

Question and Answer

2023 Food Systems Request for Qualifications

Version 3 – Updated 3/28/23

Last Day to Submit Questions: Monday, March 27, 2022, at 5 p.m.

	Program Area	Question	Answer
1	Eligibility/ Application	If an agency is applying for multiple service areas, they will need to submit not only separate budgets, but also the responses for each of the service area narratives for which they are applying, right?	Yes. Submit one application with separate budgets for the respective service areas. In addition, answer all the core narrative questions and the questions in the respective service areas for which you are applying. Your page limits will differ based on the different service areas for which you are applying.
2	Eligibility/ Application	Is an agency allowed to submit as an individual agency under one area, but as a collaboration in another area?	An agency is allowed to submit its own application for one or more service areas, and, within the same application, enlist partners in any of the service areas. The agency may also be listed as a partner on a separate application for any service area not in its own application. The agency should not be the lead agency in the second application.
3	Contracts	What is the history of the program and how does it function?	The Seattle Food Committee (SFC) and Meals Partnership Coalition (MPC) are networks that represent a collective of food banks and meal programs and have decades of history in Seattle. Previously known as the emergency food system, these networks act as the social safety net for food security in the city. Both networks meet monthly to share resources and host trainings.
4	Contracts	What is the historic number of pounds/ servings that are distributed weekly through this program?	<p>The 2022 monthly average pounds of food <u>procured</u> (excluding donated food) was 52,000 lbs. These include fresh and frozen produce, fresh and frozen protein, milk and dairy products, grains and shelf stable food. Examples of food purchased are included below.</p> <p><u>Seattle Food Committee</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boneless ham • Whole halal chickens • Boneless skinless salmon • Shelf stable milk • Eggs • Peanut butter • Chicken broth • Canned tuna • Butter • Ginger • Cabbage • Collards • Cucumbers • Tomatoes • Dates • Masa

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rice • Ground spices <p><u>Meals Partnership Coalition</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ground beef • Ground turkey • Beef stew meat • Boneless turkey breast • Boneless skinless chicken thighs/ breasts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tangerines • Olive oil • Frozen peas and carrots • Frozen broccoli • Grated cheeses
5	Eligibility/ Application	In addition to serving the SFC and MPC networks, are we allowed to propose additional Seattle-based food banks and meal programs that may not be members of SFC or MPC networks?	<p>For the purposes of this RFQ, agencies receiving services funded through the resulting contract must be SFC and/or MPC members, as determined by each network. See <i>Program Requirements, B. Criteria for Eligibility (pg. 3, Guidelines)</i>.</p> <p>Minimum requirements for membership are: (1) the agency is in good standing by attending membership meetings; and (2) the agency is located/provides meal/food bank services within the city of Seattle. Changes to membership in each network may take place from year to year.</p>
6	Eligibility/ Application	For staffing descriptions and their experience or applicable licensing/certifications, do you want us to state current individuals in the positions knowing this could change or keep it to the agency job description requirements only?	Both. Describe the standard requirements that your agency expects of the positions as listed in the job descriptions. In addition, describe the current experience and applicable licensing/certifications of the staff proposed to be funded, despite potential transitions or turnovers.
7	Eligibility/ Application	We are a King County based wholesale produce company that works primarily in hunger-relief, serving food banks and other community action groups with culturally appropriate and nutritional foods. Is it possible I am already an	“All agencies receiving services funded through this RFQ must be SFC or MPC member agencies or affiliates at the time of contracting.”, from <i>Program Requirements, B. Criteria for Eligibility (pg. 3, Guidelines)</i> . Member/affiliate status applies to <u>direct</u> service food banks and meal programs <u>receiving services</u> funded through this RFQ (i.e. agencies that you intend to work with to

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		affiliate due to our current relationships? Is there a path to become a member or affiliate before the RFQ is due? Can we become one after the bid is submitted and/or granted but before the contract period begins and still qualify/bid?	provide SFC/MPC system support). HSD expects any awarded agency providing <u>indirect</u> services funded through this RFQ to also become SFC/MPC affiliated agencies at the time awards are announced to ensure maximum familiarity with network needs, processes, best practices, etc. In addition, please also reference the Seattle Human Services Department Agency Minimum Eligibility Requirements to verify your eligibility status.