

**Questions and Answers**  
**Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program (SHCFTP) IV**  
**RFA # 20244 / Grants Gateway # DOH01-SHCFT4-2023**

Questions below were received by the deadline announced in the RFA. NYSDOH is not responsible for any errors or misinterpretation of any questions received. The responses to questions included herein are the official responses by the State to questions posted by potential applicants and are hereby incorporated into the RFA #20244. In the event of any conflict between the RFA and these responses, the requirements or information contained in these responses will prevail.

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
0	Technical - Budget	We understand a detailed budget justification needs to be submitted (based on note in Attachment 2, Tab 2-Use of Funds). However, this note also states that the justification should be no more than 5 pages and 12-point font and is to be uploaded as a PDF. Where does this get uploaded?	Please upload this separate PDF to the Grants Gateway, under <b>Grantee Document Folder</b> which is found in the File Folders section of the Forms Menu, right below the Pre-submission Uploads.
1	Access to Funding	RFA Section III. Project Narrative/Work Plan Outcomes, C. Evaluation Criteria states that NYSDOH will consider “the extent to which the Eligible Applicant has limited access to alternative financing” when making awards. Given this criterion, would projects including matching funds be viewed favorably or unfavorably? Would projects that do not include matching funds due to a lack of access to these funds be prioritized for awards?	Please see Section V.C. Review & Award Process.  Per other information about award determinations, SHCFTP IV does not require applicants to provide matching funds. However, if an applicant chooses to identify matching funds in support of the full project cost, and the Eligible Project receives a SHCFTP award, a condition of that award will be that all funding sources for the project are verified as available to fund the project. However, given that an evaluation criterion is “the extent to which the Eligible Applicant has limited access to alternative financing” and recognizing that the value of project requests is expected to significantly exceed available funds, the capability of an applicant to access debt or institutional funds for all or a portion of the project costs will be an award consideration.
2	Amount of Funding	How much is this Transformation program ( #20244) funding?	\$250,000,000 in funding is available for SHCFTP IV RFA (#20244).
3	Amount of Funding	What is the total amount of funding to be awarded through this RFA?	See answer to question #2.
4	Amount of Funding	Could you please inform us if there are specific portions set aside within these grants for community-based organizations, such as Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs)?	Per Public Health Law (PHL) 2825-g Section 5, a minimum of \$25 million in total funding must be awarded to community-based providers, \$25 million in total funding must be awarded to behavioral health community-based providers, and \$25 million in total funding must be awarded to residential health care facilities or adult care facilities.
5	Amount of Funding	Is the \$25M set aside for community-based health care providers as part of the Statewide Transformation Program included in this Statewide Transformation Program IV RFA#20244 and if not when do you anticipate releasing an RFA for those funds?	Yes, the minimum funding allocations per PHL 2825-g are included in this RFA. See answer to question #4.
6	Amount of Funding	Is any specific portion of the total grants funding reserved for specific eligible applicant types? Or for eligible applicants from specific NYS counties?	See answer to question #4. Per page 14 of the RFA, the Department of Health reserves the right to award grants based on geographical or regional considerations to serve the best interest of the State.
7	Amount of Funding	Is there a specific allocation of funds for capital projects versus debt retirement and restructuring out of the total available funding of \$250,000,000.00?	No. Refer to Section V.C., Phase III of the RFA regarding award methodology, which states: Awards for debt retirement, working capital, or other non-capital projects or purposes, defined as those that are not eligible to be funded with the proceeds of bonds issued pursuant to Section 1680-r of the PAL, will be made in accordance with the “Overall Award Methodology” outlined above and considered together with projects or purposes that are eligible to be funded with such bond proceeds.
8	Amount of Funding	Is there a breakdown of the \$250 million relative to capital, non-capital and debt relief allocations, similar to the breakdown between capital and non-capital in RFA # 20258?	See answer to question #7.
9	Amount of Funding Request	I was unable to find the allocation amount in the RFP. Is there a min/max award amount?	Applications are not capped to a maximum award amount but should be reflective of the project proposed. Through the Evaluation Criteria and the Reserved Rights in the RFA the Department will factor in the Applicant's need for funds, efficient and resourceful plan for funds, and the impact funds would have on the statewide health system. There is no minimum amount. This is not a first come first serve application.
10	Amount of Funding Request	Is there a maximum amount of funding an applicant can request?	See answer to question #9.

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11	Amount of Funding Request	Is there a limit on the amount of funding that an applicant can request under the Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program IV?	See answer to question #9.
12	Amount of Funding Request	If more than one application is submitted, is there a cap on how much will be awarded per organization?	See answer to question #9.
13	Amount of Funding Request	I was working with an agency interested in applying for this grant, but I cannot seem to find the grant funding parameters. Is funding based on the percentage of the overall project or is it a specific dollar amount?	See answer to question #9.
14	Amount of Funding Request	What is the anticipated award range and number of awards for this funding opportunity?	There is no minimum or maximum number of successful applicants that are anticipated to receive awards.
15	Applicant Webinar	Is there going to be any webinar or other information shared in addition to the posting on Grants Gateway about this opportunity? I see we can submit questions until 2/20/24 but wanted to know if there will be an opportunity to hear more from DOH about this opportunity.	No. Refer to Section IV. Administrative Requirements, D. Applicant Conference, which states: an Applicant Conference will not be held for the Project by way of a webinar.
16	Available Funding Opportunities	I have seen 3 opportunities now labeled SHFT IV--a generic one that came out today, a HIT opportunity from a few days ago that also lists round V, and a residential opportunity today. Are all of these actually Round IV or have some been mislabeled? Is eligibility the same for all of them? Which if any can a homeless shelter and/or permanent supportive housing agency apply for? Which if any can a substance use disorder treatment and recovery services provider apply for?	The RFAs have not been mislabeled. Refer to Section II. Who May Apply of this RFA to determine eligibility.
17	Available Funding Opportunities	Can the same project be submitted to both SHCFT IV and SHCFT IV-Residential and Community-based Alternatives to the Traditional Model of Nursing Home Care?	Yes, however projects awarded under RFA 20244 SHCFTP IV may not be funded by overlapping sources of New York State funding.
18	Available Funding Opportunities	If awarded, can funding from RFA #20244 support a project that has received funding from sources including but not limited to the state and federal government? I see that it cannot overlap with awards under the "Nonprofit Infrastructure Capital Investment Program," administered by the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York. Beyond this, are there restrictions?	Projects awarded under RFA 20244 SHCFTP IV may not be funded by overlapping sources of New York State funding. Per Section IV. Administrative Requirements, G. Term of Contract of the RFA, the estimated start date of the contract is October 1, 2024. Only expenses incurred on or after the start date of the contract (and determined allowable under the contract budget and work plan) may be vouchered for reimbursement. Any obligations assumed by the contractor prior to execution of the contract are assumed at-risk.
19	Available Funding Opportunities	As a Statewide III awardee, would it be appropriate for us to apply for The nonprofit infrastructure capital investment grant as well or should we hold off? We didn't know if we were eligible to tap into apply for multiple sources of funding.	Projects awarded under RFA 20244 SHCFTP IV may not be funded by overlapping sources of New York State funding.
20	Available Funding Opportunities	Our Article 28 clinic has a current DASNY grant for capital improvements - renovations and various equipment. It is not through the NICIP opportunity. Is our Article 28 eligible to submit an application to this RFA for other construction and eligible equipment costs not covered by our current DASNY grant contract?	Applicants may apply to multiple sources of funding, however, projects awarded under RFA 20244 SHCFTP IV may not be funded by overlapping sources of New York State grants.

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
21	Available Funding Opportunities	Our parent company intends to submit an application to the NICIP opportunity for a residential site. Our parent company's Article 16 clinic is interested in applying to this RFA. Is our Article 16 eligible, since the project expenses would be different and separate from the residential site's NICIP funding? Or would this be considered "overlapping sources of state funding"?	Yes, if the Article 16 clinic project is separate and distinct from the parent company's residential facility project and the applicant meets all eligibility requirements of this RFA.
22	Available Funding Opportunities	Can one organization apply to both the SHCFT RFA and the Health Information Technology, Cybersecurity, and Telehealth Transformation RFA as long as specific expenses are unique to each opportunity and unfunded by any other state/federal award?	Yes. Per Section III. B Eligible and Excluded Expenses and Disallowed Costs of this RFA, costs related to health information technology and/or telehealth that exceed 15 percent of the total Eligible Project funds requested are not eligible for funding under RFA #20244.
23	Available Funding Opportunities	Can an Applicant apply for an IT project with under this grant?	Yes. Refer to Section III. B Eligible and Excluded Expenses and Disallowed Costs of this RFA.
24	Available Funding Opportunities	Is this considered Federal financial assistance where Grant awardees subject to the Single Audit Act?	No, an award under the Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program is a New York State allocation and not considered federal financial assistance.
25	Award Advances	While the RFA clearly states that there are to be no advances allowed for contracts resulting from this procurement, I see that DASNY would undertake a bondability review of grant applications identified by NYSDOH for an award. If DASNY determined an applicant to be acceptable for bonding, would that allow for bond funds to be available in advance? That is, would an applicant be able to draw on bond funds to cover funding needs before the normal payment mechanism begins? How would the DASNY bond funding mechanism work in this case?	No advances are allowed for contracts resulting from this RFA, including for projects eligible to be funded with the proceeds of bonds.
26	Capital versus Non-Capital Projects	In this RFP, if an entity applies for both a capital project and a debt retirement and restructuring, is one project given priority over the other in the scoring process?	Please see Section V.C. Review & Award Process.
27	Capital versus Non-Capital Projects	How much can we ask for if we are requesting debt retirement? How much can we ask for if we are requesting funds for construction? Can we do both?	There are no minimum or maximum amounts for funding requests. Applicants can apply for both capital and non-capital projects, but separate applications are required.
28	Capital versus Non-Capital Projects	For the Statewide Healthcare Facilities Transformation IV application, I understand that employees' salaries are NOT an eligible expense. However, is there a possibility of including, in start-up funds, temporary project-based staff lines, to hire someone to help with start-up specific action items - i.e. recruiting/screening/hiring of health clinic staff, developing written protocols and forms, establishing work processes, initial community outreach/marketing, establishment of strategic partnerships, training and orientation of first clinic team? If it is not permissible to hire and pay staff to carry out these responsibilities, is it possible to bring on board a consultant who would be focused on these start-up activities?	For non-capital applications, start-up operating expenses, which may include consultant and other expenses to pay staff associated with a dependent capital project, are eligible for a limited, brief period until program revenue is reasonably anticipated to support operations (to be determined on a case-by-case basis). Start-up operating expenses must be directly connected to an incremental cost of the Eligible Project for which funding is being sought under this RFA.  For eligible capital projects, consultants' fees and other expenditures associated with the preparation of Certificate of Need (CON) applications required for the proposed establishment action, construction activity or service expansion (so long as the costs incurred are in connection with original construction and not an ownership transfer) are eligible.
29	Capital versus Non-Capital Projects	Can you provide a specific example of a working capital or non-capital project that would be considered directly related to a capital project under this program?	An example of working capital is funding to increase the liquidity level of Eligible Applicants to manage day-to-day operating expenses and improve their long-term financial sustainability. An example of non-capital projects related to a capital project are start-up expenses. Refer to RFA Section III. B. Eligible and Excluded Expenses and Disallowed Costs for additional details.

