

1) Will accommodations and meals for the student presenters, their chaperones, judges, and speakers be paid for by JSHS monies included in this COA for regional and national symposiums, or will the academic institutions themselves pay any? If the COA pays both, can we be presented a complete list of all types of participants that must be paid for? If the COA pays, is the proportion of funding to each school the same amount, or does one get more than the other and how is that currently determined? Is there a cap?

For national symposium, all travel/per diem costs are covered for 5 student representatives and 1 chaperone from each region. Judges and speakers have not had travel costs covered, as they are usually pulled from the local area where the event is held.

For Regional symposia, the regional hosts submit a proposal annually requesting support for their region. They itemize what expenses they will have and what in-kind contributions their organization will provide. The amounts vary by region as some regions are larger than others, and some have more local support from their institution than others. A list of current regional hosts is located on the JSHS website (www.jshs.org) along with contact information for each Regional Director. Regional support has ranged from \$4,000 to \$28,000 in recent years.

2) What are the guidelines involved in electing the Regional Director's Executive Council (RDEC)? Since the RDEC currently exist, we assume that there is a charter, or some sort of SOP with regards to how they are elected, how long the terms are, how often they meet, etc. and since they already exist with the incumbent, will we have access to their data and contact info for current membership? Are incentives permitted for participants to participate on the council? How frequently are RDEC meetings scheduled (online or face to face)?

Recipient will recruit regional directors (RD) for the 48 regional symposia. From year to year these RDs may change and it should not be assumed that the recipient will 'inherit' support from all existing regional directors/hosts. The government is interested in having a body of regional directors elected by their peers periodically to represent the interests of the regions. Currently, regions are divided into groups based on their general geographic location. Usually one representative from each of these groups serves on the board. In addition, 1-2 teachers are selected for the board too. The three services will also each have a member. Recipient should coordinate with the CAM to develop a charter/SOP and form the initial RDEC. No incentives have been provided in the past to encourage participation, but it is not forbidden. Recipient has complete flexibility to propose RDEC formation, frequency/type of meetings, and level of responsibility of RDEC in whatever capacity makes the most sense with JSHS and the Consortium as written in their proposal.

3) As for scholarships, we assume that the budget for those students previously awarded and as long as they continue in STEM, matriculates. That being so, if a student drops out, does the funding then go to a runner up, or will that scholarship be reissued the next year to another winner? The funding is simply kept in the scholarship pool and used for another scholarship in a future year.

4) Does the government know the location of the future National Symposiums or is that to be determined by ARO? This is important to budgeting and geographical rates vary wildly.

The three services rotate responsibility for planning the national symposium. The location is decided each year. It should be noted that the services do understand that some locations are much more expensive than others, and the cost will be taken into consideration when locations are selected.

5) The PA states that the lead organization will carry "Blanket Accident Insurance". Blanket accident insurance comes under the health category of insurance and is referred to as "death and dismemberment". Is that truly what is being called for or should we be quoting liability insurance instead?

Both accident insurance and liability insurance should be included in the proposal.

6) Who is the recipient? Is it the entire consortium or the lead organization? For instance, does or can each consortium member have accident insurance for their particular program's students or does the lead organization need to pay for this for the entire project?

The recipient is a general term that refers to the whole consortium. The government is interested in gaining efficiencies and that all requirements in the PA are addressed. The offeror can be creative with the proposal, as long as the accident and liability insurance is included to cover all.

7) Do you have policy limits? For instance, is there a certain minimum or maximum amount of accident insurance that we're required to cover? I'm copying Fred Weaver, our university's director of risk management, on this as he might be able to better explain the question.

No policy minimums/maximums required. Offeror can use best judgment when proposing.

8) Is accident insurance, as you're defining it, different than liability insurance? Do you need verification that we have liability insurance?

Both accident and liability insurance are required. Verification of insurance will be required once selection has been made.

Offerors are advised that the evaluation will be completed by Government/Military and that one Department of Defense Support Contractor will be present as a technical advisor from the funding/policy office. This contract support person will be from Camber Corporation.