are committed to the costs of the project budget.

Original question/answer

Q3. Does ESD strategic planning and feasibility study include schools?

A3. Yes, if use requires a school.

Revised question and answer in appropriate format:

Q. Are planning and feasibility studies for schools an eligible expense?

A. Yes.

Original question/answer

Q2. There has recently been a big push of incentives/support for the craft beverage industry in NYS. Are there similar programs for companies who manufacture the equipment needed in that industry?

A2. Not specifically. You may be eligible/qualify for funding if you align with local strategic plans to support the growing craft beverage industry; be sure to explicitly state that in your application and support that statement.

Revised question and answer in appropriate format:

Q. With the recent emphasis to support NYS's craft beverage industry, is there a similar effort to support industries that supply the craft beverage industry?

A. There is not a parallel program. If your project aligns with local strategic plans to support the growing craft beverage industry, explicitly state that in your application and provide specific support of that statement.

Original question/answer

Q4. What is the maximum request for Market NY?

A4. There is no specific limit, but total monies allocated for that program is 5 million to be granted statewide. Funds are matched, so the money will typically be spread around to a variety of applicants for the greatest impact.

Revised question and answer in appropriate format:

ESD-L&G is unclear how to reword/respond

Original question/answer

Q8. Regarding the incubator grant: can you have been in existence for three years and operating for eligible funding and a non-profit?

A8. Yes.

Revised question and answer in appropriate format:

ESD is unclear how to reword/respond

Original question/answer

Q9. Regarding the Excelsior Program: does a company apply for tax credits?

A9. Future tax credits.

Is there a guarantee from the beginning 100,000? ESD

Is there 2 to 1 match require at the beginning? ESD

Revised question and answer in appropriate format:

Excelsior group – Carol Bolam

Original question/answer

Q1. On Capital Projects, I am designing a welding school, does it only cover equipment.

A1. Capital Projects cover equipment and buildings.

Revised question and answer in appropriate format:

Q. What types of projects may be funded with ESD grants ?

A. ESD grants (Regional Council Capital Fund) are for eligible capital project costs (ie construction/renovation/machinery & equipment/infrastructure). Working capital expenses may be included if they are directly related to a capital project.

Original question/answer

Q1. You said that in order to meet the three year existence rule you can partner with another Business Incubator. Can you partner with a Business Incubator from another Region?

A1. Not sure, we'll research and get back to you.

Revised question and answer in appropriate format:
ESD-L&G is unclear how to reword/respond

ESD Grant Funds

Original question

Is it capital projects only?

Revised question and answer in appropriate format:

Q. What types of projects may be funded with ESD grants ?

A. ESD grants (Regional Council Capital Fund) are for eligible capital project costs (ie construction/renovation/machinery &equipment/infrastructure). Working capital expenses may be included if they are directly related to a capital project.

Original question

Would you count digital infrastructure as a capital expense?

Revised question and answer in appropriate format:

Q. Are Digital Infrastructure costs a capital expense?

A. Digital Infrastructure is defined as the ability to store and exchange data through a centralized communication system. Hardware related to Digital Infrastructure costs would be considered eligible expenses under ESD grant funds. However, software to operate the Digital Infrastructure is not eligible to be reimbursed under ESD grant funds.

??? **Digital infrastructure** supports the use and [connections](#) between [content](#), [data](#), [hardware](#) and [software](#), much of which can be [shared](#) over the [internet](#). Digital infrastructure includes [data](#) and [software](#) and the mechanisms needed to enable them to work together seamlessly so that they can be shared, managed, combined and [collaborations](#) can take place.

Original question

Is the 20% specific to ESD funds?

Revised question and answer in appropriate format:

Q. How much of my budget will be funded by ESD grants?

A. Generally, ESD will provide no more than twenty percent (20%) of the financing for any particular project.

Original question

Can additional funding be requested?

Revised question and answer in appropriate format:

Q. Can additional funding be requested to meet projects costs?

A. Applicants may seek reconsideration of an award but there is no guarantee that the award amount will change.