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30	Certificate of Need	We have a client, an existing and operating Article 28 D&TC that is currently negotiating the acquisition of another Article 28 D&TC. The CON for the acquisition of the other D&TCs will not be approved by the SHD until the 2nd half of 2024. If the seller submits the grant prior to the March 26th date and is awarded the grant, does that grant award become an asset for the buyer through the Asset Purchase Agreement and change in ownership once approved by the State Health Department?	Review of the specific details of the asset purchase agreement would be needed to make a determination.
31	Certificate of Need	We have a client who is in the process of an asset purchase of existing Article 28 D&TCs. The client is an operator of a duly licensed and operational D&TC. Once the purchase is completed, a CON will be submitted for a change of ownership. The approval of this transaction will not occur before the submission deadline for the grant (March 2024). Our question is: since this is an asset purchase, if the seller submits the grant under their name (legal entity) and the grant is awarded to the seller, after the CON is approved, can the new owners assume the approval under their new title, tax id, etc.	See answer to question #30.
32	Community Needs Assessment	Can you provide detail on the state's expectations regarding the methodology, goals, etc. of the needs assessment referenced in section 4g of the narrative?	The RFA, Section V.A., Program Specific Question 4.g. i.-iv. outlines the requirements for the community needs assessment. It is up to the Applicant to determine if the community need assessment satisfies the requirement of this RFA. The Department of Health makes a wide range of data available through Health Data NY: <a href="https://health.data.ny.gov/">https://health.data.ny.gov/</a>
33	Cost Savings	Under Cost Savings, is the health care system referred to under 8a Medicaid? Or the eligible applicant's own system?	For question 8a., the response should include cost savings of the Eligible Project to the Applicant's own organization.
34	Cost Savings	Can you explain how "health care system" is defined in Question 8(a) in Section V(A) related to Cost Savings?	See answer to question #33.
35	Debt Relief	Can you provide a detailed definition or clarification of what activities are encompassed by "debt retirement and restructuring" in the context of this funding opportunity?	Debt retirement and restructuring includes cost to reduce, retire or refinance long-term liabilities such as mortgages, bank loans, capital leases and other liabilities, payments of debt service for long-term liabilities and costs for restricting including professional fees, penalties, and interest. Refer to RFA Section III. Project Narrative/Work Plan Outcomes, B. Eligible and Excluded Expenses and Disallowed Costs.
36	Debt Relief	We would like to apply for debt retirement. The debt would be for the mortgage on our cottages, campus, and outer homes. The mortgage is for refurbishments done in the 1990s. Does this qualify? Can we apply if we have also submitted a NICIP application for construction/repairs on our cottages (but not for the debt)?	See answer to question #35 to answer to your first question. See answer to question #20 to answer to your second question.
37	Debt Relief	Is a frozen defined benefit pension plan covered under this grant? Ours has been closed since 2012 but remains as a liability for the organization.	See answer to question #35.
38	Debt Relief	Is inter-agency debt eligible for forgiveness?	No, however, review of the specific details would be needed to make a final determination.
39	Debt Relief	We are looking to obtain support on debt retirement and restructuring to ensure the long-term sustainability of our program. Are there specific requirements that will be considered for this type of request?	Refer to Section V.C., Phase III, which states: Awards for debt retirement, working capital, or other non-capital projects or purposes, defined as those that are not eligible to be funded with the proceeds of bonds issued pursuant to Section 1680-r of the PAL, will be made in accordance with the "Overall Award Methodology" outlined above and considered together with projects or purposes that are eligible to be funded with such bond proceeds.
40	Debt Relief	For mortgage debt forgiveness, what are the key criteria you would be looking for to be competitive?	See answer to question #39.

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41	Debt Relief	Are there specific criteria or conditions that health care facilities must meet to be eligible for funding related to debt retirement and restructuring?	See answer to questions #35 and #39.
42	Debt Relief	Are there limitations on the types of debts that can be retired or restructured using these funds? For example, does it include both short term and long-term debt?	Refer to Section III. B Eligible and Excluded Expenses and Disallowed Costs of this RFA.. Debt restructuring including costs to reduce, retire or refinance long-term liabilities such as mortgages, bank loans, capital leases and other liabilities, payments of debt service for such long-term liabilities and costs for restricting including professional fees, penalties, and interest.
43	Debt Relief	If applying for a non-capital debt retirement project, are there any requirements on how the debt has to be retired?	Refer to Section V.C., Phase III of the RFA regarding award methodology, which states: Awards for debt retirement, working capital, or other non-capital projects or purposes, defined as those that are not eligible to be funded with the proceeds of bonds issued pursuant to Section 1680-r of the PAL, will be made in accordance with the "Overall Award Methodology" outlined above and considered together with projects or purposes that are eligible to be funded with such bond proceeds.
44	Debt Relief	What is the maximum or minimum amount of funding available for debt retirement and restructuring projects, if any?	Applications are not capped to a maximum award amount but should be reflective of the project proposed. Through the Evaluation Criteria and the Reserved Rights in the RFA the Department will factor in the Applicant's need for funds, efficient and resourceful plan for funds, and the impact funds would have on the statewide health system. There is no minimum amount. This is not a first come first serve application.
45	Debt Relief	An Article 28 D&TC would like to submit an application for debt relief related to capital renovation on its health center. However, the debt itself resides with the health center's parent organization. Can the Article 28 (the eligible entity) submit an application to request SHCFTP VI grant funds for the debt held by the parent organization?	Either a subordinate organization or a parent organization may submit an application for an Eligible Project, if they meet the eligibility criteria in Section II. Who May Apply. The proposed project should align with the licensure the applicant's using to demonstrate eligibility for this grant funding.  Each application must have one Eligible Applicant and the project as proposed in that application must primarily benefit the Eligible Applicant.
46	Debt Relief	Can an organization submit a proposal for debt restructuring associated with an affiliate of that organization?	See answer to question #45.
47	Debt Relief	Regarding a debt reduction grant. Would an unrecorded loan (e.g., a loan from a parent company to a subsidiary) be eligible for the debt reduction grant? Specifically, a parent company has loaned its subsidiary (who would be the Eligible Applicant) funds to renovate an Article 31 clinic. The loan is documented on the books in both organizations; however, the loan does not come from an external lender such as a bank. The subsidiary/Eligible Applicant must pay the loan back to the parent company with an established payment schedule.	See answer to question #45.
48	Debt Relief	Would an eligible debt retirement project require us to refinance through DASNY?	No.
49	Debt Relief	Can an Eligible Applicant request grant funding for debt retirement for a wholly owned subsidiary?	See answer to question #45.
50	Debt Relief	We'd like to propose a debt restructuring project with funds to reduce long-term debts (e.g. mortgages, construction loans, etc.) from multiple lenders. Can this be submitted as one project/ one grant application?	Yes, one grant application may be accepted if the applicant meets all requirements. Please refer to Section II. Who May Apply and Section III.A. Eligible Projects for eligibility requirements.
51	Debt Relief	In what budget category should funds to reduce long-term liabilities be budgeted?	Non-capital funds should be allocated in the "Other" category of the Capital Budget.
52	Debt Relief	Does the state have a preferred method for awarding grant funds to reduce long-term liabilities? In other words, does the state have a preference towards reimbursing a portion of our regular monthly payments to lenders over the five-year grant, or would it be better to propose a lump sum to make a one-time payment to reduce/retire these debts.	Eligible Applicants should propose a lump sum for one-time payment for debt retirement or restructuring.

