

Questions & Answers

Q	Bidder Question	DHS Answer	Section	Pg.
1.	Does the amount granted for the first year, remain the same for the four additional years of the grant? That is, if a center is granted \$1 million in year 1, would they receive \$1 million in each of the other years (assuming the funding is available)? Is there any opportunity to increase the amount in the remaining years to help meet increased demand and/or cost of living increases?	<i>As per Section IV of the RLI, up to two (2) awards will be available for a combined total ceiling amount of approximately \$4,600,000 based on state and federal appropriations. Awards will be inclusive of one-time costs to current 988 Lifeline center agencies that have State contracts expiring as of March 31, 2025. DMHAS reserves the right in its reasonable discretion to adjust award amounts based on the LOIs submitted. Applicants are advised that contract awards are conditional upon final contract and budget negotiation. The contract awarded as a result of this RLI is anticipated to have an initial term of June 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026. The contract may be renewed annually under existing terms for up to four (4) years at DMHAS' sole discretion and with the agreement of the successful bidder. Actual funding levels will depend on the availability of funds and satisfactory performance. Budgets submitted with this LOI for the initial term (06/01/25 – 06/30/26) should be developed with the understanding that funding amounts provided through this award may remain consistent. Additional funding to increase contracts may not be available and should not be relied upon.</i>	IV. Funding Availability VI. General Contracting Information	6 7
2.	Please confirm that the first-year grant starts on 6/1/2025, regardless of whether the grant we currently receive from SAMHSA is extended or not.	<i>As stated in the RLI, contracts awarded are anticipated to have an initial term of June 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026. The current Vibrant-certified 988 Lifeline center State of New Jersey DMHAS contract will terminate with the start of the new award.</i>	IV. Funding Availability VI. General Contracting Information	6 7
3.	If the current SAMHSA grant is extended for another six months until 9/30/2025, will the amount of that grant be additional to the amount awarded as a result of this RLI or will it	<i>Funding awarded through this opportunity will not be in addition to current funding. If awarded, current contracts will be replaced by those</i>	I. Purpose and Intent	1

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	be included until the extension ends? That is, will the amount we receive be the same for 13 months or will it be more from 6/1/25 through 9/30/25?	<i>established through this funding opportunity.</i> <i>DMHAS anticipates that the end date of the contract extensions will align with the contract start date of this award anticipated by 6/01/25.</i>		
4.	Is the Coversheet included in the 8 pages?	<i>No. The cover sheet is included in required attachments #1 through 9.</i> <i>The written narrative is limited to eight (8) pages.</i>	E. Attachments/ Appendices VIII. Letter of Interest Requirements	10 8
5.	Is Attachment B, Tables 1, 2, and 3, included in the 8 pages?	<i>No. Attachment B is included in required attachments #1 through 9.</i> <i>The written narrative is limited to eight (8) pages.</i>	E. Attachments/ Appendices VIII. Letter of Interest Requirements	10 8
6.	Section D (Budget), Question 3 states: "The name and address of each organization – other than third-party payers – providing support and/or money to help fund the program for which the proposal is being submitted." (a) Does this mean funders such as private foundations and corporations that have provided funding for this project? (b) What time period should be included (The funding year for which we are applying? The current calendar year?). (c) Should we include only funds that have been granted as of the RLI submission or funds that are anticipated to be received in the first year of the grant? (d) Is there a minimum grant award below which we do not need to supply this information? (e) Please confirm that this information should be detailed as "Other" in the Revenue section of the budget.	(a) Yes (b) Yes, the funding period for which you are applying. (c) Please include funds which have been granted as of the RLI submission. (d) No, there is no minimum indicated in the Manual. (e) Yes, confirming this should be detailed as "Other" in the Revenue section of the budget. <i>Please refer to the Department of Human Services Contract Reimbursement Manual Section 4.2, Revenue.</i> https://www.nj.gov/humanservices/olra/documents/Contract%20Reimbursement%20Manual%20-%20Complete.pdf		

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7.	For the Budget – is the projected start date 6/1/2025	<i>As stated in the RLI, contracts awarded are anticipated to have an initial term of June 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026.</i>	IV. Funding Availability VI. General Contracting Information	6 7
8.	For the Budget – do we list all 7 counties in “County of Service”? If not, should we list the county in which we are located (Union) or the county from which we receive the most calls (Middlesex)?	<i>Please list all counties for which you will provide 988 services.</i>	VII. Letter of Interest Requirements – Detailed Budget	9
9.	For the Budget – if we need to purchase additional equipment or have other one-time hard costs, are they enumerated in One Time Costs (grey section at the bottom)?	<i>As stated in the RLI, requests for one-time costs to improve an agency’s response structure will be considered if they are specific to the provision of 988 services (headsets, monitors, keyboards, etc.).</i> <i>The One-Time budget section is at the bottom of the budget document in grey. Column I of this section states “One Time Costs.”</i>	VII. Letter of Interest Requirements – Detailed Budget Attachment G – Instructions for Excel Budget Template	9 – 10 26
10.	In attachment G - Instructions for Excel Budget Template, it says that we are supposed to put hours worked per employee on contract and hours worked per employee per week. Some of our roles (ex. Supervisor) may be filled by several part-time employees. Can we just put the total number of hours worked per role to come up with FTE for each role? In addition, all of our paid crisis counselors work part-time. Can we put the total number of hours/FTE for the additional staff we will be hiring?	<i>Please refer to attachment G. 1. and indicate the number of FTEs by position. For example, if you have 5 positions in total, show one position/title for each row of the budget template even if filled by multiple staff. Please include information for existing staff as well as staff to be hired via this award.</i>		