



Kansas Department of Health and Environment



SPARK Executive Committee

Marci Nielsen, PhD, MPH | October 26, 2020

Public Health – COVID-19 Testing – Application

What is the goal?

- Protect the health of Kansans by **minimizing disease transmission as we move towards a fully re-opened state**
- Provide funding to support a **unified testing strategy** (e.g., lab capacity, logistics, reporting) to meet the unique needs of population groups and regions/counties across Kansas

Why is it needed?

- As Kansas reopens, an increase in contact intensity and **disease transmission is highly likely**
- Broad testing program will be critical to **controlling disease transmission, keeping Kansans safe, and keeping the economy / businesses open**

Who is eligible?

- **State agencies; Application process** for additional testing elements (e.g., lab capacity, logistics) for qualified/ eligible providers (e.g., private labs, universities)

Costs, metrics, and benchmarks

Allocation for Round 3: \$52M+

Round 1 (County): \$10M¹

Round 2 (State): \$24M

Prioritization

- **Prioritize populations who are deemed higher risk and underserved communities / regions**
 - Ongoing re-prioritization of groups (e.g., nursing homes, prisons) and regions (e.g., rural areas) based on disease transmission
 - Means testing of uninsured and asymptomatic individuals in prioritized populations/ regions

Scalability

- **Scale capacity up based on disease transmission and ongoing analysis of need**
 - Run open, transparent procurement process for additional lab resources and ongoing logistics
 - Set up stable supply chains for testing supplies with option to expand volume & speed up test results

Process

Administrating agency:
Kansas Department of Health & Environment (KDHE)

Federal requirements:

- ✓ Not included in previous budgets
- ✓ Expenditures before Dec. 30th
- ✓ Aligned with US Treasury guidance on CRF eligible expenditures

Application process:

- State agencies to submit proposals for populations
- KDHE to create application process for (e.g.,) lab capacity, logistics; open to qualified providers (e.g., MAWD, WSU)

Technical assistance:

- KDHE and Governor's Office will give ongoing direction on state of disease in KS and the resultant priorities for labs, populations, and logistics

1. Due to classification differences, this figure may over or underestimate spending (e.g., some transfers to healthcare institutions may be classified as testing expense)

State Support for COVID-19 Testing



SPARK Round 2 Allocations

- \$20,743,000.00 to increase State Lab Capacity
- Total Funds Distributed (9/30/2020): \$18,827,550.00
- Total remaining to expend: \$1,915,450.00
- This appropriation is used for the following purposes to increase capacity to 5,000 tests per day:
 - Equipment
 - Testing Materials
 - Initial Staff Cost

SPARK Round 3 Allocations

- \$52,000,000+ to implement a unified COVID-19 testing strategy for Kansas
- Our state unified strategy will aim to coordinate public and private testing efforts across the state and communicate testing goals and objectives

SPARK Round 3 Funding Process



Round 3
funding
required
competitive
bidding



Proposals
over \$10
million
reviewed by
SPARK
Executive
Committee



Funds must
be spent by
Dec. 30,
2020



Two-week RFP
process
required:
KDHE RFP
announcement
made Oct 7
Proposals were
due Oct 21



Proposal
review Oct
22-28 by
KDHE review
team -
following
guidance
from
external
stakeholders



TARGET:
**To select &
announce
vendors**
Wednesday
as part of
unified
testing
strategy

Governor's Unified Testing Strategy



A unified testing strategy provides an opportunity to expand on Kansas current statewide testing strategy which has - by necessity - focused on testing those with symptoms and cluster investigations.

An expanded testing strategy will allow for more broad routine screening to stop community spread of the virus, such as in schools and nursing homes, and will ensure coordination between public and private testing efforts.

Governor Laura Kelly, Sept 28, 2020

Principles for Unified Testing Strategy



- Accessible, equitable, cost-effective and timely COVID-19 testing across state
- Support Kansas schools and businesses as they continue to responsibly reopen
- Use all available testing sites and platforms available statewide
- Coordinate public and private COVID-19 testing efforts
- Prioritize testing based on evidence-based public health criteria
- Identify state best practices for screening and surveillance testing
- Use shared goals and clear metrics, remaining flexible to integrate technologies/research as appropriate

Three Sections to RFP

- Section One – Laboratory Testing Solutions (LTS)
 - Direct services associated with collection, transportation testing, and reporting of samples needed for COVID-19 testing.
- Section Two – High Risk Populations (HRS)
 - ‘End to end’ solutions to address testing challenges associated with each high risk population
- Section Three – Innovative Strategic Solutions (ISS)
 - Additional services or solutions that support the unified COVID-19 testing strategy.

