KEY DATES

RFA Release Date	October 21, 2015

Applications Due:
Round 1: December 9, 2015
November 20, 2015 by 5:00PM EST

Round 2: December 18, 2015 by 5:00PM EST

Amendment to RFA

1. Round 1 Application Due Date Extended

The Round 1 Application Due Date has been amended and extended to December 9, 2015.

2. Pages 12 and 13 of the RFA is amended as follows:

The following has been updated/modified in the RFA. Strike-through indicates deleted text; underlined/bolded text is new.

G. Minority & Woman-Owned Business Enterprise Requirements

Pursuant to New York State Executive Law Article 15-A, the New York State Department of Health ("DOH") recognizes its obligation to promote opportunities for maximum feasible participation of certified minority- and women-owned business enterprises and the employment of minority group members and women in the performance of DOH contracts.
In 2006, the State of New York commissioned a disparity study to evaluate whether minority and women-owned business enterprises had a full and fair opportunity to participate in state contracting. The findings of the study were published on April 29, 2010, under the title "The State of Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises: Evidence from New York" ("Disparity Study"). The report found evidence of statistically significant disparities between the level of participation of minority- and women-owned business enterprises in state procurement contracting versus the number of minority- and women-owned business enterprises that were ready, willing and able to participate in state procurements. As a result of these findings, the Disparity Study made recommendations concerning the implementation and operation of the statewide certified minority- and women-owned business enterprises program. The recommendations from the Disparity Study culminated in the enactment and the implementation of New York State Executive Law Article 15-A, which requires, among other things, that DOH establish goals for maximum feasible participation of New York State Certified minority- and women-owned business enterprises ("MWBE") and the employment of minority groups members and women in the performance of New York State contracts.

Business Participation Opportunities for MWBEs

For purposes of this solicitation, the New York State Department of Health hereby establishes a goal of 30% as follows:

1) **For Non Profit Applicants:** Eligible Expenditures include on any subcontracted labor or services, equipment, materials, or any combined purchase of the foregoing greater than $25,000 under a contract awarded from this solicitation.

2) **For-Profit Applicants:** Eligible Expenditures include the value of the budget in total.

The goal on the eligible portion of this contract will be 15% for Minority-Owned Business Enterprises ("MBE") participation and 15% for Women-Owned Business Enterprises ("WBE") participation (based on the current availability of qualified MBEs and WBEs and outreach efforts to certified MWBE firms). A contractor ("Contractor") on the subject contract ("Contract") must document good faith efforts to provide meaningful participation by MWBEs as subcontractors or suppliers in the performance of the Contract and Contractor agrees that DOH may withhold payment pending receipt of the required MWBE documentation. For guidance on how DOH will determine “good faith efforts,” refer to 5 NYCRR §142.8.

The directory of New York State Certified MWBEs can be viewed at: [https://ny.newnycontracts.com](https://ny.newnycontracts.com). The directory is found in the upper right hand side of
the webpage under “Search for Certified Firms” and accessed by clicking on the link entitled “MWBE Directory”. Engaging with firms found in the directory with like product(s) and/or service(s) is strongly encouraged and all communication efforts and responses should be well documented.

By submitting an application, a grantee agrees to complete an MWBE Utilization plan as directed in Attachment 7/7a of this RFA. DOH will review the submitted MWBE Utilization Plan. If the plan is not accepted, DOH may issue a notice of deficiency. If a notice of deficiency is issued, Grantee agrees that it shall respond to the notice of deficiency within seven (7) business days of receipt. DOH may disqualify a Grantee as being non-responsive under the following circumstances:

a) If a Grantee fails to submit a MWBE Utilization Plan;
b) If a Grantee fails to submit a written remedy to a notice of deficiency;
c) If a Grantee fails to submit a request for waiver (if applicable); or
d) If DOH determines that the Grantee has failed to document good-faith efforts to meet the established DOH MWBE participation goals for the procurement.

In addition, successful awardees will be required to certify they have an acceptable Equal Employment Opportunity policy statement.

3. Change to Attachment 7

Attachment 7A (M/WBE Forms) has been added to the RFA for use by For-Profit Applicants. These forms are in addition to the forms previously provided for Non Profit applicants in Attachment 7. Applicants should use the forms that are appropriate for their organization type.