



Questions from NALGEP's January 15 Webinar: White House Manufacturing Initiative

1. Will this program have an annual application/award?
 - a. **The IMCP application process is not intended to be a "one-time" designation; DOC, working with its federal agency partners, will plan subsequent rounds (approximately annually) once the first group is designated and initial lessons from that process can be analyzed.**
2. How does everyone view the rise of 3D printing as a driving force for new manufacturing, or an impediment to centralized manufacturing?
 - a. **The IMCP process does not target any specific process, and IMCP agency partners welcome any advance that can lead to increased manufacturing investment and jobs in US communities.**
3. Will regional efforts be viewed more favorably than an effort involving a single community?
 - a. **IMCP partner agencies crafted a process that asks applicants to identify and address a wide range of factors, and engage a broad range of partners; although not required, communities will likely need to reach beyond their boundaries to do so effectively and competitively.**
4. Are the 35 programs from 12 agencies limited to designated manufacturing communities?
 - a. **Preferential consideration for these programs, under IMCP, will be limited to the designated manufacturing communities.**
5. How important is it for eligibility of Phase II to have been awarded a Phase I project?
 - a. **There is no competitive advantage in Phase II to having been a Phase I winner; any applicant should use whatever information and partnerships it can to strengthen its Phase II application, and that includes information and partnerships that Phase I applicants may be able to muster from those projects.**
6. I understand the initiative will provide a 'priority and preference' for 12 communities. Are there any policies/resources that go along with this that will be more widely available?
 - a. **Each agency will determine how it may apply its own preference and priority policies.**
7. How do we turn corner to improve community and county comprehensive plans where we build more livable communities. Manufacturing and site repurposing seems to strategic components of a larger effort. How do you envision pursuing this effort so that new development doesn't become a one and off effort but rather is catalytic to a sustainable turn around?

15. In addition to demonstrating an understanding of the manufacturing landscape and local factors including transportation, workforce, site readiness, ability to work together as a community, what gaps or factors will allow us to score better (significant lack of resources, demonstration of a distressed community, etc).
 - a. **DOC is best suited to answer this question in the context of the competition; communities are to define their own target areas and the gaps (as well as opportunities) that designation could address.**
16. I am curious if you can provide any guidance on how to figure out if a community is in the top third of the nation for their key manufacturing technology or supply chain? (as the Manufacturing Communities Partnership RFP requires)
 - a. **DOC is best suited to answer this question in the context of the competition.**
17. I have identified my county's highest ranking location quotients (for employment). For example, one of our highest scoring LQs is NAICS 321, Wood Product Manufacturing. NAICS 321, and other sub-sectors will likely make up our key manufacturing technology or supply chains. I am curious if there is a tool, or a process that you are aware of for identifying if we are in the top third in the nation for the key manufacturing technology or supply chains (based upon location quotients)?
 - a. **DOC is best suited to answer this question in the context of the competition.**
18. The notice states that “the proposed manufacturing community should provide evidence that their community ranks in the top third in the nation for their key manufacturing technology or supply chain by either: location quotient for employment in the KTS, or location quotient for firms in the KTS.” We can pull together the location quotients for our Region, but how do we know if their ranking qualifies as top third? Is there a list available of the minimum LQ need to qualify as top third for each industry sector? How will top third be measured?
 - a. **DOC is best suited to answer this question in the context of the competition.**