OVIN RFW Critical Minerals Program - Proponent Information Session
Thursday July 11th, 2024 (13h00-14h30 EST)

Questions and Answers

1. **Question:** Question about the matching funds / one FTE requirement: in a partnership application, would the rule apply to each partner or only to single / lead partner?

Answer: The matching contribution requirement is for the lead applicant.

2. **Question:** Are you able to share the funding amount that has been allocated in its entirety? Does funding allotment reflect the size and scale of the number of students who will benefit from the project? Ex: if you are only able to meet the minimum number of 50, can you still qualify for the full amount?

Answer: We are not able to disclose the funding allocation for this program at this time. I can disclose that for the first iteration of the RFW program, we funded 14 projects. We'd like to make as big of an impact as possible. Ideally if you are submitting for the full amount you can demonstrate and/or justify the amount related to the scalability and sustainability of the program regardless of the number of students.

3. **Question:** Related to industry partners: What do you require for their contribution commitment?

Answer: Ideally within the application you would include a list of who you're working with – letters of support are great but not required given the shortened application period.

4. **Question:** Can you clarify the eligible regions in Ontario? Is Northwestern Ontario and First Nation communities in the Far North eligible?

Answer: Yes, all regions within the province of Ontario are eligible.

5. **Question:** What was the average amount funded among those 14?

Answer: I don't have the average amount for the first iteration of RFW on hand however I can share that the total amount dispersed was $6M (publicly available).

6. **Question:** What number of students engaged would be considered viable/ideal?

Answer: In addition to the minimum number of 50, any additional student participation would be up to applicants to determine the scope and reach of what is possible for them to achieve.

7. **Question:** Do you have any comments on allowable capital costs?

Answer: On page 15 of the program guidelines, there is a detailed eligible expenses guideline that you should refer to when completing the budget table for the application.

8. **Question:** Is it feasible to have the program be delivered partially or totally online?

Answer: Yes, the program delivery format is flexible. We want to ensure that the programs are accessible, and we lean on the applicants to determine what the needs of their audiences would be.

9. **Question:** How detailed do we need to provide with respect to the course objectives and learning outcomes in the application.

Answer: As detailed as possible to exhibit the impact that you will have with the project deployment and student groups involved.

10. **Question:** When will applications be available?

Answer: Applications are currently open. Questions are available on the program webpage and there is a link to the application questions as well in case you're looking to prepare the responses in advance of completing the application in full. You can connect with a Business Development Manager to get your application initiated and then complete the application via AccessOCI.