

Questions and Answers – RFA Comment Period

This document consists of questions received regarding 2012 PSAP Grant RFA during the comment period. Questions have not been altered, except to provide clarity and anonymity to counties.

| # | Question | Answer |
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| 1 | <p>I am in the process of reviewing the grant program and am in need of some clarification. I see that the primary focus of the grant is the consolidation of PSAPs. I am interested in determining if consideration would be given to the following three areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Enhancing our back-up PSAP. 2. Upgrading PSAP hardware. 3. Upgrading Phone service to PSAP centers. | <p>Yes, these are permissible expenses under this grant program.</p> <p>However, applications under this RFA must be for projects and expenses that lead to consolidation, recover retrospective consolidation expenses or fund operational expenses in already consolidated PSAP. Please refer to Part II of <i>2012 PSAP Grant RFA Instructions</i> document for eligibility requirements and criteria.</p> |
| 2 | <p>Our County, which has had a consolidated PSAP since 1992, is looking to apply for the 2012 PSAP Grant for the purpose of upgrading to IP Based 9-1-1 Telephony equipment to support Next Generation 9-1-1 and interoperability with neighboring counties. Would this fall under Part I PSAP Consolidation, Improvements and Enhancements Grant or Part II PSAP Sustainment Grant?</p> | <p>Project, as described, would be eligible for Part II PSAP Sustainment Grant providing application meets grant eligibility criteria.</p> <p>However, if described upgrades are part of the physical, virtual or partial consolidation project, county can apply for either: Program I- PSAP Consolidation, Improvements and Enhancements Grant or Program II-PSAP Sustainment Grant. Please see Part II-Eligibility and Part III-Grant Program Overview of <i>2012 PSAP Grant RFA Instructions</i> document for more details.</p> |
| 3 | <p>I have the following questions as it relates to the Consolidation expectations of the Grant:</p> <p>Is PSAP consolidation a sole consideration and requirement, that if not established, would result in the Grant Application being rejected?</p> | <p>Consolidation is one of several eligibility requirements for this grant program. Application must meet all eligibility criteria listed in the RFA in order to be considered for an award.</p> |

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| 4 | Does Virtual Consolidation include sharing of common GIS Data, including Pictometry, for FCC Wireless E9-1-1? | Virtual consolidation is when multiple PSAPS are connected via a private network and share the same IT resources, adhere to the same policies and follow the same procedures. Examples would include, sharing CAD, GIS, Radio, Telephony, audio recording technology, and other 9-1-1 operation systems. |
| 5 | Regarding the list of "Permissible Costs" on page 10, do these costs apply to Part I (Competitive), Part II (Targeted), or both? | "Permissible Costs" on page 10 of <i>2012 PSAP Grant Instructions</i> document apply to both programs: Program I-PSAP Consolidation, Improvements and Enhancements Grant and Program II-PSAP Sustainment Grant. |
| 6 | Regarding the list of "Permissible Costs" on page 10, are "CAD upgrades" restricted to initial mapping of phase 2 information, or can they be related to any GIS enhancement of systems that already meet FCC Phase 2 requirements? | CAD upgrades and other GIS enhancements for implementation of the FCC wireless E-911 Phase II requirements and any other GIS improvements of systems that already meet FCC Phase 2 requirements are permissible expenses under this grant program. Please refer to Part III, in <i>2012 PSAP Grant RFA Instructions</i> document for additional program requirements and concepts. |
| 7 | Regarding the list of "Permissible Costs" on page 10, are "GIS enhancements" restricted to "preparing for implementation of the FCC wireless E9-1-1 requirements" or can they be related to any GIS enhancement of systems that already meet FCC Phase 2 requirements? | GIS enhancements for implementation of the FCC wireless E-911 Phase II requirements and any other GIS improvements of systems that already meet FCC Phase 2 requirements are permissible expenses under this grant program. Please refer to Part III, in <i>2012 PSAP Grant RFA Instructions</i> document for additional program requirements and concepts. |
| 8 | The County has researched the replacement of its' CAD System over the last two years with various CAD vendors and has explored the shared CAD solution with another member of our Consortium. The shared solution could afford us with the ability to roll over our 911 calls and have them entered into CAD if we lose our phones. This "virtual consolidation" definitely could also lead to a shared service (single server, tech support, maybe opportunity for shared training...) | Shared CAD solutions are permissible expenses under this grant program. In addition, applications under this RFA must be for projects and expenses that lead to consolidation, recover retrospective consolidation expenses or fund operational expenses in already consolidated PSAP. Please refer to Part II of <i>2012 PSAP Grant RFA Instructions</i> document for eligibility requirements and criteria. |