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53	Eligible Applicant	Can an A29-I Voluntary Foster Care Agency funded by a local government unit apply?	An Article 29-I health care facility operated by a Voluntary Foster Care Agency and funded through a local government unit, as defined by article 41 of the Mental Hygiene Law, is an Eligible Applicant. An Article 29-I health care facility operated by Voluntary Foster Care Agency NOT funded through a local government unit is not one of the eligible provider types listed in Section II of the RFA and is NOT considered an Eligible Applicant under this RFA.
54	Eligible Applicant	Can a A29i VFCA health facility apply for this grant?	See answer to question #53.
55	Eligible Applicant	Would a facility funded by ACS New York City Administration and New York State OCFS be eligible for funding under this RFA?	Only community programs funded through a local government unit as defined under Article 41 of the Mental Health Law are Eligible Applicants. See answer to question #53.
56	Eligible Applicant	I wish to clarify if this grant is restricted to Tribal Organizations only. It appears it is also eligible to OMH Licensed Clinics?	Refer to Section II. Who May Apply of this RFA to determine eligibility.
57	Eligible Applicant	We are reviewing this call and are interested in this opportunity, but I notice that for Community-based health care providers you seem to EXCLUDE Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN's)/nurse practitioners who are increasingly providing primary care across NY State and the US not eligible. Given that Governor Hochuli signed legislation that provides nurse practitioners (APRN's) with full practice authority in NY State in April of 2022 – why aren't APRN's/nurse practitioners eligible?	APRN's/Nurse Practitioners with New York State Nursing Licenses are not Eligible Applicants. Under this RFA, Primary Care Providers must have a New York State Medical License.
58	Eligible Applicant	Are individual Community Providers licensed as Specialists also Eligible Applicants if they have a secondary specialty in Internal Medicine or other PCP related specialties?	Yes, if the Eligible Applicant meets the other requirements of Section II. Who May Apply, has a New York State Medical License, and can demonstrate the provision of primary care services.
59	Eligible Applicant	In the RFA #20244 it is stated that "Independent practice associations or <u>organizations</u> with a valid New York Department of State Identification Number" are Eligible Applicants. Should a Clinically Integrated Network then be considered such an Organization?	Yes, if the integrated network meets the other requirements of Section II. Who May Apply, has a valid New York Department of State Identification Number, and can demonstrate the provision of primary care services.
60	Eligible Applicant	Are "multi-specialty medical groups" considered Eligible Applicants or only PCP medical groups or multi-specialty IPA's?	See answer to questions #58 and #59.
61	Eligible Applicant	Are Managed Services Organizations (MSOs) eligible to apply?	No. Refer to Section II. Who May Apply of this RFA to determine eligibility.
62	Eligible Applicant	Are Ambulatory Surgery Centers (ASCs) licensed under PHL Article 28 also considered Eligible Applicants, or only Diagnostic & Treatment Centers?	Federally defined Ambulatory Surgery Centers licensed under PHL Article 28 are considered Diagnostic & Treatment Centers.
63	Eligible Applicant	Are licensed "Portable X-ray supplier" or "Independent Diagnostic Facility" considered Eligible Applicants?	No. Refer to Section II. Who May Apply of this RFA to determine eligibility.
64	Eligible Applicant	The RFA also includes those who provide community-based programs funded under OMH (or OASAS or OPWDD) as eligible providers. We currently provide OMH-funded CFTSS out of a building that is on the same property as the proposed project. The proposed project would house the provision of CFTSS, among other behavioral health and wellness services as well. Are OMH-funded CFTSS programs considered eligible programs under the category of "community-based programs funded under OMH"? (See RFA p. 5 under Eligible Parties and RFA p. 7 Section A. Eligible Projects)	Yes. Per Section II. Who May Apply of this RFA, "community-based programs funded under the Office of Mental Health, the Office of Addiction Services and Supports, the Office for People with Developmental Disabilities, or through local governmental units as defined under Article 41 of the MHL" are Eligible Applicants. Refer to Section II. Who May Apply of this RFA for further eligibility requirements.
65	Eligible Applicant	I am writing to see if my organization is eligible to apply for funding through the Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program IV. In a nutshell, Encore has a contract with the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, which we understand receives funding from the New York State Office of Mental Health.	See answer to question #64.
66	Eligible Applicant	Could you please specify the eligibility requirements for OPWDD program/facilities? Are there any OPWDD programs excluded from eligibility under this RFA?	See answer to question #64.

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67	Eligible Applicant	Are we eligible if our programs are funded under OCFSS, OPWDD, and SED?	See answer to question #64.
68	Eligible Applicant	Can we apply jointly with OPWDD?	<p>If the project requires the involvement of more than one entity:</p> <p>(a) The Eligible Applicant may subcontract with other entities to complete the project. However, the Eligible Applicant is the entity that will enter into a grant contract with the state and will be financially responsible for incurring and paying all costs prior to reimbursement.</p> <p>(b) Alternatively, each entity may submit a separate application characterizing its specific project costs and impacts, so long as each entity meets eligibility requirements specified in Section II, Who May Apply.</p> <p>Where a project involves multiple interdependent applications, each application should reference and discuss these interdependencies.</p> <p>See also answer to questions #64 and #81.</p>
69	Eligible Applicant	<p>Are we eligible to apply for the grant? Although we do not have a New York State Operating Certificate for an Article 7, 16, 28, 31, 32, 36, 40 or 41 provider organization, we do have an operating certificate to practice psychotherapy as a nonprofit through the Corporate Practice Waiver Exemption. We also have an operating certificate from NYS OASAS to provide Prevention Education and Other Prevention Services. Additionally, we provide the following eligible services:</p> <p>-Strict and Intensive Supervision and Treatment (SIST) funded by the Office of Mental Health</p> <p>-A specialized counseling/psychotherapy program funded by our Local Department of Social Services and Medicaid Managed Care</p> <p>We are also designated by the Office of Mental Health to provide Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services through Children and Family Treatment and Support Services.</p>	See answer to question #64.
70	Eligible Applicant	We have received funding from OMH in the past, and we currently receive funding from NYC's DOHMH. In speaking with others, I've heard of organizations that thought they were eligible who invested a lot of time and energy into their proposal just to find out the state did not deem them eligible.	See answer to question #64.
71	Eligible Applicant	<p>1. Are Day Treatment/853 programs eligible?</p> <p>2. We have a 5 year lease for a site in which we operate a MHTORS. Would this program be eligible?</p>	<p>1. See answer to question #64.</p> <p>2. Eligible Applicants are eligible for capital funding for improvements at sites controlled by the applicant through direct ownership or a long-term lease. If a long-term lease (more than one year) is contemplated, the terms of the lease must be evaluated on a case-by-case basis by the DASNY Bond Counsel and are dependent on the useful life the improvements to be made to the space and the terms of the applicable bonds. The use of the leased space must be in accordance with the award for the Eligible Project.</p>
72	Eligible Applicant	<p>We are an Integrated Residential Community, Certified by OPWDD as a Certified Private School under OPWDD Title 14 Rules and Regulations, Reg 619.2 D4</p> <p>Are we eligible? Can we apply for this grant to fund a capital residential expansion?</p>	Yes, residential facilities or day program facilities licensed or granted an operating certificate under Article 16 of the Mental Hygiene Law are Eligible Applicants.
73	Eligible Applicant	Our organization is a group of facilities <u>licensed by OASAS as follows: Article 32, Part 820 rehabilitative residential services</u> . Are we eligible to apply?	Pursuant to the statute and the RFA, alcohol and substance abuse treatment clinics certified or licensed under Article 32 of the Mental Hygiene Law are Eligible Applicants. Article 32 residential facilities are not clinics, and, therefore, are not Eligible Applicants.

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74	Eligible Applicant	I would like to know if an OASAS licensed/certified 819 or 820 residential program can apply for this statewide health care facility transformation RFA?  I also would like to know if an OASAS/OMH licensed/certified program can apply for this RFA to establish a new program to provide crisis stabilization services and or crisis residential services?	See answer to question #73.  Article 31 and 32 clinics and community-based programs funded under the Office of Mental Health, the Office of Addiction Services and Supports, the Office for People with Developmental Disabilities, or through local governmental units as defined under Article 41 of the MHL are Eligible Applicants. The proposed project should align with the licensure the applicant is using to demonstrate eligibility for this grant funding.
75	Eligible Applicant	Are programs like OMH Supportive Housing that flow through the LGU considered an Article 41? Can you provide the regulation or guidance for Article 41 programs.	See answer to question #74.
76	Eligible Applicant	We are a non-profit community based agency in NYC. We provide supportive housing in a SRO funded by DHS and DOHMH, we want to clarify if we would be eligible under any of the categories listed.	See answer to question #74.
77	Eligible Applicant	Regarding eligibility- if a nonprofit agency operated an eligible entity (for example, a residential health care facility or a residence operated under the Office of Mental Health) can that entity apply for SHCFTP for renovation or debt reduction on behalf of the eligible entity?	The lead applicant must meet the minimum eligibility requirements under Section II. Who May Apply in the RFA. See answer to question #74.
78	Eligible Applicant	We have conditional approval on our Article 31 License; we have not yet begun providing services. Does this meet the application criteria of "currently licensed"? Our clinic is listed in the OMH portal as a provider.	No. Please refer to Section II. Who May Apply (c.) which states: An Eligible Applicant must be currently certified and/or licensed under one or more provider organizations as established in accordance with PHL Section 2825-g and the Eligible Applicant must submit all current certifications and/or licensures related to the project at the time of application submission for the project to be deemed an Eligible Project.  Provide proof that the applicant meets the minimum eligibility requirements under Section II. Who May Apply. Proof of subsection (b). eligibility includes an uploaded copy of a New York State Operating Certificate for an Article 7, 16, 28, 31, 32, 36, 40 or 41 provider organization, or an uploaded copy of a New York State Medical License for a primary care provider or a filing receipt or copy of Articles of Organization for an independent practice association or organization. Provide proof of all other current certifications and/or licensure related to a project. Proof of subsection (b). eligibility includes an uploaded copy of a New York State Operating Certificate for an Article 7, 16, 28, 31, 32, 36, 40 or 41 provider organization, or an uploaded copy of a New York State Medical License for a primary care provider or a filing receipt or copy of Articles of Organization for an independent practice association or organization. Provide proof of all other current certifications and/or licensure related to a project.
79	Eligible Applicant	Can for profit organizations apply?	For-profit organizations are eligible to apply, as long as they meet the minimum eligibility criteria outlined in Section II. Who May Apply of the RFA.
80	Eligible Applicant	Can you please let me know if a for profit hospital can apply to receive money ?	See answer to question #79.
81	Eligible Applicant	NYS DOH-operated Veterans Homes and Helen Hayes Hospital are considering pursuing this opportunity. I'd like to confirm that there will not be any issues with these facilities submitting applications recognizing that the RFA posting on grants gateway indicates that <u>government entities are eligible to apply</u> .	Publicly operated providers are eligible to apply, as long as they meet the minimum eligibility criteria outlined in Section II. Who May Apply.
82	Eligible Applicant	Can an active parent organization apply on behalf of its Article 28 subsidiary?	Yes, per the additional notes in Section II. Who May Apply of the RFA, an active parent is an Eligible Applicant and can apply on behalf of a subsidiary.
83	Eligible Expenses	Can someone who is looking to purchase an additional home care company, can one apply for funding that would help in the purchase of another Home Care Agency?	An applicant must meet the eligibility requirements set forth in Section II. Who May Apply. Asset acquisition is listed as an eligible expense under this RFA. Please refer to Section III.. B. Eligible and Excluded Expenses and Disallowed Costs.
84	Eligible Expenses	Would acquisition costs of a practice (e.g., a pharmacy practice) be considered an eligible capital expense under RFA #20244? Or are there other aspects of the transaction that would be capitalizable (e.g. purchase of equipment)?	See answer to question #83.

