

Implementation and Outcomes Research Cycle 2 RFP Addendum 3 (Posted 07/01/25)

Questions & Answers

Below are questions (generally verbatim unless otherwise noted) and answers regarding the RFP.

The questions below were received from June 23 to June 29, 2025.

Please check <u>wacarefund.org</u> for future updates.

1. Question [Edited slightly for clarity]: We are partnering with a community partner who is not funded by state funds. They would be contributing support to the project by providing transportation services to participants as needed. Should I estimate that contribution using the IRS \$.70/mile business standard mileage rate?

Answer: When calculating mileage reimbursement costs for a privately-owned vehicle please refer to <u>current mileage reimbursement rate</u> for the State of Washington, established by Office of Financial Management, which is \$0.70 per mile as of January 1, 2025.

2. Question [Edited for clarity]: If my department agrees to pay for part of PI or co-Investigator FTE for a project as long as it is not from state funds, would this departmental contribution qualify for matching funds?

Answer: Yes, this may qualify, provided other matching fund requirements are met. If the source of the funds for personnel is not the state of Washington, the personnel costs must be justified and the applicant organization is not seeking funding to support those costs as a part of the CARE Fund award funds requested, in order for the personnel cost to be an allowable cost to include in the nonstate match contribution. Please see the Non-State Match and Allowable Cost Guidance document on the funding opportunity webpage for more information.

3. Question: Does the 1:1 matching of non-WA state sources include federal grants?

Answer: Yes, federal grants for the proposed (or closely related) research that are secured and committed in a written, binding enforceable agreement to the project for the grant period may be used as a source of non-state matching funds. Please also see the answer to Question 4 in Addendum 2 of the RFP.

4. Question [Edited slightly for clarity]: If I don't have federal grants, do private investments made by angel investors who live in Washington state qualify?

Answer: Private investments from angel investors is an allowable source of non-state match provided that there is a binding, enforceable agreement committing the private investments for the proposed project for the grant period. The location of the funding source does not need to be in Washington state. Please see the Non-State Match and Allowable Cost Guidance document on the funding opportunity webpage for more information.

5. Question: Do the matching funds need to be received within a certain timeframe?

Answer: Yes, the minimum 1:1 non-state matching contributions used for the non-state matching contribution requirement must be secured by the date of application submission. Documentation of a binding, enforceable agreement committing the non-state matching contributions to CARE Fund grant funds for the proposed project for the grant period is a required component of the application.

6. Question [Edited slightly for clarity]: Can CARE Fund grant funds be used for research initially envisioned as part a SBIR Phase II grant?

Answer: Costs that will be paid by any other source for the performance of proposal activities according to the Budget are not allowed. CARE Fund grant funds may only be used for research activities proposed (and awarded) in this CARE Fund application.

7. Question: To provide proof of a secure match for funds originating from a federal award or project, is it sufficient to have an agreement from the principal investigator (PI), or does it need to come from the grant officer?

Answer: Proof of matching fund contributions must include a binding, enforceable agreement (e.g., notice of award) committing the matching funds at a minimum of 1:1 amount of non-state match funds to CARE Fund grant funds for the proposed project for the grant period. Please see the Non-State Match and Allowable Cost Guidance document on the funding opportunity webpage for more information.

8. Question [Edited for clarity]: For core funds or innovation time, would an enforceable agreement from an official responsible for overseeing research at my institution be adequate? What should the content of this agreement include?

Answer: Yes, the proof of matching fund contributions in the enforceable agreement should include approval of the core funds or innovation time to the proposed project. The agreement should specify the dollar amount provided and if it is researcher's time or use of resources, a calculation of the amount at a minimum of 1:1 amount of non-state match funds to CARE

Fund grant funds for the proposed project for the grant period.

9. Question [Edited for clarity]: Would a screening program currently in place (without which we could not do the study) be an allowable cost?

Answer: Please see the RFP and the Non-State Match and Allowable Cost Guidance and the allowable costs in the RFP. All costs must be justified.

10. Question [Edited for clarity]: Would an intervention that will be added on top of an existing program qualify as an allowable cost?

Answer: Please see the RFP and the Non-State Match and Allowable Cost Guidance and the allowable costs in the RFP. All costs must be justified. CARE Fund cannot pay for expenditures incurred prior to the grant period.