

period not to exceed 24 months in two main categories:

- (1) Program planning projects;
- (2) Program demonstration projects.

The specific funding priorities for each category are described in detail below.

#### *E. Dollar Limits per Proposal*

For this competition, the Initiative anticipates making available approximately \$360,000 under this solicitation to fund approximately 9 to 12 awards. The dollar amount of each award will vary depending upon Initiative priorities, proposal quality and level of activity, and resource availability. Proposals for less than \$20,000 or greater than \$50,000 will not be considered. EPA reserves the right to reject all proposals and make no awards.

Projects not selected for award under this solicitation will be retained on file and made available to other EPA offices for potential funding for a period of one year from the date of receipt by EPA. This solicitation notice contains all the information and forms necessary to prepare a Letter of Intent. Should your Letter of Intent be approved, this solicitation package directs you to web and mailed sources of the application kit for a Full Proposal. If your Full Proposal is selected for possible award, your EPA Regional Office will supply you with additional Federal forms needed to process your Full Proposal for award.

## **Section II. Dates and Deadlines**

#### *F. Dates and Deadlines*

(1) The Initiative Solicitation will be issued on or about July 11, 2003.

(2) *Letters of Intent* are due to EPA via e-mail on or before August 11, 2003.

(3) Confirmation of Receipt of the e-mailed Letter of Intent will be issued not more than 7 business days after receipt by the Agency. Applicant should follow-up by phone immediately to 202-564-2646 if acknowledgement from EPA is not received within this time period.

(4) Applicants submitting a Letter of Intent will be notified via e-mail on or before August 22, 2003 if they are deemed eligible to participate in the Pre-application Assistance Call and to submit a Full Proposal.

(5) Pre-application Assistance Call will be held on September 3, 2003. Applicants with accepted Letters of Intent who expressed an interest in participating in the Pre-application Assistance Call will be advised via e-mail of the call-in number.

(6) Due Date—October 6, 2003, for Full Proposals from invited eligible

applicants to be delivered to the courier for shipment or postmarked (*see note below re: postal mailing*). Full Proposals shipped or mailed after this date will not be considered for funding under this solicitation.

(7) Applicants will receive an e-mail notification of receipt of the Full Proposal within one month of receipt by the Agency.

(8) Selected projects will be announced on or around December 1, 2003.

(9) *Start Date for Projects*—February 1, 2004, is the earliest start date that applicants should plan on and enter on their application forms and time lines. Grant recipients may begin incurring allowable costs on the start date identified in the EPA grant award agreement. Budget periods may run from 18–24 months.

(10) *Rejection Letters*—Rejection Letters are usually sent within 6 months after submission of the Full Proposal.

## **Section III. Addresses for Delivering Letters of Intent and Full Proposals**

#### *G. Letters of Intent*

*Letters of Intent* should have an e-mail subject line starting with Letter of Intent: followed by your Project Title. The e-mail should be sent to [fletcher.bettina@epa.gov](mailto:fletcher.bettina@epa.gov).

#### *H. Full Proposals if Invited by EPA*

*Full Proposals If Invited By EPA*—Due to on-going mail delays in the Washington, DC area, applicants who are invited to submit a Full Proposal are strongly encouraged to send original Full Proposals signed by an authorized representative of their state organization by way of a private shipping company (e.g., Federal Express, UPS, DHL, or courier) to the attention of: Bettina Fletcher, U.S. EPA, Office of Children's Health Protection, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave, NW., Mail Code 1107A, Room 2512 Ariel Rios North, Washington, DC 20004.

If Full Proposals are mailed, send them to: Bettina Fletcher, U.S. EPA, Office of Children's Health Protection, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave, NW., Mail Code 1107A, Room 2512 Ariel Rios North, Washington, DC 20460.

## **Section IV. Eligible Applicants and Activities**

#### *I. Eligible Applicants*

To be eligible to compete for these assistance funds, applicants must:

(1) Meet standards for eligibility described in section 103(b)(3) of the CAA (<http://www.epa.gov/oar/caa/caa103.txt>).

(2) Represent one of the states from EPA Regions 2 through 10. States from EPA's Region 1 (CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, and VT) may not apply under this grant. Assistance programs in this area for these states were addressed through a different solicitation. *See note below for the related Region 1 grant for which these states were eligible.*

(3) Adhere to the provisions of The Executive Order 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs" (SPOC List) applies. *See <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants/spoc.html> for further information.*

(4) Demonstrate that you are a state health, or environment or a regional air authority with formal delegated authority. While only these agencies may be the direct recipients and lead project administrators of the project, other partners are eligible for compensation through sub-contracting agreement(s) between the lead agency and collaborating partners as long as the state agency maintains a substantive role in the project.

Projects that include and demonstrate a substantive and active collaboration between a state health agency and a state environment agency will be evaluated more favorably. (*See selection criteria below*). This collaboration could be reflected in activities such as:

- (a) Both agencies dedicating personnel;
- (b) Agencies co-sponsoring crucial meetings; or
- (c) Both agencies being involved in peer reviews of documents and/or products.

#### *J. Exceptions*

(1) Special Note to EPA Region 1 States:

The EPA Region 1 states of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont are expressly *excluded* from this funding Initiative. Funding was available directly from the Region 1 Office through a different solicitation known as the Healthy Communities Grant Program to support New England states' efforts in the arena of childhood asthma and related community-based endeavors. *See <http://www.epa.gov/region01/grants/healthycommunities.html> or contact Sandra Padula at (617) 918-1797 for more information.*

#### *K. Multiple Proposals*

State organizations within one state may submit more than one proposal if the proposals are for different projects. However, no more than one grant will be awarded to a state during the same fiscal year. State organizations are