**Release Date: August 15, 2023**

**Request for Heritage Pre-proposals to Implement the *CVNHP Management Plan***

The Patrick Leahy Lake Champlain Basin Program (“LCBP”), in coordination with the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission (“NEIWPCC”), is pleased to announce a Request for Pre-proposals (RFPP) for projects and programs that highlight the Interpretive Themes and further the goals, actions, and tasks described in the Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership (“CVNHP”) [Management Plan](https://champlainvalleynhp.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/FINAL_CVNHP_MgmtPlan_with_-OFAlinks_092311.pdf) (pages 39-68).

The pre-proposal is a short, online form meant to introduce your proposed concept to a team of reviewers. After a review of the submitted pre-proposals, a subset of applicants will be asked to submit a full proposal for funding consideration for projects to begin on or after October 1, 2024. Pre-proposals not invited for full proposal consideration in this cycle may be revised and submitted for future funding opportunities. All award notifications are subject to available funding.

**The LCBP is particularly interested in funding projects that address the following priorities:**

**CVNHP Special Program** Funding Projects ($10,000-$40,000) will have an emphasis on the following:

* Serve the CVNHP *Making of Nations* Interpretive Theme to encourage multi-jurisdictional or regional projects that interpret, highlight, and support marking the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution in 2025. Projects that focus on other concepts, innovations, or movements that have had lasting regional, national and global effects are also encouraged.

**CVNHP Core Grant Program** proposals may include:

* *Making of Nations* Interpretive Theme Grants (up to $9,000)
* Local Heritage Grants (up to $4,500 for local projects; up to $9,000 for regional, multi-jurisdictional projects)
* Collections Grants (up to $9,000)
* Internship Grants (up to $9,000)

We anticipate these projects will be supported with funds awarded to NEIWPCC by the U.S. National Park Service (NPS) and the Great Lakes Fishery Commission (GLFC).

**PRE-PROPOSAL DEADLINE:** All CVNHP pre-proposals will be submitted via the Foundant website by **12:00 PM (noon) EST: October 9, 2023. Link**: <https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=NEIWPCC>

LATE OR INCOMPLETE PRE-PROPOSALS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

**Overview of the CVNHP, LCBP, and NEIWPCC**

The CVNHP includes any heritage resource or community along the linked navigable waterways of Lake Champlain, Lake George, the Champlain Canal, and the Upper Hudson River that contains a physical, cultural, or historical resource representing any of the CVNHP’s approved interpretive themes: *Making of Nations*, *Corridor of Commerce*, and *Conservation & Community*.

The CVNHP was established by the U.S. Congress in 2006 to recognize the importance of the historical, cultural, and recreational resources of the region and to assist efforts to preserve, protect, and interpret those resources. The National Heritage Area also works to enhance the quality of the tourism economy and to encourage working partnerships among state, provincial, and local governments and non-profit organizations in New York, Québec, and Vermont.

Projects should be focused on locations within the U.S.-portion of the CVNHP, including the counties of Grand Isle, Franklin, Chittenden, Addison, Rutland, and Bennington in Vermont and Clinton, Essex, Warren, Saratoga, and Washington counties in New York. Eligible communities and sites in Québec include the Brome-Missisquoi, [La Vallée-du-Richelieu](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/La_Vall%C3%A9e-du-Richelieu_Regional_County_Municipality,_Quebec), [Rouville](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rouville_Regional_County_Municipality,_Quebec), Pierre-de-Saurel, and [Le Haut-Richelieu](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Le_Haut-Richelieu_Regional_County_Municipality,_Quebec) regional municipal counties (RMCs) of Québec.

The Lake Champlain Special Designation Act of 1990 designated the Lake Champlain Basin as a special project area under the Agricultural Conservation Program and established the Lake Champlain Management Conference to publish a pollution prevention, control, and restoration plan for Lake Champlain. Following EPA’s approval of the plan, entitled [Opportunities for Action: An Evolving Plan for the Future of the Lake Champlain Basin](http://plan.lcbp.org/) (the “Plan”), the Daniel Patrick Moynihan Lake Champlain Basin Program Act of 2002 established the Lake Champlain Basin Program and authorized EPA to provide support to New York, Vermont, and NEIWPCC for implementation of the Plan. The Act was reauthorized in 2022, formally renaming the LCBP to the Patrick Leahy Lake Champlain Basin Program and authorizing the Program through 2027.