Details – Section 1



- Section One – Laboratory Testing Solutions (LTS) describes the various direct services associated with collection, transportation testing, and reporting of samples needed for COVID-19 testing. Respondents may include up to three options for each service they intend to provide. Costs for each option should be listed on the Cost Page as Cost per Test.

Section 1. Lab sourcing, testing, and intervention capabilities



Please provide different options of sourcing, testing, and intervention capabilities for your lab.
Please only select processes that can have an end to end turnaround time of 36 hours or less

	Sourcing		Testing			Intervention		Cost per test	48hr turnaround time? ¹ (Yes / No)
Example	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Eg, \$100	Yes	
Option 1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Option 2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Option 3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			

Please specify your regional constraints (e.g., cannot guarantee turnaround time to western Kansas)

1. Total end to end time it takes for all services selected (e.g., if sourcing testing supplies and share test results selected, then total time from sourcing supplies to sharing results)

Details – Section 2



- Section Two – High Risk Populations (HRS) describes the targeted high risk populations where COVID-19 testing is needed. Respondents are asked to provide for ‘end to end’ solutions to address testing challenges associated with each population. Respondents are encouraged to describe how they intend to offer various testing or other support services to each specific population, either directly or with appropriate community partners. Costs for each end to end solution should be provided on the Cost Page for each High Risk Population.

Section 2. Identify high risk populations where you can provide end to end solutions

In addition to bringing lab capacity online, the State of Kansas is looking for partners to provide end-to-end testing solutions for specific populations deemed high risk. The solutions should fulfill public health protocols as outlined by KDHE. Please review the below populations and testing protocols and include in your proposal the ability to provide and end to end solution in the attached template.

High Risk Populations	Problem Statement	State required testing protocols
Nursing homes & assisted living communities (residents & staff)		
Schools (K – 12, staff and students)		
Correctional Facilities (staff and inmates)		
First responders & essential workers		

Full list of High Risk Populations



- Nursing homes and assisted living communities
- Schools (K-12, staff, and students)
- Correctional facilities (staff and inmates)
- First responders & essential workers
- Meat and poultry processing facilities
- Manufacturing facilities
- Warehouse and distribution centers
- Construction sites
- Service providing establishments (e. hair salons and restaurants)

Strategy Template for High Risk Populations



- Population size
 - By population type breakdown
 - Regional constraints
- Type of test
 - Swab or saliva
- Protocol for testing
 - Cadence and frequency to test the specified population
- Sampling
 - How will sampling occur, outline subcontractors
- Price per test and duration

Details – Section 3 (Ancillary Services)



- Section Three – Innovative Strategic Solutions (ISS) describes additional services or solutions that support the unified COVID-19 testing strategy. Respondents are asked to describe the services they intend to provide and identify how these services or solutions contribute to meeting Kansas’ testing goals. These proposals can include multiple partners/stakeholders and will be evaluated based on their ability to rapidly fulfill a critical public health need associated with COVID-19 testing.
 - Examples of innovative solutions include standardized collection kits, software applications, centralized reporting mechanisms, etc. Costs for each solution should be provided on the Cost Page. Costs can be shown as a single solution or as budget line item, depending on service or solution.

Proposals Received



- 23 qualified bidders – from all over the US (10 from Kansas)
- 15 proposals offering end to end services (from sample collection to testing to reporting results)
- Most proposals included some information on high risk populations; 4 proposals offered detailed information by population
- 11 proposals included other strategic solutions that support some aspect of the unified testing strategy

Other de-identified data



- Proposals provide coverage for testing across the state (addressing geographic disparities)
- KDHE will be working with KDADs to coordinate the testing for nursing homes and long term care facilities (\$10 million)
- KDHE will be working with Kansas Independent Colleges Association (KICA) to distribute funding for testing in private colleges (\$2.77 million)

Thank You/Questions

