

Questions and Answers

Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program IV –

Residential and Community-based Alternatives to the Traditional Model of Nursing Home Care

RFA #20340 / Grants Gateway #DOH01-SHC4NH-2024

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 #20340. 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
1	Grants Gateway	When I search for the opportunity in the NYS Grants Gateway, I am finding only RFA # 20258, <i>Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program IV and V Health Information Technology, Cybersecurity, and Telehealth Transformation</i> . They are completely different RFAs and deadlines. Can you please clarify the difference between the two? And where can I locate the first in the Gateway?	RFA #20340 is for eligible awardees based on capital projects for Residential and Community Based Alternatives to traditional model of nursing home care, while RFA #20258 is specific to Information Technology, Cybersecurity and Telehealth transformation. RFA #20340 is in Grants Gateway under its unique name, <i>Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program IV – Residential and Community-based Alternatives to the Traditional Model of Nursing Home Care</i> , with the availability date of January 9 th and a due date of April 9 th 2024.
2	Grants Gateway	Will the application continue to be accessed and submitted through Grants Gateway as opposed to the new SFS Grant system?	Per Section IV. E. How to file an application, Applications must be submitted using the Grants Gateway by the date and time posted on the Cover Page of this RFA under the heading “Key Dates”.
3	Grants Gateway	Could you advise how individuals can get prequalified in the New York	Applicants who were not pre-qualified in Grants Gateway on January 9 th , 2024 must prequalify in the NYS

		State Grants Gateway or the Statewide Financial System (SFS)?	<p>Statewide Financial System (SFS) BEFORE the application is due (April 9th, 2024). To pre-qualify you must Register.</p> <p>Please see link to register your organization in SFS.</p> <p>https://grantsmanagement.ny.gov/register-your-organization-sfs</p> <p>See Section IV. L Vendor Prequalification for Not-for-Profits of the RFA for further instructions.</p>
4	Eligibility	I am reaching out to confirm that Program for all Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) organizations are still viewed as eligible applicants under the revised eligibility criteria by virtue of their licensure as an Article 28 Diagnostic and Treatment Centers (D&TC)?	<p>Program for all Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE), programs authorized by DOH and CMS to provide program services under their Article 28 Diagnostic and Treatment Centers license, are eligible to apply if both the Applicant and proposed project meet all other RFA requirements. Applicants should use their discretion to select the most applicable provider organization type. See Section II. Who May Apply in the RFA for all eligibility requirements to apply.</p>
5	Eligibility	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?	<p>Per Section I, Introduction, of the RFA, Projects shall not receive an award under both this RFA and the Kings County Health Care Transformation Program (PHL §2825- a) or the Oneida County Health Care Transformation Program (PHL §2825-b).</p> <p>Eligible Applicants shall not receive awards for duplicative expenditures under both this RFA and any other state or federal opportunity, including the Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program IV (RFA# 20224, 20244, and 20258) and the Nonprofit Infrastructure Capital Investment Program (NICIP) to be administered by DASNY.</p>

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6	Eligibility	Would the build-out of a new, more efficient kitchen for a nursing home be considered an eligible project?	<p>See Section I. Introduction, of the RFA for information on what eligible applicants must demonstrate on how the proposed use of the grant will strengthen and protect continued access to health care communities.</p> <p>Eligible Applicants should describe the steps to be taken to transform, redesign, and strengthen the quality and innovation of residential healthcare services and programs including but not limited to the conversion of a traditional nursing home into separate residential-style homes; improve health outcomes and quality of the patient experience; create and contribute to a financially sustainable system of care; or preserve or expand the ongoing availability of essential health care services to the people of the community or communities served by the Eligible Applicant..</p>
7	Eligibility	Can you please confirm that PACE programs are eligible to apply for this opportunity under the Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program IV - LTC?	<p>Program for all Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE), programs authorized by DOH and CMS to provide program services under their Article 28 Diagnostic and Treatment Centers license, are eligible to apply if both the Applicant and proposed project meet all other RFA requirements. Applicants should use their discretion to select the most applicable provider organization type. See Section II. Who May Apply in the RFA for all eligibility requirements to apply.</p>
8	Eligibility	Can NYS DOH-operated facilities apply for this opportunity as the RFA posting on grants gateway indicates that government entities are eligible to apply?	<p>Government entities are eligible to apply but must also meet all other eligibility requirements. See Section II. Who May Apply.</p>
9	Eligibility	Can a Program for All Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) program apply to defray costs for typical planned	<p>Program for all Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE), programs authorized by DOH and CMS to provide program services under their Article 28 Diagnostic and</p>