#### Questions and Answers



Q#	Category	Question	Answer
85	Eligible Expenses	Is the acquisition or purchase of land an allowed expense within the proposed budget? For Example, if an existing operator proposes to purchase an adjacent lot to its existing facility so that the building can be expanded to in order to provide additional services.	See answer to question #83.
86	Eligible Expenses	Are funds awarded through this RFA eligible to be utilized to cover costs related to acquisition costs for property that is not currently owned. Examples of acquisition costs include title insurance fees, recording fees, attorney's fees, bank closing fees, and environmental.	Asset acquisition costs are generally eligible, however review of specific details of acquisition costs would be needed to make a determination. Attorney's fees must be directly related to the closing or real property. Other costs similarly would follow the same rule: the cost has to be directly related to acquisition. Title insurance and environmental fees are likely not bondable. Recording and closing fees may be bondable. As an example, property tax pro rations would not be bondable, nor any fees associated with interest or financing.
87	Eligible Expenses	To expand access to primary care, we are planning to open a new Article 28 clinic in leased space. We will be responsible for all of the design and construction costs to fit out the space for the clinic. Are the capital costs for the fit-out an eligible expense if in leased space?	Capital improvements are eligible at sites controlled by the applicant through direct ownership or a long-term lease. If a long-term lease (more than one year) is contemplated, the terms of the lease must be evaluated on a case-by-case basis by DASNY Bond Counsel and are dependent on the useful life of the improvements to be made to the space and the terms of the applicable bonds. The use of the leased space must be in accordance with the award for the Eligible Project.
88	Eligible Expenses	Is there a required lease length for property we propose to renovate or refurbish (for site control, in the past applicants had to demonstrate at least 7 years for the lease).	See answer to question #87.
89	Eligible Expenses	Can we request funds for renovations if we do not own the building?	See answer to question #87.
90	Eligible Expenses	Would capital improvements for a leased health care facility be an eligible project for this RFA?	See answer to question #87.
91	Eligible Expenses	If the eligible project is a capital project and includes leasing a new space, can the cost of the security deposit be included in the budget as it pertains to asset acquisition? Additionally, can the cost of the monthly rent be included in the budget while the space is under construction since it will not be functional? If the monthly rent cannot be included in the capital eligible project, can the cost of the monthly rent while under construction be included in a separate application for start-up operating costs?	A security deposit on a lease and monthly rent are not bondable costs and are not eligible under this RFA.
92	Eligible Expenses	Can the cost of the security deposit if leasing a new space is part of the proposed project be included in the budget as it pertains to asset acquisition?	See answer to question #91.
93	Eligible Expenses	Our office lease, which is primarily utilized as a Treatment Clinic, is categorized as a capital lease although we have not financed any portion of the lease obligation. Can we request funding to be utilized for all or a portion of the remaining capital lease obligation, despite not being financed? Our request would be based on the utilization percentage of the space attributed to the Treatment Clinic. This would allow us to hire more staff and cover operating costs in order to allow us to serve more uninsured individuals.	No, this would not be bondable and not eligible under this RFA.

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
94	Eligible Expenses	Are cloud-based technologies or conversion to the cloud eligible expenses?	Refer to Section III.B. Eligible and Excluded Expenses and Disallowed Costs which states in part:  Excluded expenses include: General ongoing operating costs applicable to day-to-day operations. General ongoing operating costs that are not eligible for funding under SHCFTP IV include expenses such as routine supplies; utilities; operating lease payments, equipment with a useful life of less than three years; ongoing, routine maintenance costs related to health information technology projects including but not limited to training of end-users or any 'help-desk' services or associated costs, costs/services beyond Design, Development, and Implementation and into Operations and maintenance (i.e., the system is operational, supporting health care operations), Software as a Services (SaaS) services post "go-live", recurring licensing costs, cloud consumption and/or hosting post "go-live", subscription costs with telehealth vendors, other non-capital startup expenditures, such as data plans, internet connectivity or voice services; and employees' salaries and benefits, including those of new staff; and Costs related to health information technology and/or telehealth that exceed 15 percent of the total Eligible Project funds requested.
95	Eligible Expenses	Will a mobile health clinic be an eligible expense under this opportunity? We do not see any indication in the RFA that this would be disallowed, but would like to confirm.	Yes.
96	Eligible Expenses	Would the purchase of a mobile testing unit be considered 'asset acquisition'?	Yes.
97	Eligible Expenses	Would a mobile CT unit be an eligible expense under this initiative?	Yes.
98	Eligible Expenses	Would UV disinfection devices that mitigate the spread of diseases through air and surfaces be an eligible use of this grant? It sounds like it would fit under the goals of improving quality of care and pandemic response.	Please refer to RFA Section III.B Eligible and Excluded Expenses and Disallowed Costs. While equipment costs fall under eligible expenses, equipment must have a 3 year or greater useful life.
99	Eligible Expenses	Would equipment such as an ambulette/Stretcher (to transport patients between hospital and nursing home) be an eligible expense under this initiative?	See answer to question #98.
100	Eligible Expenses	Would exercise equipment be an eligible expense if purchased to improve client care and outcomes?	See answer to question #98.
101	Eligible Expenses	Would food panty supplies be an eligible expense if purchased to improve client care and outcome?	Please refer to RFA Section III.B Eligible and Excluded Expenses and Disallowed Costs.
102	Eligible Expenses	Are funds awarded through this RFA eligible to be utilized for the purchase of furniture and fixtures.	Please refer to RFA Section III.B Eligible and Excluded Expenses and Disallowed Costs.
103	Eligible Expenses	We incurred significant expenses in one of our programs during Covid creating a hardship of over \$2M of extra expenses and maxed out on the LOC. The LOC is currently at its max and locked by the bank until such time we reduce the balance to a more reasonable level. As a breakeven agency, it is extremely difficult to reduce this balance, does this situation qualify for working capital relief? The LOC has not been available for over one year which stresses the organization in meeting its payroll and vendor obligations. Current balance sheet is not strong enough for our bank or other banks to be interested in increasing the LOC.	Eligible expenses include debt retirement and restructuring and other non-capital projects. Debt retirement and restructuring includes cost to reduce, retire, or refinance long-term liabilities such as mortgages, bank loans, capital leases and other liabilities, payments of debt service for long-term liabilities and costs for restricting including professional fees, penalties, and interest. Refer to RFA Section III. Project Narrative/Work Plan Outcomes, B. Eligible and Excluded Expenses and Disallowed Costs.
104	Eligible Expenses	RFA language states: "The planning or design of the acquisition, construction, demolition, replacement, major repair or renovation of a fixed asset or assets, including the preparation and review of plans and specifications including engineering and other services" Question: Are the costs associated with the hiring of a consulting firm to develop and conduct a company-wide capital Feasibility Study and/or develop a Master Plan for prospective capital projects covered under this RFA?	Non-capital, start-up operating expenses, including consultant and other expenses to hire and pay staff associated with a dependent, capital project, must be directly connected to and an incremental cost of the Eligible Project for which funding is being sought under this RFA. Start-up operating expenses are for a limited, brief period until program operating revenue is reasonably anticipated to support operations (case-by-case basis). Refer to RFA Section III. B. Eligible and Excluded Expenses and Disallowed Costs for additional details.

#### Questions and Answers

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
105	Eligible Expenses	For a capital project that my agency is planning, we would like to hire a consultant to fully assess our site and establish the requirements and specifications for our project, as a first stage. Would the costs of this consultant be an eligible expense?	See answer to question #104.
106	Eligible Expenses	If an Eligible Applicant is applying for a debt reduction grant related to the mortgage on their building, is it appropriate to reduce the Eligible Applicant's rent accordingly? For example, say the Eligible Applicant is awarded \$2M toward their mortgage. The property owner reduces their rent in their long-term lease agreement by \$2M. Is this allowable?	Additional information would be needed to answer this, specifically more information on the relationship between the Eligible Applicant, property owner, and renter.
107	Eligible Expenses	We are considering applying for a capital project to build on the vacant property. How much detail is required for the application? Will site drawings be required, proposed building design, and/or other construction detail?	<p>Per Section III. B. Eligible and Excluded Expenses and Disallowed Costs of the RFA, if applicable to the Eligible Project, it is understood that design plans and specifications are unlikely to be available at this stage of Project development. However, an Eligible Applicant should be able to describe the project elements and their anticipated costs in sufficient detail for the reviewer to make a judgment on the reasonableness of the anticipated costs and how the Eligible Applicant estimated those costs.</p> <p>Site drawings, schematics, and design renderings are not a required requirement of the RFA. If the information is available and the applicant feels that it supports the application, they can be uploaded. The applicant should use their best judgment in <u>determining what completes their application.</u></p>
108	Eligible Expenses	If costs are incurred for estimates, blueprints, etc. for inclusion in a Capital Project grant application under this RFA, is this expense reimbursable if the grant is approved? If we do not have blueprints and estimates in advance, what is acceptable as justification for a Capital Grant submission.	Per Section IV. Administrative Requirements, G. Term of Contract of the RFA, the estimated start date of the contract is October 1, 2024. Only expenses incurred on or after the start date of the contract (and determined allowable under the contract budget and work plan) may be vouchered for reimbursement. Any obligations assumed by the contractor prior to execution of the contract are assumed at-risk. Also, see answer to question #107.
109	Eligible Expenses	On Page 7 of the RFP, Eligible Expenses include "Equipment costs". On Page 8 of the RFP, Excluded Expenses include "equipment with a useful life of less than three years". 1) Does that mean that equipment with a useful life of more than three years would be an eligible expense? 2) Are there any other requirements for equipment expenses to be eligible?	Equipment costs must have a 3 year or greater useful life. Grant funds cannot be used to pay for leased equipment. Equipment must be purchased.
110	Eligible Expenses	Can the budget include a "contingency"?	<p>Yes, capital costs related to the planning and design of a fixed asset, as well as construction costs including standard contingencies, are Eligible Expenses under this RFA.</p> <p>Design contingencies are 10% for new construction or renovation. Construction contingencies are 5% for new construction and 10% for renovation. Any deviation for these would need to be explained in the narrative associated with the Budget and the subsequent CON.</p> <p>There are no limitations on engineering and architectural fees as long as they are reasonable for the proposed project. Any supporting documentation that can be submitted to substantiate the fees should be provided. Eligible costs should be <u>categorized in relevant expense categories (i.e. scoping, design, or construction).</u></p>
111	Eligible Projects	If an applicant has started construction and has paid for it will the grant cover a construction cost paid in 2023.	No. See answer to question #108.
112	Eligible Projects	Can an organization apply for capital costs incurred by its affiliate as part of a process of renovating space for the purpose of conducting programs and providing services, on a property owned by the affiliate.	<p>Either a subordinate organization or a parent organization may submit an application for an Eligible Project, if they meet the eligibility criteria in Section II. Who May Apply. The proposed project should align with the licensure the applicants using to demonstrate eligibility for this grant funding.</p> <p>Each application must have one Eligible Applicant and the project as proposed in that application must primarily benefit the Eligible Applicant.</p>

