**State Policy Partnerships Request for Qualifications (RFQ) – Frequently Asked Questions**

**Eligibility**

1. Our non-profit organization will be a state based non-profit [as of] October 1st. Are we eligible to apply?
   1. Yes, however, Lumina Foundation’s grantmaking process requires that organizations submit two years of audited financials as part of full/final proposals. If your organization is selected for a grant, you would need to identify a fiscal sponsor that can meet that requirement in order to receive the grant.
2. In the “organizational demographics” section of the RFQ, how is “led” defined (in minority owned/led, women owned/led, etc.)? (Does it have to be a chair/president, or could it be a vice chair, vice president, or other leadership prole?)
   1. In this particular question, we are referring to the head of the organization – chair, president, CEO, etc.
3. Our organization is not led by a person of color. Does that mean we don’t qualify for this opportunity?
   1. No. While we are seeking to understand the demographic makeup of Lumina’s partner organizations, we are not requiring that our partner organizations be led by people of color. We believe white-led organizations can demonstrate commitment to and capacity for working on behalf of Black, Latino, and Native American learners.
4. We are a national organization that has state chapter affiliates that operate in seven states. Are we eligible to apply?
   1. Yes. As long as your affiliate is planning relevant state-specific work and the application focuses on one state.
5. Can a coalition of several organizations submit a response to the RFQ? If so, who’s information do we include in “Section 1: Organizational Information”?
   1. Yes, coalitions can respond to this request for qualifications. In Section 1, enter information for the organization leading the coalition and/or serving as its fiscal agent.
6. Can an organization submit more than one proposal – a stand alone proposal and one as part of a coalition?
   1. Yes. As long as the work is distinct enough to warrant two separate submissions. The lead organization in the coalition has to meet all eligibility requirements.
7. We have a track record of strong state policy adoption on K-12 education issues, and an interest in growing our footprint to include higher education policy. Would we be a competitive candidate?
   1. Yes. We are seeking partnership with state-based non-profits that have a track record in state policy and alignment with Lumina’s state policy agenda.
8. We are a regional non-profit in a state, ready to scale statewide. Are we eligible?
   1. Yes.
9. Can two organizations apply jointly as partners? Or should we designate a lead applicant?
   1. While we are open to partners applying together, for purposes of executing a grant agreement, should your organizations be selected, you’d need to designate a lead organization to receive the grant funds. The lead organization can then designate partners and subgrantees.