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		<p>capital expenditures that would occur after PACE operations have begun?</p>	<p>Treatment Centers license, are eligible to apply if both the Applicant and proposed project meet all other RFA requirements. Applicants should use their discretion to select the most applicable provider organization type. See Section II. Who May Apply in the RFA for all eligibility requirements to apply.</p> <p>Per Section III. B. Eligible and Excluded Expenses and Disallowed Costs of the RFA, Eligible Applicants must include a robust description of the Eligible Project and justification for all expenditures included in the Project Budget as well as a discussion of how the expenditure relates to the Eligible Project.</p> <p>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>Excluded Expenses are not eligible for funding under SHCFTP IV. Excluded expenses include general ongoing operating costs applicable to day-to-day operations and other non-capital expenses. Costs not eligible for funding under SHCFTP IV include general ongoing operating expenses such as routine supplies; utilities; operating lease payments, equipment with a useful life less than three years; ongoing, routine training and maintenance costs related to IT projects; and employee salaries and benefits.</p>
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10	Eligibility	Is it possible to apply for funding without a specific property identified?	<p>Per Section III. B. Eligible and Excluded Expenses and Disallowed Costs of the RFA, Eligible Applicants must include a robust description of the Eligible Project and justification for all expenditures included in the Project Budget as well as a discussion of how the expenditure relates to the Eligible Project.</p> <p>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>
11	Eligibility	Is fiscal sponsorship allowed under RFA#20340? The eligibility criteria states that you do have to be an “established provider organization” but it is our understanding that Fiscal sponsorship was allowed in previous SHCFTP rounds. For example, having a current Article 28 licensed provider apply on behalf of a prospective PACE program operator.	An Eligible Applicant must be one of the provider organizations listed as an “Eligible Applicant” in Section II. Who May Apply. An Eligible Applicant must meet these minimum eligibility requirements at the time the application is submitted. An application must have one Eligible Applicant and the project as proposed in that application must primarily benefit the Eligible Applicant. The proposed project should align with the licensure the applicant is using to demonstrate eligibility for this grant funding.
12	Eligibility	RFA page 31 8a and application attachment #2 Financial Feasibility/Projections – The requested calculations are in reference to revenues/expenses related only to the locations of the project correct, i.e. the residences or facilities which are the subject of the	Correct. Please provide all information requested within the application for the specific proposed project. Per Section IV. F., DOH reserves the right to require clarification at any time during the procurement process and/or require correction of arithmetic or other apparent errors for the purpose of assuring a full and complete understanding of an Applicant’s Application and/or to

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		project? For an organization like ours with multiple programs and program sites, we would not need to include revenue projections for ALL programs and program sites, correct? Is this true for previous year, current year, and year 1,2 and 3?	determine an Applicant's compliance with the requirements of the RFA.
13	Eligibility	Should we use current reimbursement rates to calculate our projected years revenue assumptions?	Per Section V. A. question 8c, Applicants are instructed to provide a narrative detailing all financial projections including assumptions made for utilization, revenue and expense, balance sheet and cash uses and sources.
14	Eligibility	Regarding projected years being presented in "current year dollars" what is meant by current year dollars?	Current year means the current fiscal year dollar amount and should reflect the most recent certified financial statements. Unaudited financials for your organization's most recent fiscal year can be provided as additional documentation.
15	Eligibility	Would the capital costs of building first floor bedrooms in OPWDD licensed IRAs be eligible to support an aging population who are experiencing mobility issues so that they can remain in their "home" rather than moving into a nursing home?	See Section III. B. Eligible and Excluded Expenses and Disallowed Costs of the RFA. Eligible Applicants must include a robust description of the Eligible Project and justification for all expenditures included in the Project Budget as well as a discussion of how the expenditure relates to the Eligible Project.
16	Eligibility	If an agency is building a OPWDD licensed IRA that is medically equipped to provide health related support, could the expenses that exceed the OPWDD rate be eligible for this grant?	See Section III. B. Eligible and Excluded Expenses and Disallowed Costs of the RFA. Eligible Applicants must include a robust description of the Eligible Project and justification for all expenditures included in the Project Budget as well as a discussion of how the expenditure relates to the Eligible Project.