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
113	Eligible Projects	Our organization has submitted a Certificate of Need application for a capital project that we are now proposing to seek grant support under the SHCFTP IV solicitation. The project at the time of the SHCFTP IV application filing has not been approved. Would this project be an eligible for this grant funding solicitation?	Please refer to Section III.A. Eligible Projects, which states in part: "Certificate of Need (CON) approval of the Eligible Project from the NYS Public Health and Health Planning Council (PHHPC) is not needed at the time of application submission."  Please contact cons@health.ny.gov with questions on CON submissions.
114	Eligible Projects	If an applicant has started construction and has paid for it will the grant cover a construction cost paid in 2023.	No. Per Section IV. Administrative Requirements, G. Term of Contract of the RFA, the estimated start date of the contract is October 1, 2024. Only expenses incurred on or after the start date of the contract (and determined allowable under the contract budget and work plan) may be vouchered for reimbursement. Any obligations assumed by the contractor prior to <u>execution of the contract</u> are assumed at-risk.
115	Eligible Projects	Looking at the grant process, am I correct that this grant is only for physical space improvements? I assume we are unable to apply for a Grant to hire and pay a Social Worker in our private practice or another Healthy Steps Specialist or Nutritionist? Our physical space doesn't have any room to expand (plus we are still paying off the current building) but resources to help our patients with additional personnel would be of great benefit. Any information would be appreciated.	Eligible expenses include capital projects and debt retirement and restructuring, and other non-capital projects directly related to a capital project. Grants shall not be made to support general, ongoing operating costs applicable to day-to-day operations such as staff salaries, except for non-capital start up expenses related to a separate capital project. Please refer to Section III. B. Eligible and Excluded Expenses and Disallowed Costs.
116	Eligible Projects	We are an eligible provider under our Article 31 license, and we are seeking clarity as to if we can apply for a project at a different location which does not currently have an Article 31 clinic. We would provide Article 31 services at the proposed project site, among other behavioral health and wellness services currently provided at that site. Is this an eligible project? (See RFA p. 5 under Eligible Parties and RFA p. 7 Section A. Eligible Projects)	An article 31 organization is considered an eligible applicant. The eligibility of a proposed project would be determined upon review of application.
117	Eligible Projects	Is the applicant required to have a Certificate of Occupancy at the time of application? At what point is a Certificate of Occupancy required?	A Certificate of Occupancy is not required at the time of application submission. If the site has been identified then it should be disclosed in the application. For more information on requirements for licensed health care facility projects, please refer to Certificate of Need guidance listed on the New York State Department of Health web page at <a href="https://www.health.ny.gov/facilities/cons/">https://www.health.ny.gov/facilities/cons/</a>
118	Eligible Projects	Would the build-out of a new, more efficient kitchen for a nursing home be considered an eligible project?	Please refer to RFA Section III.B Eligible and Excluded Expenses and Disallowed Costs.
119	Eligible Projects	Are the capital costs of building of an onsite dental health room an allowable expense for an OPWDD program?	Yes, provided that the Applicant meets the minimum eligibility requirements outlined in Section II. Who May Apply of the RFA. See answer to question #64.
120	Eligible Projects	If an agency is building a OPWDD licensed IRA that is medically equipped to provide health related support, could the capital expenses that exceed the OPWDD rate be eligible for this grant?	Additional information is needed to answer this, specifically more information on current funding of the project.
121	Eligible Projects	When you speak of "transformational goals....patient centered models of care" - are you speaking only to traditional health care services? We are eyeing an opportunity to write for a transformation of our Day Habilitation Center that would look at care from a holistic perspective - including but not limited to mental health, self-care, etc.	Transformational goals to advance patient centered models of care include the integration of essential services such as medical, behavioral, and mental health care.
122	Eligible Projects	Would utilizing grant funds to retire bonds on existing assets be considered an eligible project for this grant?	Debt retirement and restructuring is generally eligible, however review of specific details of the bond retirement would be needed to make a determination. Refer to RFA Section III. Project Narrative/Work Plan Outcomes, B. Eligible and Excluded Expenses and Disallowed Costs.
123	Eligible Projects	Would ADA renovations of an existing building owned by the applicant fulfill the scope of this RFA?	Per Section III.B. Eligible and Excluded Expenses and Disallowed Costs, "...The planning or design of the acquisition, construction, demolition, replacement, major repair or <u>renovation</u> of a fixed asset or assets, including the preparation and review of plans and specifications including engineering and other services..." are considered eligible expenses. All projects proposed by Eligible Applicants will be evaluated by the extent to which they meet the evaluation criteria outlined in Section V.C. Review & Award Process of the RFA.

#### Questions and Answers

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
124	Eligible Projects	We are an Adult Home model Assisted Living Program licensed under Article 7 and Section 461-1 of the Social Service Law, and will be seeking capital funding for expansion of the current beds/program capacity in order to serve additional eligible Medicare/Medicaid recipients in need of these residential services. While the current regulations permit the expansion of bed capacity for Adult Homes, Enriched Housing programs, certified enhanced or special needs assisted living residence beds, bed expansion is not statutorily available for Assisted Living Program (ALP) beds at this time. To this end, would an Adult Care Facility applicant operating Assisted Living Program seeking capital funding under RFA 20244 for additional adult home beds qualify as an eligible project?	Under existing law, there is currently no legal mechanism to approve new ALP beds. Capital projects for ALP bed expansion would therefore not be eligible until DOH is lawfully permitted to certify new ALP beds.
125	Eligible Projects	We understand that per Section II(b) (Page 4) of the RFA, an Adult Care Facility licensed under title two of Article 7 of the Social Services Law (including an enriched housing program) is an Eligible Applicant under this RFA. Page 26 of the RFA notes that an application must have one Eligible Applicant and the project as proposed in the application must primarily benefit the Eligible Applicant. May building renovations, equipment costs, and other Eligible Expenses that benefit both an Eligible Applicant and a non-eligible independent senior housing residence that is housed in the same physical building structure be considered an Eligible Project under this RFA? •For example, would costs associated with installing a roof and siding be an Eligible Expense, if the roof and siding cover beds for an enriched housing program and units of an independent senior housing residence? •For example, would equipment and renovation costs for a theater that will be used for activities for enriched housing and memory care participants, but also used by independent senior housing residents, be an Eligible Expense?	Capital improvements with equipment costs with a 3 year or greater useful life at sites controlled by the Eligible Applicant through direct ownership or a long-term lease could be deemed Eligible Projects. Refer to Section III.B. Eligible and Excluded Expenses and Disallowed Costs. Per the additional notes in Section II. Who May Apply, an application must have one Eligible Applicant and the project as proposed in that application must primarily benefit the Eligible Applicant. Per section IV.F. Department of Health's Reserved Rights (3), the Department of Health reserves the right to make an award in whole or in part.
126	Eligible Projects	Section 3 question F asks for "Number of admissions or patient visits during the most recent 12-month cost reporting year." 1. If ambulatory day hab services are provided daily, how do we count them? Is each day that services are received considered a visit? 2. If housing services are provided, how are they counted? Is it considered one admission, is each day considered a visit, or something else?	Additional information would be needed to understand the scope of "ambulatory day hab services" and their relationship, if any, with Eligible Applicants.
127	Evaluation Process	Please provide more information about how applications will be scored. Are there specific numbers of points for each section?	Applications will be evaluated according to the process outlined in the RFA, Section V. Review & Award Process.
128	Financial Distress	In the requirements, it says the facility is to be in severe financial distress or that it demonstrates how the proposed project will strengthen its financial sustainability. What is considered severe financial distress?	Severe financial distress is financial instability requiring extraordinary financial assistance to enable these facilities to maintain operations and provision of vital services. Evidence of financial instability must be reflected in the most recent year-end audited financial statements and interim financial operating statements for the current year and include: -Seven or less days cash and equivalents; -Negative operating margin within the last two years; -No assets that can be monetized other than those vital to the operation; -No resources from other sources to meet financial needs.
129	Financial Distress	Questions 7c, 7ci and 7cii, please identify what is meant by "Supplemental Operating Assistance" and provide examples.	Supplemental Operating Assistance is federal or state funding to financially distressed providers to help fund day to day operational costs. Examples include Directed Payment Template (DPT) programs for safety-net hospitals; Critical Access Hospitals or Sole Community Hospitals; the Vital Access Program (VAP); and the Hospital Vital Access Provider Assurance Program (Hospital VAPAP).

