

Proposes an effective approach to technical assistance for contributors and users of the CCRCA, showing how the technical assistance plan relates to and promotes each of the other components.

Describes the composition and role of an advisory group in support of the work of the CCRCA.

Proposes an effective plan to increase collaboration and partnership-building at national, Statewide and local levels, support researchers and other stakeholders in their efforts to build effective partnerships, and promote collaboration in a variety of environments, such as colleges and universities, State and local child care agencies, and child care organizations.

Proposes approaches that reflect cultural sensitivity to the issues being addressed.

Identifies possible barriers to achieving the proposed results and benefits and describes effective strategies for addressing these barriers.

Provides assurance that, should the occasion arise, all products acquired, developed or maintained during the term of the cooperative agreement will be passed on to ACF or the subsequent CCRCA grantee.

#### Criterion 2. Staff and Organizational Profiles (25 Points)

The extent to which the applicant:

Commits to an adequate number of staff with the expertise to carry out the project with a high level of accomplishment, on time, and within budget.

Proposes a project director and key staff with highly relevant skills, knowledge and experience. Brief resumes of the current and proposed staff, as well as job descriptions demonstrate the ability of the proposed staff to fulfill key roles. Resumes indicate what position each individual will fill and position descriptions specifically describe each job as it relates to the proposed project.

Describes university or agency support, if applicable, to the organizational capabilities required for implementation of this activity.

Describes organizations and consultants who may work on the program along with a short description of the nature of their effort or contribution.

Provides information on plans for training project staff as well as staff of cooperating organizations and individuals, if needed.

Provides a detailed management plan, with personnel allocations, tasks and subtasks, products, timelines, and coordination of components, that shows how the proposed project goals will be

accomplished and provides a means of monitoring progress, accomplishments, and shortfalls.

Describes the relationship between the proposed project and other work planned, anticipated or underway by the applicant with Federal assistance.

Demonstrates sufficient resources and appropriate facilities to successfully implement, manage and further develop the CCRCA.

Includes letters of intention from any subcontractors or primary consultants.

#### Criterion 3. Objectives and Need for Assistance (15 Points)

The extent to which the applicant:

Demonstrates an awareness of current issues and initiatives in child care research, policy and practice, technical assistance, and collaboration; as well as the interrelationships among these broad functions.

Describes the need for an integrated system to further research, knowledge, and collaboration in the field of child care and early care and education.

Describes the relationships among the interactive web site, the research database and data archive, and the technical assistance-collaborative components of the project.

Discusses current issues in archiving including, but not limited to, topics such as the world-wide web, dissemination strategies, liability, confidentiality, and terms-of-use agreements.

Describes the audience of CCRCA contributors and users, estimates their number, describes their needs, and presents a sound growth model with estimates of increased annual usage and costs.

#### Criterion 4: Results or Benefits Expected (10 Points)

The extent to which the applicant:

Identifies the results and benefits of the proposed project to enhance policy, improve practice, and advance science in child care research.

Describes how the proposed approach to the CCRCA would contribute to overall efforts to improve child care services and systems, the development and well-being of children, and particular outcome measures, as applicable.

Discusses the significance to the field of the proposed project and describes why the proposed approach is innovative.

Provides a set of performance measures designed to demonstrate how well the goals and objectives of the CCRCA are being met.

Describes how technical assistance plans will benefit contributors and users

of the CCRCA including the Child Care Bureau, members of the Child Care Policy Research Consortium and other members of the child care research and policy communities.

Describes how the proposed project will significantly increase collaboration and partnership building among researchers, policy makers, and other stakeholders at national, State, and local levels.

#### Criterion 5. Budget and Budget Justification (10 Points)

The extent to which the applicant:

Provides a narrative description and sound rationale for the budget information presented on Standard Forms 424 and 424A and related budget tables presented in the text.

Demonstrates that costs to operate the CCRCA are reasonable, adequate and justified in terms of the proposed tasks and subtasks as well as results and benefits.

Includes sound fiscal control and accounting procedures to ensure prudent use, proper and timely disbursement and accurate accounting of funds received under this program announcement.

### Part III. Evaluation of Promising Models and Delivery Approaches to Child Care Provider Training (Priority Area 2)

#### A. Purpose

The purpose of this project is to identify and test a training model and alternative delivery approaches that show promise for improving the knowledge, skill and performance of child care providers.

#### B. Eligible Applicants

Eligible applicants include non-profit agencies and organizations, public and private institutions such as colleges and universities, and agencies of State and local government. Faith- and community-based organizations are eligible to apply, as are profit-making organizations that agree to forego their profits.

#### C. Type and Number of Awards

One cooperative agreement will be awarded.

#### D. Project Duration and Budget Periods

The project period will extend up to four years (September 30, 2003 through September 29, 2007). The award, on a competitive basis, will be for a one-year budget period. Applications for continuation funds will be entertained in subsequent years on a noncompetitive basis, subject to availability of funds, satisfactory