

FAQs from the MRC 2015-2016 Challenge Awards Webinar

The webinar was recorded and the audio can be found [here](#). The 2015-2016 Challenge Award application is scheduled to open on January 5, 2016 and close on February 2, 2016.

Q1: The two examples presented by past recipients of the Challenge Award were public health focused. Can we use the awards to strengthen emergency response capabilities?

A1: Absolutely! The focus area “Community Resiliency” is linked to National Health Security Strategy Priority 1, which includes “mechanisms to promote community health resilience, emergency response, and recovery.”

Q2: How will the 160 awards be split among the four focus areas? Will the awards be evenly distributed among regions?

A2: There is not an even number of awards dedicated to each focus area or region. The projects with the highest scores upon completion of the review process will be funded.

Q3: Does NACCHO place weight on similar projects as best practices or are you looking for new projects? Would a “new” project have a better chance of receiving an award?

A3: There is no more weight given to “new” projects. If there is a demonstrated need in your community for a project similar to one that has been previously funded, you can adapt and tailor that project to your community’s needs. Those types of applications will be given equal consideration to new project proposals.

Q4: Can we resubmit a proposal from last year that was rejected?

A4: Yes. You are welcome to submit a proposal from previous award cycles. However, we are not able to provide feedback on previous or new applications in order to maintain the integrity of the review process.

Q5: Are there restrictions on how the award money can be spent?

A5: Restrictions on spending are the same as in past years. No money can be spent on food and beverage or promotional items.

Q6: Can multiple units apply for one Challenge Award?

A6: Yes. We encourage MRC units to consider collaborating with others to submit an application on behalf of a group of units and/or community partners. If you choose to partner as a group, only one unit can submit an application and that unit must agree to be the fiscal manager of the award.

Q7: Can you submit multiple proposals for different focus areas?

A7: No. You can only submit one proposal. You will have to choose one focus area that best fits your application, although many projects relate to more than one focus area.

Q8: Do we have to apply for the full \$15,000 of Challenge Award funding?

A8: Yes. Your submitted budget should reflect funding for the full \$15,000 award.