#### Questions and Answers

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
130	Financial Distress	With respect to Question 7c (Eligible Project Impact on Eligible Applicant Long-term Financial Sustainability), there is reference to Supplemental Operating Assistance. Please <i>specifically define</i> Supplemental Operating Assistance as used in this context.	See answer to question #129.
131	Financial Distress	Please define Supplemental Operating Assistance.	See answer to question #129.
132	Financial Stability	Applicants are instructed to upload a copy of their 2022 IRS 990 Form. All pages must be combined into a single PDF no larger than 10MB and uploaded as Attachment 8 via the Grants Gateway in the Pre-Submission Uploads section of the online application. For-Profit Applicants do not file an IRS 990 Form. Please advise what document should be uploaded for attachment 8 if the Applicant is a FOR-PROFIT Licensed Article 28 provider.	If the Applicant is exempt from filing an IRS 990 form, then Attachment 8 does not need to be submitted. Please refer to Section V.A.6.b and include a document indicating exempt status and rationale as part of Attachment 9. Upload Attachment 9 via the Grants Gateway in the Pre-Submission Uploads section of the online application.
133	Financial Sustainability	Regarding Attachment 2 Projected Financial Information, on the Impact Financial Viability worksheet, should columns C and D reflect the entire applicant organization or just the staffing for the department that is the target of the project (i.e. a health center operated by a hospital)?	Eligible Applicants should present the impact of the project on the entire entity for which certified financial statements are available. Applicants should complete Attachment 2 to reflect the entire applicant organization.
134	Financial Sustainability	For applicants who are eligible to apply, but are part of a larger management agency- do you want attachment 2 (Projected Financial Information) to relate to the applicant/facility only, or to the larger management organization?	See answer to question #133.
135	Financial Sustainability	Attachment 2 – Use of Funds; Impact-Financial Viability Tab; Our organization has several divisions. Should we use the numbers that reflect just the Health Care Division or should we use the numbers for our entire organization?	See answer to question #133.
136	Financial Sustainability	For debt-retirement projects, regarding attachment 2, tab 3: is it necessary to include estimated financial changes related to the debt-retirement only? Or is it <u>also</u> necessary to include projections for the health care transformation activities the applicant will undertake as a result of the debt retirement?	Yes, if the debt relief is to be used to support a transformation initiative then a budget and a description of that initiative are required. If the debt relief is solely for the purpose of financial sustainability, then that should be included in the description and a budget indicating the financial impact should be included.
137	Financial Sustainability	Regarding Attachments: Should the complete Attachment 2 be uploaded both in response to 7a and as pre-submission upload Attachment 2?	Yes, a completed Attachment 2 should be uploaded in the Pre-Submission Uploads section.
138	Financial Sustainability	Can you please clarify the instructions in Attachment 2, Impact-Financial Viability Tab? The instructions say: The projected years of this enterprise budget should only reflect the incremental data associated with the project(s) within this application. Does that mean that the columns for projected years 1, 2 and 3 should show the expected increase or decrease = the amount it will change? For example, row 19 asks for number of FTEs for Management & Supervision. If Current Year Total is 10 FTEs and in Projected 1st Year we expect to have 12 FTEs, would we put 2 in that column or 12?	In columns E,F, and G of the Impact-Financial Viability Tab of Attachment 2, please input the total amounts for each incremental year. This should show the impact of the grant funded project on the organization only.  In your example, the 1st year should show the 12 Full Time Equivalents (FTE)s. Only input the incremental increases/ decreases related to the grant funded project. If you had expected to do any other hiring in projected years 1-3 that is not specific to this project, please don't input those FTE increases in years 1-3.
139	Financial Sustainability	With respect to the Projected Financial Information workbook, if we are not adding staff should those fields be left blank, or filled in with a zero, and only include projected incremental revenue?	If no staff will be added as a result of transformational activities, please input zero and only include projected incremental revenue.

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
140	Financial Sustainability	We are proposing a project for debt retirement. In Attachment 2 “Projected Financial Info.xls” how do we complete the Projected “Years 1 – 3” in the “Impact – Financial Viability” worksheet? For a debt retirement project do we have to complete the Full Time Equivalents, Expenses, Capital Expenses, inpatient, outpatient, unique patient metric sections? Are there more detailed instructions that can be provided? Is there a sample workbook or worksheet which NYSDOH can share with prospective applicants?	If the debt relief is to be used to support a transformation initiative then a budget and a description of that corresponding transformation initiative is required in the Impact - Financial Viability tab of Attachment 2. If the debt relief is solely for the purpose of financial sustainability then that should be included in the description and a budget indicating the financial impact should be included. Please see answer to question #139.
141	Financial Sustainability	If the applicant is a new start-up, what should they submit in lieu of 3-years of audited financials and annual # of visits?	Per Section V.A. Application Format/Content, "Entities whose financial statements have not been subjected to an audit should include any additional information available to satisfy this test and appropriate certifications." In lieu of audited financials, provide sufficient financial information to adequately represent the financial position of the applicant. This information should reconcile with Attachment 2 and a narrative should be provided to the extent needed to supplement financial statements and demonstrate financial stability and other utilization data such as anticipated number of visits, etc.  Per the same above-mentioned section, "Failure to submit the required copy of a New York State Operating Certificate, New York State Certification, or New York State Medical License, and/or audited financial statements and any other required evidence of applicant's qualifications, will result in disqualification of your application."
142	MWBE & SDVOB Requirements	Are the MWBE & SDVOB related forms required to be submitted with the initial application or after funding is awarded?	Applicants need to upload Attachment 4 - Minority & Women-Owned Business Enterprise Requirement Forms and Attachment 5 - Service- Disabled Veteran Owned Business Requirement Forms in the Pre-Submission Uploads section of the Grants Gateway in order to submit an application in the system. Refer to Section V.A. Application Format/Content. It is encouraged that the applicant identify specific firms, if possible, in their utilization plan at the time of application. However, the identification of specific firms is not required to apply to this RFA.
143	MWBE & SDVOB Requirements	In Grants Gateway Pre-Submission Uploads – Attachment 4 is MWBE Forms and Attachment 5 is SDVOB Forms. We want to apply for a capital project. Since we plan not to incur any expenses before the start date of the contract (so as not to incur any at risk expenses) we are unable to identify MWBE and/or SDVOB vendors at this time. How do we complete the required MWBE and SDVOB forms?	See answer to question #142.
144	MWBE & SDVOB Requirements	If an Applicant cannot get quotes from MWBEs before the deadline, can they still submit an application?	See answer to question #142.
145	MWBE & SDVOB Requirements	Due to the limited timeframe, will applications still be considered if the applicant's unable to outreach and/or obtain price quotes from MWBEs and SDVOBs prior the submission deadline? Or can they wait until DOH decides if their proposed projects are awarded?	See answer to question #142.
146	MWBE & SDVOB Requirements	Can you clarify if 15% of the project work needs to be done by MWBE or is it 15% done MBE and 15% by WBE?	Per Section IV.I Minority & Woman-Owned Business Enterprise Requirements of the RFA, "The goal on the Eligible Expenditures portion of a Grant Contract awarded pursuant to this RFA will be 15% for Minority-Owned Business Enterprises ("MBE") participation and 15% for Women-Owned Business Enterprises ("WBE") participation (based on the current availability of qualified MBEs and WBEs and outreach efforts to certified M/WBE firms)."
147	MWBE & SDVOB Requirements	What is the minimum amount of project work that would need to be performed by a MBE, WBE, or SDVOB in order for an applicant not to require a waiver?	See answer to question #145 in regard to MBE and WBE goals. For SDVOB contract goals, refer to Section IV.J Participation Opportunities For New York State Certified Service-Disabled Veteran Owned Businesses of the RFA, which states "NYSDOH hereby establishes an overall goal of 6% for SDVOB participation, based on the current availability of qualified SDVOBs."

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
148	Number of Applications	Do I need to submit a separate application for debt retirement and expansion for the same clinic or can they all be in one application because are related to the same program?	<p>Refer to Section V.A. Application Format/Content, Program Specific Question 4. The Projects, which states: "Applicants can submit more than one Eligible Project. The decision to submit separate applications or one application should be based on whether the Eligible Projects are interdependent.</p> <p>Separate applications must be submitted for non-capital projects or debt retirement and restructuring purposes even if they are part of the same overall purpose for which an application for a capital project(s) is also being submitted.</p> <p>It is preferred that applicants submit separate applications for each Eligible Project. Separate applications will enable the review team to better consider the individual merits of each application. If an Eligible Applicant submits multiple, separate applications for funding under this RFA, the Eligible Applicant must assign a priority to each application.</p> <p>If submitting one application with more than one Eligible Project, the Eligible Projects should be considered interdependent to creating a financially sustainable system of care. If applications are interdependent and the overall Eligible Project cannot be completed unless all are funded, Eligible Applicants should describe this interdependence [Program Specific Questions, 3. Project Description]."</p>
149	Number of Applications	Section 4.c/Separate Applications: this is our first experience submitting several projects under one RFA/NYS GG application - If our organization is considering three (3) potential projects, please confirm that the process will require the activation and submission of three (3) different applications of this RFA in the NYS GG?	Yes, see answer to question #148.
150	Number of Applications	We would like to know if we can apply for capital funds for infrastructure at our Hudson Campus as well as the development of a new Ambulatory Surgery Center at a separate location as part of a master facilities plan that will increase access to care in our healthcare system.	Yes, see answer to question #148.
151	Number of Applications	Is an Eligible Applicant allowed to submit multiple applications for different projects the same facility/program that facilitate furthering transformational goals?	Yes, see answer to question #148.
152	Number of Applications	Regarding the submission of multiple applications, is it possible for more than one project to be funded, or would only one be chosen for funding? If only one can be funded, does this restriction apply to all categories of projects, or only if both are capital, or both are debt restructuring projects?	Yes, it is possible for more than one project to be funded. Also, see answer to question #148.
153	Number of Applications	Would an Eligible Applicant with 2 facilities under same Tax ID#, but separate NPI #s, have to submit separate applications if the proposed project applies to both facilities?	No, one application would be appropriate.
154	Number of Applications	Can one application/award cover two different sites in different counties? Or is a separate application needed for each site?	Refer to Section V.A. Program Specific Question 4.c.ii which states: Within a given application, multiple Eligible Projects and multiple locations may be included if they are considered interdependent to creating a financially sustainable system of care. If applications are interdependent and the overall Eligible Project cannot be completed unless all are funded, describe this interdependence.
155	Number of Applications	Section III of the RFA stipulates that Applicants assign priority if submitting multiple projects for consideration. Is this necessary if the projects benefit two entirely different hospitals under the same organizational umbrella?	Per Section III. Project Narrative/Work Plan Outcomes, if an Eligible Applicant submits multiple, separate applications for funding under this RFA, the Eligible Applicant must assign a priority to each application. The rank order of priority for each Eligible Project should be indicated in response to Program Specific Question 4.c.i. Refer to Section V.A. Application Format/Content.
156	Number of Applications	Regarding the submission of multiple applications, I understand that we would need to identify the relative priority of each our applications; where/how should we indicate that?	See answer to question #155.
157	Number of Applications	Section 4.ci/Priority for Each Eligible Project: is there a specific format for this requirement or can we simply assign a sequence (A, B and C or 1, 2 and 3) for this requirement?	There is no specific format. See answer to question #154.