2012 PSAP Grant

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| 9 | Are Records Management Systems that integrate with CAD permissible? | Yes, this is a permissible expense, as long as application complies with grant requirements. |
| 10 | Can you please expound upon what your intent is with; "Fit-up and installation of equipment in existing facilities that meets the above intent and purpose of the grant." | <p><u>Re: "...intent and purpose of the grant...":</u> Applications under this RFA must be for projects and expenses that lead to consolidation, recover retrospective consolidation expenses or fund operational expenses in already consolidated PSAP. Please refer to Part II of <i>2012 PSAP Grant RFA Instructions</i> document for eligibility requirements and criteria.</p> <p><u>Re: "...Fit-up and installation of equipment in existing facilities...":</u> Deployment and installation of eligible equipment, technologies and improvements are permissible expenses under this grant program, exclusive of any capital improvements.</p> |
| 11 | Part II, ELIGIBILITY – Our county has only one Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) with approximately 20 local municipal dispatching sites which are not considered PSAPs due to the fact that they do not directly receive 911 calls. This was not the result of a consolidation or merger – it is the way the system was initially designed. Is our county eligible to apply for this funding? | <p>Per the FCC and NENA definition: Secondary PSAP is a PSAP to which 9-1-1 calls are transferred from a Primary PSAP.</p> <p>Applications under this RFA must be for projects and expenses that lead to consolidation, recover retrospective consolidation expenses or fund operational expenses in already consolidated PSAP. Please refer to Part II of <i>2012 PSAP Grant RFA Instructions</i> document for eligibility requirements and criteria.</p> |

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| 12 | <p>Part IV, Authorized Program Expenditures, 1. PERMISSIBLE COSTS – Can funding be utilized to set up CAD connectivity to an adjacent county as a backup to our county’s PSAP? Both individual county PSAPs would continue to operate as separate PSAPs for their individual counties.</p> | <p>No, as described, this is not a permissible expense under 2012 PSAP grant program.</p> <p>Applications under this RFA must be for projects and expenses that lead to consolidation, recover retrospective consolidation expenses or fund operational expenses in already consolidated PSAP. Please refer to Part II of <i>2012 PSAP Grant RFA Instructions</i> document for eligibility requirements and criteria.</p> |
| 13 | <p>Do you HAVE to be consolidating PSAPs to be eligible for improvements/enhancements OR can you be a consolidated PSAP and apply for new technological improvements?</p> <p>How could question 3.2, p. 16 (in PSAP Consolidation, Improvements and Enhancements Grant Application) be answered if the situation is the latter?</p> | <p>Applications under this RFA must be for projects and expenses that lead to consolidation, recover retrospective consolidation expenses or fund operational expenses in already consolidated PSAP. Please refer to Part II of <i>2012 PSAP Grant RFA Instructions</i> document for eligibility requirements and criteria.</p> <p>The project, as described, would not be eligible for Program I-PSAP Consolidation, Improvements and Enhancements Grant (\$7mil), therefore question 3.2 on page 16 is not applicable. However, county can apply for operational expenses and technological improvements in consolidated PSAPs under Program II-PSAP Sustainment Grant (\$2 mil).</p> |
| 14 | <p>Would a planning study/proof of concept be an applicable expense (consultant and equipment?)?</p> | <p>Yes, planning study in combination with equipment purchases is permissible expense; application must comply with all grant requirements.</p> |