

## I-SPICEE FAQ

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To assist organizations who are considering or preparing applications for the [I-SPICEE funding opportunity](#), Integra offers the following questions and answers. Questions are paraphrased from inquiries received during the [Information Session](#) and by email in order to be broadly applicable. Please reach out to Brady Dunklee at [bdunklee@carene.org](mailto:bdunklee@carene.org) with additional questions.

### **Are there specific health-related social needs that Integra is prioritizing, particularly for applicants that may have programs addressing more than one?**

I-SPICEE is focused on health equity. Unmet health-related social needs may certainly be included, but please note that proposals are not *limited* to health-related social needs.

In considering proposals that address social need, we will balance feasibility, organizational readiness, and available information on social need in our population. While SDOH screening data in the RFP demonstrate a higher prevalence of specific social needs (financial strain, food, housing and social isolation) in our population, it is not necessarily true that Integra will prioritize the needs with the greatest positivity rate for I-SPICEE. Rather, we ask candidates to consider their own position within this context, and what strategies are most feasible. If your organization wishes to propose that we address a social need together, which need(s) is your organization best positioned to address based on your experience, expertise, and the resources and time available within this project period?

### **Would partner organizations be limited to working only with Integra AE members?**

I-SPICEE is not limited to Integra's Medicaid Accountable Entity (AE) program, but is open to proposals that will promote health equity in our entire Integra population, which includes people with Medicare and commercial insurance. Please see section 1.3 and Appendix A of the RFP for greater detail on the characteristics of Integra's population, and its high-level health equity context.

If you are proposing to **provide a service**, we will need to develop an operational approach that targets this service at Integra members. If you are proposing to **remove an obstacle**, we will need to demonstrate that this obstacle is impacting Integra members' communities, and removing it is feasible, relevant, and beneficial. If you are proposing an initiative that doesn't fit into "providing a service" or "removing an obstacle," we will need to see that it addresses a health equity issue relevant to Integra's population, and that benefits from the work will reach Integra members.

### **Are CBOS required to apply individually, or could they partner and collaborate in preparing an LOI?**

Partnerships are allowed and encouraged. If you are preparing a joint proposal, please designate a lead agency for administrative purposes in the [Application Coversheet](#).

### **How will project teams be formed? Will BIPOC people who work at Integra and Care New England be included? Can we mitigate dynamics like tokenization or positioning community members as educators, or research subjects?**

Each awarded partnership will work with Integra to form project teams including staff member(s) from the awarded CBO(s), Integra staff, and, in many cases, people who work in other areas of Integra's network. BIPOC people, and people who are members of other groups experiencing health inequities work at all levels of our organization. We intend to create project teams whose composition is effective at moving the

work, thoughtful in building relationships and processes that avoid unproductive or harmful dynamics, and equitable in centering lived expertise. We will do our best to form teams that avoid pitfalls we can anticipate and address unanticipated difficulties that arise along the way. We aim to create authentic, equitable and deep collaboration.

### **Can I-SPICEE funding be used to support a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) group within the funded community organization?**

It is unlikely that funding an internal DEI group at a CBO would be within the scope of I-SPICEE, given that we are seeking proposals that 1) directly benefit the health of communities Integra serves, and 2) focus on collaboration with Integra itself. If applicants believe a DEI initiative could meet these two criteria, they may consider including it in the proposal.

### **Could I-SPICEE support initiatives to work with schools and youth?**

Yes. However, we recommend that applicants carefully consider feasibility challenges related to regulations governing schools and minors, and the intersection of these challenges with regulations governing healthcare.

### **Would Integra consider proposals focused on the Aquidneck Island area?**

Integra's population in the Aquidneck Island area is very limited in comparison to other areas of the state (See section 1.3 and Appendix A of the RFP). For this reason, we believe that proposals focused on communities on the Island will have difficulty demonstrating that they address a health equity issue that substantially impacts Integra's population.

### **Are applicants required to include documentation of 501(c)3 status, OIG/SAMS verification checks, and W-9 forms with their Letters of Intent?**

No. There is no need to include attachments that demonstrate compliance with these requirements when applicants submit LOIs for the April 27 deadline. We will, however, request this documentation from applicants who advance to the Full Proposal round.