#### Questions and Answers



Q#	Category	Question	Answer
158	Number of Applications	For agencies submitting applications to both SHCFTPIV and V, is it required to rank the all eligible projects to both these RFAs in priority order under SHCFTPIV question 4ci?	The applicant must assign a priority to each application submitted to RFA 20244 only. See answer to question # 154.
159	Number of Applications	Can 2 or more eligible applicant's submit separate applications for funding portions of the same project?	<p>If the project requires the involvement of more than one entity:</p> <p>(a) The Eligible Applicant may subcontract with other entities to complete the project. However, the Eligible Applicant is the entity that will enter into a grant contract with the state and will be financially responsible for incurring and paying all costs prior to reimbursement.</p> <p>(b) Alternatively, each entity may submit a separate application characterizing its specific project costs and impacts, so long as each entity meets eligibility requirements specified in Section II, Who May Apply.</p> <p>Where a project involves multiple interdependent applications, each application should reference and discuss these interdependencies.</p>
160	Organizational Capacity	Under Organizational Capacity, it says: Describe the Eligible Applicant's organization by answering each of the following questions specifically below: d. provide the name, title, salary of all employees in nonclinical titles whose salaries are \$250,000 or more. This appears to be a new item from prior RFPs. Is this as simple as submitting the organizations 990? Any particular reason to add this item?	Applicants should provide the name, title and salary of all employees in nonclinical titles whose salaries are \$250,000 or more in response to Program Specific Question 3. Organizational Capacity, question d. Applicant should also a copy of their 2022 IRS 990 Form, if not exempt. All pages must be combined into a single PDF no larger than 10MB and uploaded as Attachment 8 via the Grants Gateway in the Pre-Submission Uploads section of the online application. Refer to Section V.A. Application Format/Content, Program Specific Question 6. Eligible Applicant Financial Stability.
161	Organizational Capacity	Section 3.d/Organizational Capacity: does this section require disclosure forms/tax reports or will a narrative/description (Name - Title - Salary) suffice for this RFA.	Refer to Section V.A. Application Format/Content, Program Specific Question 6. Eligible Applicant Financial Stability.
162	Organizational Capacity	Can you please provide detail on how nonclinical salary information is reviewed with discretion, as this is largely sensitive information? Who is reviewing this information, how is it shared if at all, and with whom?	Refer to Section V.C. Review & Award Process.
163	Organizational Capacity	Would you please kindly advise as to the rationale for this request, the purpose of the information, and how the information will be utilized and disseminated? We hope to learn why this information is pertinent and how it will be used in the approval process.	See answer to question #161. This information will be used to evaluate the overall financial structure of the Applicant, and will be evaluated with respect to prioritization of Eligible Applicants in severe financial distress or that demonstrate how the proposed use of the grant will strengthen their financial sustainability and protect continued access to critical health services in their community or communities.
164	Organizational Capacity	In the Grants Gateway application, Question 2.b. requires an upload of our operating certificate. However, it does not appear that there is an upload option for this question. Where should we upload our Operating Certificate?	Refer to Section V.A. Application Format/Content, Program Specific Question 2.b. which states: Provide proof that the applicant meets the minimum eligibility requirements under Section II. Who May Apply. Proof of subsection (b) eligibility includes an uploaded copy of a New York State Operating Certificate for an Article 7, 16, 28, 31, 32, 36, 40 or 41 provider organization, or an uploaded copy of a New York State Medical License for a primary care provider or a filing receipt or copy of Articles of Organization for an independent practice association or organization. Provide proof of all other current certifications/licensures related to a project. All documents must be combined into a single PDF no larger than 10MB and uploaded as Attachment 6 via the Grants Gateway in the Pre-Submission Uploads section of the online application.
165	Organizational Capacity	We have been told it can take 2-3 months to obtain any SPARCs data, in that case, how is an organization expected to acquire data on service volume, occupancy and utilization by existing providers?	The Applicant should include organizational data on service volume, occupancy, and utilization such as the number of admissions or patient visits during the most recent 12-month cost reporting year.
166	Partial Award	Can a project be awarded a partial amount of the amount being requested? Is that a likely possible outcome if the request amount is deemed to high – or would the application be declined? Is there any request amount limit?	Per Section IV.F. Department of Health's Reserved Rights (3), the Department of Health reserves the right to, "Make an award under the RFA in whole or in part." In the event of award amount revisions, DOH would work with the awardee on a case-by-case basis. Also, see answer to question #9.

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
167	Prequalification in Grants Gateway / SFS	I was looking at getting our organization prequalified. I notice that much of the information request related to Non-Profit entities. We are a Private Psychiatric facility, but I believe when reading through who qualifies to gain funds from this grant it does not exclude for profits. Do you have any additional guidance for use on how to be pre-qualified as we would not be sending much of the information requested.	For-profit applicants do not need to be prequalified. Per Section IV.E. How to file an application. Not-for-profit Applicants must be prequalified, if not exempt, on the date and time Applications in response to this Request for Applications (RFA)..."
168	Prequalification in Grants Gateway / SFS	Could you advise how individuals can get prequalified in the New York State Grants Gateway or the Statewide Financial System (SFS)?	Refer to Section M. Vendor Prequalification for Not-for-Profits. Additional information can be found at this link: <a href="https://grantsmanagement.ny.gov/get-prequalified">https://grantsmanagement.ny.gov/get-prequalified</a> .
169	Prequalification in Grants Gateway / SFS	We have updated all of our information in SFS and our prequalification is good until 11/2024; is this always applicable within Grants Gateway?	If you are prequalified until 11/2024 in SFS, you will be considered prequalified at the time of application for this RFA.
170	Prevailing Wage	Do the Davis-Bacon laws apply to construction projects funded through this initiative?	Payment of prevailing wage is not a requirement for this RFA. Applicants may be subject to other laws, regulations or policies that could impose a prevailing wage requirement.
171	Previous Awards	We will need more funding for our currently funded Statewide project. What do you recommend in relation to how we request more funding for this project? We do have other infrastructure and capital requests for our main campus but also for the awarded project as it stands now.	Eligible applicants may apply to this RFA to complete or expand a capital project previously awarded through other rounds of the Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program. Per Section IV. Administrative Requirements, G. Term of Contract of the RFA, the estimated start date of the contract is October 1, 2024. Only expenses incurred on or after the start date of the contract (and determined allowable under the contract budget and work plan) may be vouchered for reimbursement. Any obligations assumed by the contractor prior to execution of the contract are assumed at-risk.
172	Previous Awards	If an entity is currently working on a capital project (expected completion May 2025), would we be eligible to apply for this funding and have any of it paid to cover costs that have already occurred (depending on when the funds are released)?	See answer to question #171.
173	Previous Awards	If an agency has previously received Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation funding under a previous round, and due to cost escalation, the project cost has gone up, are they allowed to request additional funding under SHCFTP IV to enable them to complete the project?	See answer to question #171.
174	Previous Awards	We received an award through the Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program III. Given the inflationary conditions post RFA submission, is it possible for additional funding to address increased costs to complete the current project?	See answer to question #171.
175	Previous Awards	If a project was previously awarded funding under SHCFTP III and the project costs have since increased, is it possible to apply under SHCFTP IV to make up the difference in project cost?	See answer to question #171.
176	Previous Awards	Can the geographic area be the same as a previously awarded transformation project if this project will be for a different site and scope?	Yes.
177	Previously Submitted Applications	Regarding Question 1b: If a similar project was proposed under another round and not funded, what should the response to 1b be? If a totally different project was proposed under another round but not funded, what should the response to 1b be?	Projects submitted for funding under the SHCFTP IV RFA #20244 that are substantially the same as those previously submitted under the SHCFTP I RFA (#1607010255), the SHCFTP II RFA (#17648), the SHCFTP III RFA (#18406) or SHCFTP IV-ED RFA (#20224) should be indicated in response to Question 1. b. of the application. Proposed Projects that are substantially the same and were previously funded through a state award can be considered for a SHCFTP IV award if not yet complete; see answer to question #171. If the project is substantially the same and was previously funded and is complete, it is not eligible for additional funding, unless an expansion is proposed. Whether a project is substantially the same will be determined as part of the review process based on a comparison of a previously submitted application for a project to the current submission.  If the project submitted for funding under any of the SHCFTP RFAs were not substantially the same, please indicate, "No" in the response to 1.b.

