

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

BID SOLICITATION – OPTIONS INITIATIVE LEARNING PLATFORM

This document addresses frequently asked questions regarding the Bid Solicitation for the OPTions Initiative Learning Platform (RFP-OPT-2020-07-14) issued by Grand Challenges Canada in July 2020.

This document was last updated on July 14, 2020.

Additional questions may be submitted to info@optionsinitiative.org.

1. How many grantees is the service provider expected to work with over the initial 12-month period?

Currently the OPTions portfolio consists of 19 active seed innovators, however we anticipate it will grow to 40 active innovators by January 2021.

2. What is your ongoing hypothesis for the approximate volume and structure of support required to each grantee?

We do not have a set idea and are interested to see what proposals we receive. We anticipate support will likely be different for our individual innovators, given their differing scopes of work, and will need to be tailored to each grantee's needs. These needs may change over the course of their projects.

3. Does the call only apply to institutions in Canada or is it possible for international institutions to participate? Additionally, can the call for bids can be proposed with virtual platforms that facilitate international work?

The bid for proposals is not limited to institutions in Canada, we are open to proposals from institutions based in any country. As for the use of virtual platforms, we are open to any number of means to support our grantees, virtual or otherwise.

4. Who will the grantees of this program be?

Grantees of the OPTions Initiative have bold ideas for either: 1) increasing access to existing methods of abortion in low- and middle-income countries, or 2) developing and testing next generation methods of pregnancy termination. The OPTions Initiative supports recognized institutions including non-profits, for-profits, academic institutions, and social enterprises. Institutions worldwide were eligible for Round 1 of the OPTions Initiative. In the second round of the OPTions Initiative, only institutions legally incorporated in a low- or middle-income country were eligible to apply to the 'increasing access to existing methods of abortion' focus area. Institutions from all countries, including high-income country institutions, were eligible to apply to the 'next generation methods of abortion' focus area.