

achieving the purpose and overall goals of this program.

Evaluation Criteria

Upon receipt, applications will be reviewed by CDC staff for completeness and responsiveness as outlined under the previous heading Program Requirements (a listing of where these requirements are described and/or documented in the application will facilitate the review process). Incomplete applications and applications that are not responsive will be returned to the applicant without further consideration.

Applications which are complete and responsive will undergo an initial peer evaluation of the scientific and technical merit to warrant further review; the CDC will withdraw from further consideration applications judged to be noncompetitive and promptly notify the principal investigator/program director and the official signing for the applicant organization. The second review will be conducted by senior Federal staff, who will consider the results of the first review together with program need and relevance. Awards will be made based on merit and priority score ranking by the peer review, program review by senior Federal staff, and the availability of funds.

A. The Objective Review Committee may recommend approval or disapproval based on the content of the application and the following criteria:

1. The Population Laboratory for Applied Research in Public Health Purpose (5 points)

The extent to which the efforts will result in innovative approaches or interventions to meet health priorities, emerging health and other health needs of urban residents, or an identified demographic group, or combination thereof.

2. Overall program plan (10 points)

The extent to which the overall program plan has clear objectives that are specific, measurable, and realistic, and makes effective use of population laboratory resources to advance the population laboratory's purpose.

3. Strategy and Technical Approach (45 points)

The technical and scientific merits of the proposed projects, the potential to achieve the stated objectives and the extent to which the applicant's plans are consistent with the purpose of the program.

a. Core activities (10 points)

—Description of the core activities of the Urban Center.

b. Collaborations/collaborative projects with State/local health departments and academic institutions (35 points)

—Plan for including community-based organizations, State and local health departments, and academia in planning, developing, and implementing collaborative projects (15 points)

—Plan for conducting collaborative assessments to identify urban health issues (5 points)

—Plan to identify, train, and involve community residents in program activities (5 points)

—Project descriptions of collaborative projects (10 points)

4. Evaluation plan (5 points)

The extent to which the overall population laboratory objectives will be evaluated in regards to progress, efficacy, and cost benefit to the urban areas.

5. Management and staffing plan (15 points)

The extent to which the applicant demonstrates the ability and capacity to carry out the overall objectives and specific project plans. Elements to consider include:

(a) Demonstrated knowledge and experience of the proposed project director in planning and managing large and complex interdisciplinary programs involving public health and urban issues (5 points);

(b) Demonstrated knowledge and experience of the proposed staff in carrying out the project objectives, including the percentage of time each person will devote to each project/activity (5 points); and

(c) Institutional capacity, demonstrated by the experience and continuing capability of the State and local health departments, academia, and community-based organizations to initiate and implement similar projects.

Applicant should describe previous related efforts and the current capacity of its collaborators/collaborating organizations (5 points).

6. Institutionalization plan/Collaboration (20 points)

The population laboratory's plan for collaborating and developing relationships with local/State health departments, academic/research institutions, and community leaders. Extent to which the applicant demonstrates that proposed activities

are being conducted in conjunction with, or through, organizations with known and established ties in the identified urban area. Evidence of support and participation from appropriate community-based organizations in the form of memoranda of understanding or other agreements of collaboration.

7. Budget (not scored)

The extent to which the budget and justification are consistent with the program objectives and purpose. Applicants are strongly urged to include a plan for obtaining additional resources that lead to institutionalization of the population laboratory.

B. Review by senior Federal staff

Further review will be conducted by Senior Federal staff.

Factors to be considered will be:

1. Results of the peer review.
2. Program needs and relevance to national goals.
3. Budgetary considerations.

Executive Order 12372 Review

Applications are subject to the Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs as governed by Executive Order (E.O.) 12372. E.O. 12372 sets up a system for State and local government review of proposed Federal assistance applications. Applicants should contact their State Single Point of Contact (SPOC) as early as possible to alert them to the prospective applications and receive any necessary instructions on the State process. For proposed projects serving more than one State, the applicant is advised to contact the SPOC of each affected State. A current list is included in the application kit. If SPOC have any State process recommendations on applications submitted to CDC, they should forward them to Henry S. Cassell, III, Grants Management Officer, Grants Management Branch, Procurement and Grants Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 255 East Paces Ferry Road, NE., Room 300, Mailstop E-13, Atlanta, Georgia 30305, no later than 60 days after the deadline date for new and competing awards. The granting agency does not guarantee to "accommodate or explain" State process recommendations it receives after that date.

Public Health System Reporting Requirements

This program is subject to the Public Health System Reporting Requirements. Under these requirements, all community-based nongovernmental applicants must prepare and submit the