Green Initiatives RFA Q & A

Q1. Can the 2 (or more) enterprises that our proposal engages with be related to the same green initiative, or do they need to be discrete?
A1. Ideally the proposal should support two or more business models (Green Initiatives). Having two enterprises working on one business model will depend on the proposal and the impact the supported green initiative will have on the District’s Sustainability and Climate plans and goals.

Q2. Is the medium-long term outcome of green job creation tracking need to be associated with the enterprise or the green initiative?
A2. Yes, the business model to be supported should contribute to job creation at the same time it’s contributing to the goals of the District’s Sustainability and Climate plans.

Q3. Is it acceptable that a plan and engagement be complete by September, and further funding in the next fiscal year and/or with sponsors would be used for actions like job training?
A3. It is expected that a proposal or plan be implemented by the end of the fiscal year. This doesn’t limit the applicant and proposal to consider activities and other funding sources beyond the end of the fiscal year. At the moment, there is no plan to continue supporting selected green initiatives beyond the first fiscal year.

Q4. If the applicant is a private enterprise do they have to have a Tax-Exempt Status?
A4. No

Q5. Given the short timeline to implement the grant, is it reasonable to allocate up to 75% of requested funds to a salary line? In light of changes brought on by COVID-19, this would enable the team to carry out a functional strategy for implementing green infrastructure initiatives in the timeline given while also keeping the team secure.
A5. Given that this is a competitive RFA, applicants should develop a budget that will best accomplish the goals of the project.

Q6. Would lunches for volunteers who participate in community tree plantings or care events at $8/person be an allowable cost?
A6. No

Q7. We are an HVAC/Plumbing services company in DC, and we recently purchased our office building. Our building renovations include green initiatives and some already underway, could we apply for the Green Initiatives: Supporting Green Initiatives DC RFA # 2020-2017-USA as a private entity? Would we fall into this category of private enterprises applicants?
A7. Yes. DOEE envisions that the successful applicant will provide support service for green enterprises, whether for profit or nonprofit.

Q8. Why is Appendix 5 (Points for Local Entities) not on the grant webpage?
A8. The RFA is not considering points for local entities.