

Census Assistance Center

FAQ for RFP

Q: The RFP states there will be one CAC in each county. Does this include Multnomah county and other counties with high populations?

A: Our intention is to fund *at least* one CAC in each county. We expect that counties with high populations of hard to count communities will have more CACs to best serve these populations.

Q: Is funding restricted in what it can be used for?

A: The short answer is no. Funding for CACs can be used for staffing, including new or existing FTE, operational overhead, food, technology, whatever is necessary to support the community in completing the census online.

Q: Can CACs be mobile/pop ups?

A: Yes. CACs can be pop ups and operate at different locations through partnerships with physical locations such as housing developments, libraries, community spaces, etc. In the application, note where/when (at least approximately) the CACs will be operating.

The Census Bureau recommends AGAINST a mobile van as a CAC due to ICE activity in 2010 and expected activity in 2020.

Q: How many nights and weekends does the CAC need to be open? What is the minimum requirement of open hours for a CAC?

A: CACs should be open and accessible during the hours in which the community would likely access, or want to access, that space. This likely means evenings and weekends. There is no minimum number of hours a CAC needs to be operated, but should be reflective of the budget and number of people they aim to reach.

Q: How many people should we aim to serve?

A: This is dependent on the size, budget, and location of your CAC. Number served should be appropriate for the population you are working with and reflective of the project budget.

Q: Will CACs have paper forms for people to fill out?

A: No. CACs are intended to support people in completing the census online. If you have a client who specifically needs a paper form, they can request one through the Census Bureau. They can also complete it by phone, with the support of the CAC, or on their own.

Q: Can CAC staff or volunteers help people fill out the census?

A: Yes, you can provide assistance to the public in completing the census. This includes physical help to complete it online, or translation support.

Q: Will the list of CACs be shared?

A: Yes, a full list of operating CACs will be shared so that the field team, or other CACs can direct people to the best place to receive support.

This list will be developed once we have a complete list of all operating CACs including locations, time, and dates. It will also include other information as applicable, such as language capacity.

Q: How long will it take to complete the census?

A: The standard rule of thumb is 10 questions in 10 minutes. This would vary depending on number of individuals in the household (10 questions per individual).

Q: It says that there is a possible 2nd round RFP, when would we know that is happening?

A: Based on response and decisions made for this first RFP, we will determine if a second round is necessary. This second round *could be* limited to specific counties, communities, or other demographics that is not adequately represented in the first round of funding.

Q: It says that all CACs are required to attend the Ambassadors Trainings. When will this be?

A: There will be at least 6 summits across the state in early 2020. Some will be culturally specific. Dates and locations are TBD and will be posted on wecountoregon.com.

Q: How can my local CCC host an Ambassador Summit? Or, How can my organization support additional culturally specific summits?

A: Email Precious Edmonds, Community Engagement Coordinator for #WeCountOregon at precious@dancingheartsconsulting.org

Q: How many people from my organization are required to attend the Ambassadors Summit?

A: There is no minimum or limit to the number of people that can attend. The recommendation is to send as many people as necessary to ensure good coverage for the CAC to be adequately staffed. The purpose of the Ambassadors Summit is to provide capacity support on how to answer questions on the census.

These summits are also train-the-trainer. If not all staff can attend, those who are able to attend will be able to train the rest of their staff.

For additional questions on the RFP, email Lauren Gottfredson at LaurenG@unitedway-pdx.org

For questions on Ambassadors Summits and how to partner with #WeCountOregon, email Precious Edmonds at precious@dancingheartsconsulting.org