

**September 22, 2020**  
**Rhode Island Commerce Corporation**

**ADDENDUM NO. 1**  
**Questions & Answers**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**  
**TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING SERVICES TO**  
**COVID-IMPACTED BUSINESSES**

The Rhode Island Commerce Corporation (“Corporation”) seeks proposals from qualified entities, organizations, and firms to provide technical assistance and training services to assist COVID-Impacted Businesses, including assisting such businesses to complete applications for funding under the Restore RI Small Business Grant program.

**Question #1:** We are trying to determine if this RFP can provide support for a Buy Local Campaign that works with retail, restaurant, service businesses to promote their offerings during the grant time period. This may include the development of promotional content as well as consultation with businesses on what they can offer independently and possibly as 'packages' with multiple businesses combing products/ services. We were wondering if this language would allow us to apply for this type of activity. "Offering other services or assistance that meet the needs of COVID-Impacted businesses."

**Answer #1:** All activities proposed using funds distributed through the Technical Assistance and Training RFP must be structured to comply with the requirement that expenditures be specific to the provision of technical assistance to businesses adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and addressing those adverse effects. A Buy Local Campaign which provides marketing consultation would be within the scope of technical assistance services allowed under this RFP as long as the project was structured to target services to eligible companies and appropriate records and evidence were maintained. A Buy Local Campaign to promote a general region or general group of companies would not be eligible. The applicant must be able to trace expenses to services provided to eligible companies.

\*\*\*End of Addendum \*\*\*