In accordance with the Act, LCBP works in partnership with government agencies from New York, Vermont, and Québec, private organizations, local communities, and individuals to coordinate and fund efforts that benefit the Lake Champlain Basin’s water quality, fisheries, wetlands, wildlife, recreation, and cultural resources. These efforts are guided by the comprehensive management plan, Opportunities for Action ([plan.lcbp.org](https://www.lcbp.org/about-us/how-we-work/opportunities-for-action/)).

NEIWPCC was established by an act of the United States Congress which ratified the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Compact in 1947. NEIWPCC is a regional commission that helps the states of the Northeast preserve and advance water quality. NEIWPCC has served as the primary program administrator of LCBP at the request of the Lake Champlain Steering Committee since 1992 and administers the program’s personnel, finances, and contracts. NEIWPCC is a program partner of the LCBP.

1. **Grant Award Process**

This request is issued for two-page pre-proposals that address the priorities listed above for Special Projects or Core Grants. Pre-proposals will be evaluated through a competitive process; a subset of pre-proposal applicants will be asked to submit a full proposal with a developed budget and anticipated project outputs and outcomes. Grant award recipients will be selected from the pool of full proposals and **successful projects can begin on or after October 1, 2024.** The aim of this process is to invite a wide range of innovative and effective projects and further the goals, actions and tasks described in the CVNHP [Management Plan](https://champlainvalleynhp.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/FINAL_CVNHP_MgmtPlan_with_-OFAlinks_092311.pdf) (pages 43-68).

Applicants may choose the most appropriate total request amount for their project. Requests ranging from $4,500 to $40,000 will be accepted in the appropriate grant category. Please note that if an applicant is asked to submit a full proposal, the total request amount in the full proposal must be equal to or less than the total request in the pre-proposal unless a change is approved in writing by the LCBP. Please visit <http://lcbp.org/grants> or contact LCBP for information on other grant opportunities. Successful applicants should be aware of the additional requirements as described in Appendix A of this RFPP.

Please contact Jim Brangan, Assistant Director of the CVNHP at [jbrangan@lcbp.org](mailto:jbrangan@lcbp.org) or via telephone at (802) 372-0213 with questions.

1. **Priorities for Funding**

LCBP seeks pre-proposals for special programs that address the themes, goals, actions and tasks described in the CVNHP [Management Plan](https://champlainvalleynhp.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/FINAL_CVNHP_MgmtPlan_with_-OFAlinks_092311.pdf) (pages 43-68). priorities for this funding cycle are provided below. Projects that address these priorities will likely be more competitive in the review process.

**CVNHP Special Program** projects ($10,000-$40,000) will prioritize multi-jurisdictional or regional projects that interpret, highlight, and support marking the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution in 2025. Projects that focus on other concepts, innovations, or movements that have had lasting regional, national and global effects are also encouraged. Projects smaller in scope and scale are welcome to submit pre-proposals in the *Making of Nations* Interpretive Theme Core Grant Program (below).

**CVNHP Core Grant Program** proposals may include:

* ***Making of Nations* Interpretive Theme Grants** (up to $9,000) that interpret, highlight, and support the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution in 2025. Projects that focus on other concepts, innovations, or movements that have had lasting regional, national and global effects are also encouraged.
* **Local Heritage Grants** (up to $4,500 for local projects; up to $9,000 for regional, multi-jurisdictional projects) for educational endeavors that involve active participation from youth and students in the research and discovery of the cultural or natural heritage associated with their community, and the creation of new artistic expressions, or interpretation of those topics utilizing fresh perspectives or new technology.
* **Collections Grants** (up to $9,000) for the inventory, conservation, and interpretation of museum and library collections. Projects retrofitting historic museum or library buildings with ultraviolet light protection, climate control technology, or other facility improvements are also eligible for funding.
* **Internship Grants** (up to $9,000) for CVNHP-sponsored internships focused on professional internships that provide experience in historical/natural interpretation or artifact curation, cataloging, and display, with exposure to general museum/historic site management during a portion the tourism season (i.e. spring to fall 2025).

1. **Eligibility**

Eligible organizations include nonprofit organizations, colleges, universities, and municipalities that focus on the CVNHP region as described above.

