



## Peer IPA RFP – Questions and Answers

1. It is not clear if the grantee, or the member agencies (or both) need to be 51% governed by peers?

**Answer** - As stated in the RFP:

“The agencies who are eligible to join the IPA will need to meet the following criteria:

- A. Be a Peer-run organization.
- B. Peer-run agencies who are members in the IPA will not only be peer run, but shall provide direct services to New York State residents, who:
  - Identifies as being actively in recovery from a mental health condition or major life disruption and self-discloses one’s mental health recovery journey.
  - Have a spouse or adult family member who identifies as being actively in recovery from a mental health condition or major life disruption and self-discloses one’s mental health recovery journey.
  - Supervise certified peer specialists.”

The RFP does not explicitly prohibit a non peer agency from applying, or being awarded the grant, however, they would not be eligible to be part of the IPA based on the wording above.

2. Will questions be answered on a rolling basis?

**Answer** - All questions will be addressed through the official Question and Answer process as indicated in the RFP – Section 2.3 Key Events/Timeline, Section 2.5/Eligible Agencies, Section 2.6/RFP Questions and Clarifications and Section.

No questions will be considered outside of these parameters.

3. Our agency doesn’t currently run Peer-based programs, but we are very interested in this RFP. Looking at the eligibility criteria, we don't meet the requirements.

When we found the 'Peer Run Services IPA' RFP, we were very excited and want to know if we could apply to form a 'start-up organization' for this service.

**Answer** - See Question 1

4. Our proposal is planned to integrate our peer groups and Bridger programs (reintegration into outpatient form inpatient) into MPC. The plan would shift some of the positions of group facilitators and bridgers actively at MPC (as you know, there is a shortage of bridgers and group facilitators at MPC) into peer jobs with a training lead-in. Please advise if this would fit within grant requirements.

**Answer** - See Question 1

Based on your description, it does not appear that your plan would address the purpose of the RFP as it describes actions around specific peer positions rather than the peer run agencies in NYS.

5. This particular grant for the development of an Independent Practice Association. The way I understand this is the grant is not for a Peer Run organization providing the services but an Association which is collective of Peer Run organizations. Please clarify?

**Answer** - See Question 1

6. Is this a new RFP or is the re-procurement of an existing service?

**Answer** – This is a new RFP

7. For eligible agencies, it is noted that “the governing board must be comprised of at least 51% of people with lived experience...”. May the board member composition include people with lived experience and also board members who have family members with lived experience?

**Answer** - Yes

8. Can the IPA be statewide, therefore work with organizations from multiple regions in New York State (example: the Finger Lakes region, Long Island and the Southern Tier)?

**Answer** - The IPA is not restricted to any specific part of the state and can be multi regional.

9. Is there a template or key information that should be outlined in the letter of intent?

**Answer** - A letter of intent may be submitted but is not required in order to be considered for this grant. We do not provide any specific recommendations on what should be included in the letter of intent.

10. What is the maximum number of co-applicants that can be included on the application?

**Answer** - There is no maximum number of co-applicants that can be included on the application.