#### Questions and Answers

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
178	Previously Submitted Applications	If you did not receive an award through the Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program III, are you able to resubmit the same application for consideration OR will the same application be automatically considered.	An Applicant must submit a separate application in accordance with the requirements of this RFA. Also, see answer to question #177.
179	Previously Submitted Applications	Regarding applications that were not funded under the statewide III grant, will these be reconsidered for the current grants, or is it required for applicants to reapply?	See answer to question #178.
180	Previously Submitted Applications	Is there a benefit in the award criteria to resubmit the same project that was submitted through the Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program III.	No. Unlike other phases of the Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Programs, there is no priority or evaluation criteria for unawarded, previously submitted projects.
181	Project Budget	While working on the Capital Budget portion we are guided to refer to Attachment A for allowable and unallowable costs. I cannot seem to find an Attachment A and hope that you can give me some guidance.	Attachment A-1 refers to Program Specific Terms and Conditions of the New York State Master Grant Contract. For allowable and unallowable costs, please see Section III. Project Narrative/Workplan Outcomes, B. Eligible and Excluded Expenses and Disallowed Costs.
182	Technical - Application Access	Will the RFA be available on the SFS website after 1/16/24? Grants Gateway is in retirement.	The RFA, Grants Gateway opportunity DOH01-SHCFT4-2023, is available on the NYS Grants Gateway system. Applications need to be submitted through the Grants Gateway system, not SFS. The Grants Gateway will remain open through the due date of this RFA.
183	Technical - Application Access	Can you tell me if the grant application is open already? I am trying to access it on grants gateway with no luck.	See answer to question #182.
184	Technical - Application Access	The RFA indicates applications must be submitted via Grants Gateway (GG). NYS has informed us about the transition from GG to Statewide Financial System (SFS). Where do we submit our application for SHCFTP4, in GG or in SFS? If we are to submit via SFS, how do we do that? (No 'bid events' are appearing in SFS yet.)	See answer to question #182.
185	Technical - Application Access	RFA Section V, Completing the Application, A. Application Format/Content: Is this application to be submitted through Grants Gateway or the SFS system?	See answer to question #182.
186	Technical - Application Access	We understand that there was a transition from Grants Gateway to SFS for providers, however, believe that SFS is not yet fully set up with regards to proposals. For this RFA, we would like to confirm which portal should be used to submit the RFA, Grants Gateway or SFS?	See answer to question #182.

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
187	Technical - Application Access	For some reason when I go into the grant opportunity, there is a button to click "VIEW grant opportunity," but nothing that I can click to actually apply. Can you please advise/let me know what I might be missing?	<p>The RFA announcement and PDF document are located in the NYS Grants Gateway at: <a href="https://grantsgateway.ny.gov/IntelliGrants_NYSGG/module/nysgg/goportal.aspx?NavItem1=2">https://grantsgateway.ny.gov/IntelliGrants_NYSGG/module/nysgg/goportal.aspx?NavItem1=2</a></p> <p>Refer to Section VI. Attachments, which states in part: "In order to access the online application and other required documents such as the attachments, prospective applicants must be registered and logged into the NYS Grants Gateway in the user role of either a "Grantee" or a "Grantee Contract Signatory". Once logged in, the user should click on the "View Available Opportunities" button available on their home screen and search for the Grant Opportunity by name. On the Opportunity Funding Profile page, click on "Apply for Grant Opportunity" to begin the application. Refer to Section E. How to file an application for instructions on Grants Gateway. If you are having difficulty with Grants Gateway, we recommend consulting the Grants Management website at: <a href="https://grantsmanagement.ny.gov/">https://grantsmanagement.ny.gov/</a> and reaching out to the Grants Gateway Team.</p> <p>Grants Gateway Team Email: <a href="mailto:grantsgateway@its.ny.gov">grantsgateway@its.ny.gov</a>  Phone: 518-474-5595  Hours: Monday thru Friday 8am to 4pm  (Application Completion, Policy, Prequalification and Registration questions)</p> <p>Agate Technical Support Help Desk  Phone: 1-800-820-1890  Hours: Monday thru Friday 8am to 8pm  Email: <a href="mailto:helpdesk@agatesoftware.com">helpdesk@agatesoftware.com</a>  (After hours support w/user names and lockouts)</p>
188	Technical - Application Access	I do not see a "Apply For Grant Opportunity" button on the bottom left hand side of the opportunity. Please advise where I can start an application.	See answer to question #187.
189	Technical - Application Access	Can you advise on the process to apply. I would like to know where I can find the requirements to be completed for the grant and the supporting documents needed.	See answer to question #187.
190	Technical - Application Access	A hospital has prequalified in SFS, is not prequalified in GG, but says that they cannot access either Statewide application through SFS.	<p>Refer to Section M. Vendor Prequalification for Not-for-Profits which states in part: "Due to system conversion (Transition to SFS) expected on January 16th, 2024, Applicants that are not fully prequalified in the NYS Grants Gateway by close of business (COB) January 9th, 2024, will need to prequalify in the NYS Statewide Financial System (SFS). Additionally, if an applicant's vault expires prior to application submission, applicant will need to prequalify in SFS. "</p> <p>Even if an applicant prequalified in SFS, applications to this RFA must be submitted through the Grants Gateway system, not SFS. The Grants Gateway will remain open through the due date of this RFA.</p>
191	Technical - Application Access	I am having trouble figuring out how to apply. Can you tell me where our answers to the RFP questions will be uploaded?	DOH answers to applicant questions submitted by the due date as specified on the cover page of the RFA will be posted to Grants Gateway. Also, see answer to question #187.
192	Technical - Budget	Section 5, subsections b, c, and d—all appear to require a response. However, no text box corresponding to these subsections is provided in Grants Gateway.	<p>Responses to Section 5., subsections b., and c., should be captured as part of the Capital Budget sections located under the "Forms Menu" in the Grants Gateway. Non-capital funds should be allocated in the "Other" category of the Capital Budget.</p> <p>Responses to the above subsections should also be described in each line item in the Eligible Project's budget under the "Detail of Expenses" section in Attachment 2, Tab 2 "Use of Funds." The incremental projected budgets in Attachment 2 should reflect the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd year of operations after the transformational capital or non-capital, including debt relief project(s) is completed.</p>
193	Technical - Budget	In the Program Specific Questions, Section 5 Project Budget, sub-item 5d notes "If applicable, for non-capital debt retirement and restructuring, provide a detailed description and budget related to the health care transformation activities the Eligible Applicant will undertake as a result of the debt retirement and restructuring." However, there is no place to provide a response in the program specific questions. Where would you like this response to be provided?	See answer to question #192.

#### Questions and Answers

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
194	Technical - Budget	Our organization is considering applying for a non-capital expense related to a capital project for start-up support of a proposed new service. On the Project Financial Information form on the Tab Use of Funds, we are unclear where to capture this working capital request.	See answer to question #192.
195	Technical - Budget	In reference to 5a, Is there a "Project Budget" template that will be provided or will Applicants need to develop their own budget template to include as part of the application in Grants Gateway?	See answer to question #192.
196	Technical - Budget	What form or format should be used for the budget and narrative corresponding to 5d? Where should they be uploaded? What time period should this budget cover? What reporting will be required for this if the grant is awarded?	See answer to question #192. Applicants should submit a budget that covers a five-year period that aligns with the expected contract period of October 1, 2024 - September 30, 2029. Please see RFA Section IV. Administrative Requirements, H. Payment & Reporting Requirements of Grant Awardees for what reporting will be required if the Applicant receives an award.
197	Technical - Budget	We understand a detailed budget justification needs to be submitted and applicants are required to check a "completed" box in Attachment 2, Tab 2-Use of Funds that provides an additional instructional note. However, this note also states that the justification should be no more than 5 pages and 12-point font and is to be uploaded as a PDF. (a) Where does this get uploaded as Attachment 2 is submitted as an Excel and therefore, the 5-page justification cannot be combined with it? (b) Should we also include floor plans or other renderings for capital projects, and if so, do these count towards the 5-page limit?	Attachment 2 captures both Project Budget and Financial Sustainability information and a completed version of Attachment 2 should be uploaded in response to both questions 6a and 8a, as well as the Pre-Submission Uploads section. The assumptions for financial projections in question 8c are different than the detail of expenses, cost assumptions in Attachment 2, tab 2.  Assumptions to describe the impact of the Eligible Project on the Eligible Applicant's long-term financial sustainability include assumptions made for utilization, revenue and expense, balance sheet and cash uses and sources and should be described in response to question 8c. If needed, Eligible Applicants may submit additional supporting details and PDF uploads to the Grantee Document Folder. Please clearly label any uploaded files.  Assumptions related to the cost of each line item in the Eligible Project's budget are described under the "Detail of Expenses" section in Attachment 2, Tab 2 "Use of Funds". Use of Funds assumptions made in this section refer to costs of budget line items such as bids received or research conducted, etc. <u>This detailed description should be uploaded to the Grantee Document folder as separate PDF attachment and should not exceed 5 typed pages at 12 pt. font. Please note at the top right corner of the attachment, "Project Costs - Detail of Expenses".</u>
198	Technical - Budget	Is the completion of Attachment 2 (all tabs) considered fulfilling the requirement related to a budget with cost estimates? In other words, is the first sentence of section 5a one requirement and the reference to attachment 2, another requirement? Or are these both the same requirement?	See answer to question #197.
199	Technical - Budget	Regarding Attachment 7, it appears the green section of Part II relates to implementation costs, which are allowable costs and also capital costs. It appears the orange section is intended to capture non-capital/non-bondable "on-going" costs, which are not allowable for grant funding, but should be reflected in Attachment 2, Financial Viability, Years 1, 2 and 3. Is this correct?	Attachment 7 - IT Questionnaire should be completed only for the Information Technology Expenses related to the Eligible Project, if applicable. The green section of Attachment 7, Part II, relates to implementation costs that would be incurred prior to the "go-live" period of the Eligible Project which may be considered capital costs. The orange section of Attachment 7, Part II, captures on-going IT costs, not eligible for reimbursement. Attachment 2, Financial Viability, Years 1, 2 and 3 must begin on the first day of Operations upon completion of the Eligible Project. The projected years of this enterprise budget should reflect the incremental data associated with the entire project(s) within the application, inclusive of IT expenses.
200	Technical - Budget	Our proposed project involves renovations to an existing health center. The project has very little IT needs, other than a modest amount - \$5,000 – for additional switches and ethernet cables to be installed in an existing IT room. Based on the small amount, will we be required to complete the IT Questionnaire Form – including these modest required hardware and installation costs? They will likely be bundled with other construction needs during installation and purchasing and not stand-alone items. Please advise.	If the IT component of the proposed Eligible Project includes hardware only (e.g. wiring and cabling) and does not include software related costs, then the IT Questionnaire is not needed.
201	Workplan	Is there a minimum number of Objectives, Tasks and Performance Measures required, similar to RFA # 20258?	In the Forms Menu of Grants Gateway, there is a "Work Plan: Grantee Defined" section that an applicant will need to complete with an Work Plan Overview Form and Objectives. The composition of your grantee defined work plan is at your discretion.