Call for Reviewers

State and Local Implementation Grant Program (SLIGP) 2.0

The U.S. Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) is soliciting volunteers to serve as peer reviewers to assess grant application proposals for the State and Local Implementation Grant Program (SLIGP) 2.0.

PROGRAM SUMMARY:

The Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 directed NTIA to establish a grant program to assist State, regional, tribal, and local jurisdictions with identifying, planning, and implementing the most efficient and effective means to use and integrate the infrastructure, equipment, and other architecture associated with the nationwide public safety broadband network (NPSBN) to satisfy the wireless broadband and data services needs of their jurisdictions. NTIA awarded \$116.5 million in SLIGP grant funds to 54 state and territorial recipients between July 2013 and June 2014, and all current SLIGP awards will expire in early 2018. NTIA recognizes the importance of States' and territories' continued planning and intends to make SLIGP 2.0 awards in order to provide recipients with the necessary resources for coordination efforts during the post-State Plan period as Radio Access Network (RAN) buildout occurs. To make SLIGP 2.0 awards, NTIA will leverage excess funds from original SLIGP grants that recipients with large projected unspent balances voluntarily deobligated.

WHAT:

All application reviews will occur remotely, and are planned to take place from November 2017 (for any early applications) through January 2018 (for applications received by the deadline). Reviewer evaluations will be an important factor that NTIA considers in determining if applications meet SLIGP 2.0 objectives. For additional information about SLIGP 2.0 and the Notice of Funding Opportunity, please visit the <u>NTIA website</u>.

WHO:

Qualified reviewers must have expertise and/or significant experience in public safety broadband planning for the NPSBN (e.g., a first responder, public sector official, or state-level employee knowledgeable about public safety broadband planning at the state or local level). **All reviewers must be currently employed by a Federal**, **State**, **local**, **or tribal government agency.** Reviewers will not be compensated and will need to sign a waiver of compensation. In addition, reviewers must agree to comply with Department of Commerce policies on conflicts of interest and confidentiality.

NTIA is committed to ensuring that reviewers come from diverse backgrounds, experiences, and areas of the United States. Please feel free to circulate this "Call for Reviewers" to other individuals or organizations that may be sources of qualified reviewers that meet the criteria for serving in this capacity.

HOW:

To apply to be a peer reviewer for SLIGP, please email a resume or CV containing the information below to <u>SLIGP@ntia.doc.gov</u>:

- Name
- Residence (City, State)
- Email/Phone number
- Employer
- Position/Title
- Years, type of experience, and positions that relate to public safety broadband planning and planning for the NPSBN

NTIA will examine and approve reviewer applications on a first come, first served basis with an extended cutoff date of **October 24, 2017**. NTIA will contact approved reviewers to schedule participation in a virtual orientation session and peer review training.

Thank you for your interest in serving as a peer reviewer. Peer reviewers will be making a significant contribution to planning for the NPSBN. If you have questions, please send them to <u>SLIGP@ntia.doc.gov</u>.