



Technical Q-and-A for 2026 RFP Posting

General

1. Q:
A:

2. Q:
A:

RFP 26-01: Cancelled

RFP 26-02

1. **Q:** Since Phase II is dependent on the results of Phase I, it is difficult to budget for Phase II when we do not yet know the specific technologies that will be implanted. I guess my question is to confirm that the RFP is for both Phases, and if so, how do we develop a detailed budget?

A: Yes, this RFP includes both Phase I and Phase II.

At this stage, proposers should include a planning-level budget based on reasonable assumptions. Please clearly describe the assumptions used to develop the budget (for example, the anticipated scale of work, types of technologies under consideration, and level of implementation effort). Budgets may be organized to reflect the anticipated sequencing of work (e.g., Phase I activities in Year 1, with subsequent periods reflecting Phase II), consistent with the proposed approach.

The final scope, workplan, and budget will be refined and finalized after proposal selection, in coordination with the technical review panel. The total proposed budget may not exceed \$1,000,000 and must include the required 25% cost share from the proposing agency.

2. **Q:** Please confirm if the sponsor is the Illinois Center for Transportation, UIUC, or the Illinois Department of Transportation.

A: The sponsor for the proposal is the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) through the Illinois Center for Transportation (ICT). The award will be issued through the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois.

- 3. Q:** My question relates to the UIUC Budget Template for a proposal to the REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL #26-02 funding opportunity. The budget template includes four fiscal years (FY27-FY30); however, the project period will extend into FY31 if the full 48 months specified in the RFP are utilized (8/16/2026-8/15/2031). Please advise how we should proceed.

A: The budget templates provided by UIUC are intended to serve as guidance. While the standard UIUC budget template contains four fiscal years (FY27–FY30), we recognize that RFP #26-02 allows for a project period of up to 48 months (8/16/2026–8/15/2031), which extends into FY31. For proposals utilizing the full project period, an additional fiscal year column should be added to the Excel budget file to accommodate FY31 expenses. If an institution does not have available business personnel to assist with modifying the budget template, ICT can provide support to add the necessary fiscal year column and ensure the budget aligns with RFP requirements.

- 4. Q:** My question is whether the 25% cost share requirement must be met for each project year or fiscal year, or if we only need to meet this requirement for the full project period and total budget.

A: The 25% cost share requirement must be met over the full project period and total budget. As long as the total documented cost share equals at least 25% of the total project costs, the requirement will be considered satisfied. Cost share does not need to be evenly distributed across each project year. However, please ensure that the cumulative cost share is clearly documented in the overall budget and the budget justification.

- 5. Q:** Can you clarify whether the pre-approval for both equipment and unrecovered IDC needs to happen before we submit the proposal or only if we are funded?

A: Pre-approval for both equipment and unrecovered IDC is only required if the proposal is selected for funding; it does not need to be completed prior to proposal submission.