

**FFY2021OCSCompetitive Notice of Funding Opportunity  
AmeriCorps Technical Assistance Addendum A**

Question Number	Page Number	Section	Questions & Answers for FFY2021 Competitive <i>as of October 19, 2020</i>
1.	Notice Of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), Page 22	Assessment Criteria. B. Program Design, Evidence Quality	<p>Q. Evidence Quality: can you confirm our reading of this section, that Evidence Quality does not have any associated narrative with it, rather it is solely based on the reviewers scoring of submitted evidence against the evidence tiers found in the Mandatory Supplemental Guidance?</p> <p>A. In addition to the Mandatory Supplemental Information, the NOFO Evidence Quality Section page 22, states that ‘After the applicants evidence tier has been assessed, the quality of the applicant’s evidence and the extent to which it supports the program design will be assessed and scored. The Tier assessment determines the standards for scoring Evidence Quality. Note the third bullet states that ‘The submitted reports show a meaningful and significant positive effect on program beneficiaries in at least one key outcome of interest’. Based on this information it appears it would be wise to refer to the Evidence in Theory of Change when articulating the intervention and describing how the intervention is likely to lead to the outcomes identified.</p>
2.	Notice Of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), Page 6.  Performance Measure Instructions, Pages 7 and 17.	AmeriCorps Funding Priorities  CNCS Technical Assistance  EN Focus Area	<p>Q. Under the Notice Priority section, it states "all of the requirements detailed in the Funding Priorities section and in the Mandatory Supplemental Information." Yet, in the Mandatory Supplemental Information there is no mention nor further detailing of Funding Priority. Any guidance on how to locate further detailing on this narrative section would be helpful.</p> <p>A. It appears that not all the FFY2021 AmeriCorps Funding Priorities listed in the NOFO, on page 6 are further described in the Mandatory Supplemental Information. Some of the priorities listed in the NOFO include links to the Evidence Exchange. To locate further information on priority areas, watch for technical assistance offerings from CNCS specific to this NOFO, to be posted here, <a href="https://www.nationalservice.gov/build-your-capacity/grants/funding-opportunities/2021/ameri-corps-state-and-national-grants-fy-2021#Technical Assistance Information and Documents">https://www.nationalservice.gov/build-your-capacity/grants/funding-opportunities/2021/ameri-corps-state-and-national-grants-fy-2021#Technical Assistance Information and Documents</a> .</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For more information on the Environmental Stewardship Focus Area refer to the Performance Measure Instructions, <a href="https://www.nationalservice.gov/resources/performance-measurement/environmental-stewardship">https://www.nationalservice.gov/resources/performance-measurement/environmental-stewardship</a></li> </ul>

<b>3.</b>	<b>Notice Of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), Page 22</b>	<b>Evidence Tier</b>	<p>Q. It is noted that OCS identified a redundant statement in the NOFO and removed it, leaving only one statement.</p> <p>A. The fourth bullet describing the scoring standards for applicants who are assessed as being in the Pre-Preliminary evidence tier is removed, leaving a total of three bullets there and only one statement that ‘The evidence described by the applicant indicates a meaningful positive effect on program beneficiaries in at least one key outcome of interest. ‘</p>
-----------	--	----------------------	---