1. **Considerations for Inclusion**

Projects that emphasize inclusion of underserved or minority communities in accordance with LCBP’s mission for diversity, equity, and inclusion (see the [LCBP Mission](https://www.lcbp.org/about-us/what-we-do/mission/) webpage: <https://www.lcbp.org/about-us/what-we-do/mission/>) will receive special consideration.

1. **Timeframe for Proposals**

The Pre-proposal to project initiation process will require approximately 12 months from the Pre-proposal deadline to implementation. Please note that this schedule is **subject to change**:

* **August 15, 2023:** LCBP Releases Request for Pre-proposals for Core Grants and Special Program Grants for projects to begin in Fall 2024.
* **September 18, 2023:** CVNHP Annual International Summit at the historic Basin Harbor Club in Vergennes, Vermont where the pre-proposal process is described, Foundant app introduced, and networking opportunities explored. Registration is available online. (Link to RSVP: [https://survey.sogolytics.com/survey1.aspx?k=RQsRVWPWYsQsPsPsP&lang=0](https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fsurvey.sogolytics.com%2fsurvey1.aspx%3fk%3dRQsRVWPWYsQsPsPsP%26lang%3d0&c=E,1,bK9nb1xSmSJeIUnCkMkEDkrIrdiLz89tcY1ST2vZ-KnektfIS4CXrnAbosPL_vrfuKCOjF_H08mJNisOOQ11Xjtz5TcteYJ8xgLiZuFBq8VYP6fL4cg4QKE,&typo=1))
* **October 9, 2023, by 12:00 PM (noon) EST:** Pre-proposals for Core Grants and Special Program Funding due. \*\* NEW IN 2023 \*\* Pre-proposals must be submitted via Foundant, LCBP’s new web-based proposal submission and grant management platform.
* **October 24, 2023:** LCBP Executive Committee considers recommendations from peer-review committee to select pre-proposals for invitation to develop full proposals.
* **October 27, 2023:** Successful pre-proposal applicants are notified to proceed with development of full proposals for Core Grant and Special Programs on Foundant.
* **December 28, 2023, by 12:00 PM (noon) EST:** Core Grant and Special Program Proposals due via Foundant.
* **April 2024: Lake Champlain Steering Committee:** Finalize FY2024 CVNHP budget and projects, including approved CVNHP Core Grant and Special Programs proposals. Grant award notices via Foundant to follow.
* **June 2024:** Programs funded in the FY2024 CVNHP Budget and Workplan develop and submit workplans in Foundant for anticipated work.
* **Summer 2024:** Agreements between NEIWPCC and grant funding sources are developed.
* **October 1, 2024:** The earliest project work may begin with execution of a memorandum of agreement (MOA) between the grantee and NEIWPCC. Work may not begin until the MOA is fully signed and executed.

1. **CVNHP Special Program Pre-proposal Evaluation and Selection Criteria** Pre-proposals for($10,000-$40,000) should prioritize multi-jurisdictional or regional projects that interpret, highlight, and support marking the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution in 2025. Projects that focus on other concepts, innovations, or movements that have had lasting regional, national and global effects are also encouraged. Projects smaller in scope and scale are welcome to submit pre-proposals in the *Making of Nations* Interpretive Theme Core Grant Program (below).

Submitted Pre-proposals for CVNHP Special Programs will be scored according to the following criteria:

