Q1: Will I be able to upload additional narrative documents?

Answer: No, all narrative information will need to be included in the narrative section of the application and subject to the 3,000 character limit per question.

Q2: Who are the SEED "target populations" eligible to receive entrepreneurship training and micro-grants?

Answer: SEED target populations are individuals who face significant barriers to employment, specifically: (1) individuals with limited English proficiency, regardless of immigration or citizenship status; or (2) individuals who are neither U.S. citizens nor lawful permanent residents. This includes individuals who may not be lawfully present in the United States, and individuals who have been granted Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) or Temporary Protected Status (TPS). In addition, SEED is open to all individuals in the target populations, including other immigrants, refugees and asylees, and United States citizens.

Q3: Can I select micro-grantees after the Contract term?

Answer: All micro-grantees must be selected during the Contract term.

Q4: Can I disburse micro-grants after the Contract term?

Answer: The intent is for the disbursement of micro-grants to occur during the Contract term. Any requests for disbursement of micro-grants outside the Contract term will be considered on a case-by-case basis with strong justification.

Q5: Can an individual in a cooperative be awarded a micro-grant?

Answer: Yes, but micro-grants are limited to one micro-grant per individual and one per business entity. For example, for any given business, this means only one individual may utilize a micro-grant toward launching or sustaining that business.

Q6: In joint proposals, do all CBOs need to have non-profit (501c3) status?

Answer: All participating CBOs must be a 501c3 or a fiscally sponsored program of a 501c3. Each CBO will need to provide proof of non-profit status by uploading a 501c3 into the system.

Q7: If I was an awardee of a SEED 1.0 or SEED 2.0 Contract am I eligible to apply?

Answer: Due to the limited availability of funds (approximately $1,000,000) the SEED2.5 grant isn't available to CBOs who previously held a SEED1 or SEED2 contract. Repeat CBOs are eligible to be listed as a joint applicant but not as the primary contract holder.

Q8: Can we use SEED2.5 funding to continue to work with participants from the first or second rounds of SEED (i.e. provide SEED participants with higher level training and Technical Assistance and additional micro-grants)?

Answer: You can build the additional training into the budget to provide advanced training to previous awardees but no additional micro-grants can be issued if they have already received one. Micro-grants are limited to one micro-grant per individual and one per business entity.

Q9: Do I need to provide an IRS Tax ID Number?

Answer: Yes, the system requires a 9-digit IRS Tax ID Number.

Q10: How many months is the grant term?

Answer: The grant term is 12 months.

Q11: What are the permission levels and user rights in Cal-E-Grants?

Answer: Administrators are able to manage users (add, delete, or change permission levels), delete applications, and all basic functions within the system.

Users are able to start an application, fill out applications, and submit applications.