

**Questions and Answers for Request for Partners #RFA-FY24-GBCB-837**  
NOAA Climate Resilience Regional Challenge, Resilience Hub Network Coordination

- Q1. How does this project relate to the District’s overall vision for resilience hubs?**
- A1. The District’s climate resilience plans (Climate Ready DC, Resilient DC, and the climate chapter of Sustainable DC) call for resilience hubs as a strategy to support residents before, during and after emergencies including those caused by climate change impacts. While this project is focused on three Wards only (6, 7 & 8), it is a first step to expand the number of resilience hubs in the District, focusing on communities that face disproportionate climate risk.
- Q2. How does this project relate to the Department of Parks and Recreation’s rollout of resilience hubs?**
- A2. Successful applicants will be encouraged to collaborate with community partners that DPR may identify as part of its own initiative to explore using its recreation centers as resilience hubs, but it is not required.
- Q3. Does this project aim to implement the Resilience Hub white paper that DOEE developed?**
- A3. The applicant should submit a work plan to accomplish the goals described in the RFP. DOEE has not published a white paper related to resilience hubs; the agency’s current approach to resilience hubs can be found on at <https://doee.dc.gov/service/community-resilience-hubs>.
- Q4. If an applicant is using a fiscal sponsor, what are their requirements vis a vis Certificate of Good Standing, Certificate of Clean Hands, and the other “Required documents” (§ 3.3, pp. 15-18)? What do we need to do to delineate the sponsor from the applicant?**
- A4. The fiscal sponsor is the lead applicant and organization and will need to submit all of the documents in Section 3.3 of the RFP. The implementing organization should be described in the project narrative and will need to have a written agreement with the fiscal sponsor. The fiscal sponsor will also need to be registered in DOEE’s Grants Management System.
- Q5. What is the distinction between key personnel and partners? For example, would a contractor be a personnel or a partner? Can there be overlap?**
- A5. Partners are usually referred to as an entity that will assist with the successful implementation of the grant funded project. Key personnel can include both staff from the applicant organization and the partner organization as long as those staff are important to the project. A contractor may be a partner entity and have staff that serve as key personnel on the project.

**Q6. During the duration of the five-year grant period, assume the implementing organization achieves 501(c)(3) status. Will there be a process for the implementing organization to take over the fiscal sponsor/original lead applicant's role as the lead organization under the grant? Or must the fiscal sponsor/applicant be in place for the entire duration of the grant period?**

A6. The implementing organization can take over the fiscal sponsor/lead organization role if the team remains basically what was offered in the application AND the new corporate identity appears to be at least as good, or better, at managing the money. However, DOEE is aware that merely securing a 501(c)(3) IRS approval is no guarantee, and only one indicator, that the approved charity will properly handle the grant funds. The important structural change will NOT be to that of a charity; it will be how the newly independent group will manage its affairs. The grantee will need to persuade DOEE in advance of its corporate restructuring that it will properly handle grant funds and the obligations of the grant. If this change is already planned, the application should address it.