1. **Focus:** Extent to which the project is multi-jurisdictional, or regional in nature and will address the *Making of Nations* Interpretive Theme to interpret, highlight, and support marking the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution in 2025. Projects that focus on other “revolutionary” concepts or initiatives in cultural and natural heritage are also encouraged. (20 points)
2. **Impact:** Extent to which the project will result in tangible outputs and benefits that address the tasks identified on pages 43-68 of the [CVNHP Management Plan](https://champlainvalleynhp.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/FINAL_CVNHP_MgmtPlan_with_-OFAlinks_092311.pdf). (20 Points)
3. **Partnerships:** Extent to which the applicant demonstrates a commitment to work with partners to achieve project goals and the extent to which this cooperation will enhance the effectiveness of CVNHP funding. (20 Points)
4. **Feasibility:** Extent to which the project can be executed and the likelihood of success. (20 points).
5. **Budget:** Efficiency of proposed request and budget for the scope and outputs of the project. Proposed funding match (if any) may increase score in this criterion (20 points)
6. **Bonus:** Extent that the project benefits communities with disadvantages [per LCBP’s definition](https://www.lcbp.org/about-us/people/diversity-equity-inclusion/disadvantaged-community-definition-and-guidance/) (10 points)
7. **CVNHP Core Grant Pre-proposal Evaluation and Selection Criteria**
8. **CVNHP *Making of Nations* Interpretive Theme Grants** **Pre-proposal Evaluation and Selection Criteria** Pre-proposals (up to $9,000) for projects, or programs that highlight, showcase and interpret the American Revolution, or other innovative concepts, innovations, or movements that have had lasting regional, national and global effects. Submitted Pre-proposals for CVNHP Local Heritage Grants will be scored according to the following criteria:
9. **Focus:** Extent to which the project will address the *Making of Nations* Interpretive Theme to interpret, highlight, and support marking the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution in 2025. Projects that focus on other innovative concepts, innovations, or movements that have had lasting regional, national, or global effects are also encouraged. (20 points)
10. **Impact:** Extent to which the project will result in tangible outputs and benefits that address the tasks identified on pages 43-68 of the [CVNHP Management Plan](https://champlainvalleynhp.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/FINAL_CVNHP_MgmtPlan_with_-OFAlinks_092311.pdf). (20 Points)
11. **Partnerships:** Extent to which the applicant demonstrates a commitment to work with partners to achieve project goals and the extent to which this cooperation will enhance the effectiveness of CVNHP funding. (20 Points)
12. **Feasibility:** Extent to which the project can be executed and the likelihood of success. (20 points).
13. **Budget:** Efficiency of proposed request and budget for the scope and outputs of the project. Proposed funding match (if any) may increase score in this criterion (20 points)
14. **Bonus:** Extent that the project benefits communities with disadvantages [per LCBP’s definition](https://www.lcbp.org/about-us/people/diversity-equity-inclusion/disadvantaged-community-definition-and-guidance/) (10 points)
15. **CVNHP Local Heritage Grant Pre-proposal Evaluation and Selection Criteria**

Pre-proposals (up to $4,500 for local projects; up to $9,000 for regional, multi-jurisdictional projects) for educational endeavors that involve active participation from youth and students in the research and discovery of the cultural or natural heritage associated with their community, and the creation of new artistic expressions, or interpretation of those topics utilizing fresh perspectives or new technology.

Submitted Pre-proposals for CVNHP Local Heritage Grants will be scored according to the following criteria:

1. **Focus:** Extent to which the proposed project involves active participation from youth and students in the research and discovery of their community’s unique cultural or natural heritage. (20 Points)
2. **Impact:** The extent to which new artistic expressions through fresh perspectives, interpretive media, or new technology are created. (20 Points)
3. **Partnerships:** Extent to which the applicant demonstrates a commitment to work with partners to achieve project goals and the extent to which this cooperation will enhance the effectiveness of CVNHP funding. (20 Points)
4. **Feasibility:** Extent to which the project can be executed and the likelihood of success. (20 points).
5. **Budget:** Efficiency of proposed request and budget for the scope and outputs of the project. Proposed funding match (if any) may increase score in this criterion (20 points)
6. **Bonus:** Extent that the project benefits communities with disadvantages [per LCBP’s definition](https://www.lcbp.org/about-us/people/diversity-equity-inclusion/disadvantaged-community-definition-and-guidance/) (10 points)
7. **CVNHP Collections Pre-proposal Evaluation and Selection Criteria** (up to $9,000) for the inventory, conservation, and interpretation of museum and library collections. Projects retrofitting historic museum or library buildings with ultraviolet light protection, climate control technology, or other facility improvements are also eligible for funding.

