

We received two questions on the RFP for SHRP 2 Project C10, Partnership to Develop an Integrated, Advanced Travel Demand Model and a Fine-Grained, Time-Sensitive Network. Since other proposers may have similar questions, we are making the answer available here.

The questions are:

1. How should cost information for public agency partners be presented?

2. To what sections of the proposal do the page limits apply?

Answer to Number 1. The cost information for a public agency partner should show all the elements shown in a SHRP 2 proposal budget in the same format: hours, rates, computer time, travel, reproduction, communications, other direct costs, overhead, etc. The proposal should describe what will be done by the public agency partner and who will do it. The budget may appear as a subcontractor to the lead research entity or as a separate budget, if the public agency prefers. As long as the total dollars do not exceed the allowed budget and a unified proposal is submitted on time, we will accept the proposal. Be sure to make the budget and roles clear so you do not confuse the Expert Task Group that reviews proposals.

Answer to number 2. The "understanding of the problem" section on which a ten-page limit is imposed is usually an introductory section to the "Research Plan." This part should not exceed 10 pages. The entire research plan, including task descriptions, can be as long as it needs to be to say what proposers have to say. Concise writing is appreciated, however.

The discussion of area resources is clearly integral to the proposal. Organizationally, a discussion of data, existing models, computing resources, analysis opportunities, etc. fits best in "Equipment and Facilities." The location in which this work is conducted is "facility" for this research. This discussion should also be limited to 10 pages. You may want to discuss the nature of your business relationships in "Cooperative Features."