1. Question: [slightly reworded by CARE Fund staff for clarity]: Where multiple entities are part of a consortium of institutions, does the limit of five proposals maximum per applicant organization apply to each entity separately, or is a consortium considered the “applicant organization” for this purpose?

Answer: Under this RFP, an applicant organization must be able to both receive the funds and administer the grant, if awarded. For information regarding whether an individual entity meets the requirements, please reach out to staff at your institution directly.

2. Question: [slightly reworded by CARE Fund staff for clarity]: Does the seed round, the NCI grant, or both count as the "matching funds" that are required for this RFP?

Answer: Grant funding from federal sources is eligible for the non-state match as long as it can be demonstrated that they are dedicated to the proposal being submitted or closely related work that supports, extends, or facilitates the proposal.

3. Question: We currently are in the middle of the first year of a two-year project that would provide the matching funds. Do the matching funds need to be provided at the same time as the CARE Fund grant or can some of the funding have been previously provided?

Answer: All funds submitted in fulfillment of the one-to-one non-state match requirement and secured prior to the execution of a CARE Fund grant award agreement must be unexpended and available during the grant period.

4. Question: Can I use existing STTR unexpended funds toward the CARE Fund grant?

Answer: Matching funds used for the non-state match requirement must be unexpended and available during the grant period for the proposed CARE Fund project.

5. Question: Can I use the current unexpended seed round funds toward the CARE Fund grant?
Answer: Assuming there are no restrictions on the use of these funds towards a non-state match, the seed round funds that are unexpended at the time of the CARE Fund project start date and available for expenditure during the grant period are eligible.

6. Question: Can I use an SBIR application toward the CARE Fund matching if the SBIR is not yet awarded?

Answer: No, only funding that has been secured at the time of the CARE Fund application submission is eligible to fulfill the non-state matching funds requirement.

7. Question: I have a question regarding Grant Matching Fund Requirements. Does that language mean we need an SBIR or external investment from outside investors, or in-house resources to happen at the same time as the award, or that we must have funding if we win it?

Answer: As part of the application process, applicants must submit proof of their secured minimum one-to-one (1:1) match of non-state of Washington funds to requested grant funds. Please see the RFP for a description of the proof of financial commitment and the allowable sources of non-state matching funds (which include but are not limited to federal grants, in-kind resources and unrecovered indirect costs).

8. Question: As a rule of thumb for this, how do you value the importance of budget breakdown? What percentage should be R&D, salary, or rent?

Answer: Please note that assessments of the application, including the budget information, are made by an independent scientific review panel that will review and evaluate the applications considered for funding and make a recommendation to the CARE Fund Board. Please see the review criteria in the RFP for more information.

9. Question: [slightly reworded by CARE Fund staff for clarity] Is an LOI required to participate in the selection process for the Andy Hill CARE Fund?

Answer: CARE Fund does not require an LOI as a part of the application process for this funding opportunity.

10. Question: Would you clarify if the budget range is inclusive of the required match or if the CARE Fund request can be as high as $1.5m as long as we have a corresponding $1.5m non-state match?

Answer: Applicants may request up to $1,500,000 from CARE Fund if they have submitted proof of a secured match of the equivalent amount in eligible non-state funds. For example, the total project budget for a CARE Fund request of $1,500,000, not including additional non-state funds beyond the minimum required for the 1:1 match, would be $3,000,000.

11. Question: Can you share what budget percentage counts as a minority of funding that can be allocated to out-of-state entities?
Answer: The majority of the CARE Fund grant award and the majority of any required non-state match contribution must be allocated to recipients conducting research in Washington State.

12. Question: We are considering applying for this current cycle. Do you have time to discuss this in the coming week?

Answer: CARE Fund does not accept requests for meetings or calls about funding opportunities during the open period for application submissions. Please see the application prompts and information in the RFP for more information.