Pre-proposals for CVNHP Collections Grants will be scored according to the following criteria:

1. **Focus:** Extent to which project serves the intent of the grant: 1) the inventory, conservation and interpretation of museum or library collections; or 2) retrofitting historic museum or library facilities with ultraviolet light (UV) or climate control technology. (20 Points)
2. **Need:** Extent to which the collection or facility requires assistance. (20 points)
3. **Capacity:** Extent of the professional knowledge and background of the project lead(s) or the capacity of partners involved. (20 points)
4. **Feasibility:** Extent to which the project can be executed and the likelihood of success. (20 points).
5. **Budget:** Efficiency of proposed request and budget for the scope and outputs of the project. Proposed funding match (if any) may increase score in this criterion (20 points)
6. **CVNHP Internship Pre-proposal Evaluation and Selection Criteria** Pre-proposals (up to $9,000) for internship grants focused on professional internships that provide experience in historical/natural interpretation or artifact curation, cataloging, and display, with exposure to general museum/historic site management during a portion the tourism season (i.e. spring to fall 2024). **Note:** Interns funded through a CVNHP grant will earn no less than $18 per hour.

Submitted pre-proposals for CVNHP Internship Grants will be scored according to the following criteria:

1. **Focus:** Overview of the historic site or museum, including its history, mission, annual visitation numbers and how it serves the interpretive themes of the CVNHP: *Making of Nations, Conservation & Community* or *Conservation & Community*. (20 points)
2. **Internship Description:** The proposed internship position description and the tangible outcomes, outputs and deliverables associated with the internship. (20 points)
3. **Capacity:** Knowledge and experience of the supervisor for the intern position and how that knowledge and experience will be shared with the intern. (20 points)
4. **Feasibility:** Extent to which the project can be executed and the likelihood of success. (20 points).
5. **Budget:** Efficiency of proposed request and budget for the scope and outputs of the project. Proposed funding match (if any) will increase score in this criterion (20 points)
6. **Available Funds and Match Requirements**

Funds are anticipated to be available for projects to begin on or after October 1, 2024, once an agreement has been signed and executed between the grant recipient and NEIWPCC. All awards are subject to available funding and NEIWPCC, on behalf of the LCBP, is not obligated to issue any funds under this request. *While matching funds and in-kind support are not required, match or in-kind support can increase the scope of a project and can often make a proposal more competitive in the grant review process*. Cost-share or match can be satisfied with cash or in-kind services, or a combination of both. Cash contributions are those funds used to purchase goods or services associated with the project. In-kind contributions represent the value of non-cash contributions provided by the applicant, such as staff or volunteer time. Any match or in-kind contributions must be clearly explained in the proposal and must be documented if the proposal is awarded. Applicants should be aware that because optimal matching support may make a proposal more competitive, any match proposed will be embedded in the contractual agreement with NEIWPCC.

1. **Period of Performance**

Work is expected to begin no earlier than **October 1, 2024,** and should be completed within 15 months after the start date.

1. **Schedule and Requirements for Pre-proposal Submission**

All CVNHP pre-proposals will be submitted via the Foundant App by **12:00 PM (noon) EST:** **October 9, 2023.** You will receive a confirmation email once your pre-proposal is successfully submitted (please check your spam folder).If submitting multiple proposals in response to this request, please complete a separate application for each proposal.

# New proposal submission platform

The LCBP and CVNHP are now using [Foundant](https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=NEIWPCC), a web-based grant management software platform, to accept responses to Requests for Proposals, to manage the proposal review and award decision process, and to manage awarded projects to conclusion with award recipients.

New applicants must create an account to log in to the Foundant system. Each user will create their own account, and the system allows for multiple user accounts per organization. When creating an account, Foundant will also ask for information about the organization. Once the user account is created, the applicant's account will automatically be connected to other accounts from the same organization using the Federal Tax ID (EIN) number. Once this information is collected and the account is created, the user may identify the applicable grant category and begin the proposal submission process. They may also invite partners to assist with the application within Foundant. Proposal questions and format requirements for this request for proposals are provided below for reference and to help applicants prepare their proposals.

**Proposals must be submitted to Foundant; email submissions will not be accepted. Please visit the Foundant** [**Applicant Tutorial webpage**](https://support.foundant.com/hc/en-us/articles/4479853059991-GLM-Applicant-Tutorial) **for assistance in creating your individual account, or contact** Kerry Crowningshield, LCBP Office Manager, at [kcrowningshield@lcbp.org](mailto:kcrowningshield@lcbp.org) or call 802-372-3213.

1. **Contact Information**

Please direct all inquiries to:

Jim Brangan

Lake Champlain Basin Program

Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership

54 West Shore Rd.

Grand Isle, VT  05458

Phone: 802-372-0213

Email: [jbrangan@lcbp.org](mailto:jbrangan@lcbp.org)

**Appendix A: Summary of Requirements for Selected Projects**

If selected for funding, successful applicants should be aware of these additional requirements for all LCBP-funded projects:

1. Following initial notification of the award, a workplan must be approved by LCBP before a contract agreement can be executed and the work begun. Compensation cannot begin until the workplan is approved and a contract is executed. The workplan will detail the logistical elements of the project, including deliverables and project timeline. Information about the LCBP grant process, workplan development guidelines, and reporting requirements can be found on the LCBP website at: <http://www.lcbp.org/about-us/grants-rfps/grant-toolkit/>. The successful applicant will enter into a memorandum of agreement (MOA) with NEIWPCC to complete the work and will be compensated upon completion of workplan deliverables.
2. Quarterly reports must be filed electronically by January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1 during the period of the MOA.
3. All project work must be completed with final reports and invoices received by the CVNHP/LCBP **by December 31, 2025.**
4. All materials and work products, regardless of physical form or characteristics, produced because of this project shall be made available to LCBP, NEIWPCC, and appropriate funding agencies in a suitable file format. The LCBP, NEIWPCC, U.S. National Park Service and Great Lakes Fishery Commission shall have an unrestricted right to use any materials, software, maps, studies, reports, and other products or data generated using assistance funds or specified to be delivered. The contractor shall not obtain, attempt to obtain, or file for a patent, copyright, trademark or any other interest in any such materials, or work products without the expressed, written consent of the LCBP and NEIWPCC, and subject to any other approvals required by state or federal law. Reports and other deliverables will credit LCBP, U.S. National Park Service, Great Lakes Fishery Commission, and NEIWPCC as funding partners for any work completed under the project contract.
5. The LCBP and NEIWPCC require contractors to maintain workers' compensation and liability insurance. More details will be provided to the successful applicant at the time of contracting.
6. If a project includes collection of any primary or secondary data or involves a modeling effort, it will require a Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP). Once the grant agreement has been executed, the contractor must develop a QAPP to be approved before the beginning of any data collection or secondary data analyses. More information about LCBP Quality Assurance Plans can be found at: <http://www.lcbp.org/about-us/grants-rfps/grant-toolkit/qapp/>.
7. The LCBP encourages applicants to budget costs that are associated with the project as direct expenses, including personnel costs, travel, project supplies, mailings, phone costs, office supplies, etc. Use of some grant funds for indirect costs is also allowable, subject to both the provisions of OMB Circular A-87 and LCBP approval. If you need further guidance, contact the LCBP or refer to [OMB Circular A-87 (Revised)](https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/omb/circulars_a087_2004/#atta). Sections D, E, and F of Attachment A provide an overview of direct and indirect costs. For projects in response to this RFP, the indirect budget should not exceed 10% of the direct project budget, and indirect offered as match should similarly not exceed 10% of direct match contributed, unless a higher federally negotiated indirect rate is in place. Organizations with a federally Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA) may apply an indirect rate up to the approved NICRA rate for their organization. Organizations with a NICRA should submit a copy of their NICRA with their proposal. The LCBP Indirect Policy can be found here: <http://www.lcbp.org/about-us/grants-rfps/grant-toolkit/>.
8. The following procurement procedure is applicable to proposals submitted in response to this request if the primary applicant is not a for-profit organization. The purpose is to ensure fair and open competition for purchases supported by the funding. If the applicant plans to use federal funding to obtain supplies, equipment, or contractual services to complete its proposed workplan, then it must follow federal procurement regulations:
   * + - Procurement of supplies and services that do not exceed $10,000 may be made without soliciting competitive quotes if the price is considered reasonable.
       - Procurement of supplies, equipment and services that are greater than $10,000 require that the recipient obtain multiple price quotes through a documented competitive process. Good faith efforts to obtain services from disadvantaged business enterprises should also be made, including contacting the Small Business Administration and Minority Business Development Agency to inform them about the opportunity to submit price quotes as part of the competitive process. At least three price quotes for the contract work must be secured. The selected item or service does not need to be the lowest cost if it does not meet your requirements or you can otherwise demonstrate that the higher price offers the “best value.” Justification must be provided for the outcome of the bid process. This process may take place prior to the submission of a proposal for funds.