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17	Eligibility	Will construction of “small homes” on our campus (rather than in the outlying community) qualify for funding?	See Section III. B. Eligible and Excluded Expenses and Disallowed Costs of the RFA. Eligible Applicants must include a robust description of the Eligible Project and justification for all expenditures included in the Project Budget as well as a discussion of how the expenditure relates to the Eligible Project.
18	Eligible Project	I wanted to know whether EMOD contractors qualify to apply for this grant since we already provide an alternative to traditional nursing home care?	EMOD contractors do not qualify as an eligible provider organization established in accordance with PHL Section 2825-g. See Section II. Who May Apply. in the RFA for all eligibility requirements to apply.
19	Eligible Project	Would a capital project which seeks to expand a nursing-home based Adult Day Health Care Program be considered an eligible project?	Adult Day Health Care organizations are eligible to apply if both the Applicant and proposed project meet all other RFA requirements. Applicants should use their discretion to select the most applicable provider organization type. See Section II. Who May Apply and Section III.B. Eligible and Excluded Expenses and Disallowed Costs.
20	Eligible Project	Can we apply for the acquisition and renovation of more than 1 home in a single application?	An Eligible Applicant may choose to submit a single application or multiple applications. If an Eligible Applicant submits multiple applications for funding under this RFA, the Eligible Applicant must assign a priority to each application where indicated in the application
21	Eligible Project	Can multiple residences be addressed as one project without being considered interdependent?	Separate applications are required for each Eligible Project. If an Eligible Applicant submits multiple applications for funding under this RFA, the Eligible Applicant must assign a priority to each application where indicated in the application if submitting multiple separate applications, indicate the rank order of priority for each Eligible Project.

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22	Application	<p>RFA page 6, 2nd paragraph from bottom referencing design plans and specs and likely being unavailable at the time of application.</p> <p>a. If a non-profit DOES have schematic drawings, scope, and project pricing provided by a qualified individuals would the application be scored more favorably?</p> <p>b. If so, would such items be uploaded to the “Grantee Document Folder” or another location?</p>	<p>Eligible Applicants must include a robust description of the Eligible Project and justification for all expenditures included in the Project Budget as well as a discussion of how the expenditure relates to the Eligible Project.</p> <p>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>
23	Application	<p>Is it a requirement that the non-profit have sought out other financing for its project i.e. a commercial loan or other grants, etc?</p>	<p>The RFA 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 an 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 PHL 2825-g establishes as an evaluation criterion “the extent to which the applicant has 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.</p>
24	Application	<p>If we can submit multiple locations as one project what address would we use?</p>	<p>Separate applications are required for each Eligible Project. If an Eligible Applicant submits multiple applications for funding under this RFA, the Eligible Applicant must assign a priority to each application where indicated in the application. Per Section V. A. Q4. b.i.,If</p>

			submitting multiple separate applications, indicate the rank order of priority for each Eligible Project
25	Application	Would each residence require a separate application?	Separate applications are required for each Eligible Project. If an Eligible Applicant submits multiple applications for funding under this RFA, the Eligible Applicant must assign a priority to each application where indicated in the application. If submitting multiple separate applications, indicate the rank order of priority for each Eligible Project.
26	Application	The questions in 4f and 5 seem to be the same regarding Community Need. Should we copy and paste the responses?	Applicants are instructed to complete all questions in Section V.A and provide sufficient details for each.
27	Funding	Regarding question 1b- If a similar project was proposed under another round but 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?	<p>If your organization previously proposed and submitted a project for funds through the RFAs listed in Question 1a, you should answer Question 1b by indicating the applicant name, project name, and amount of grant funds requested</p> <p>If you answer “yes” to question 1a and the project previously submitted for SHCFTP I, SHCFTP II, SHCFTP III, SHCFTP IV, SHCFTP IV-ED, and/or SHCFTP IV-HIT funding was substantially the same as the current project being submitted, then indicate the applicant name, project name and amount of grant funds requested. If no to question 1a please indicate "no" in response.</p>
28	Funding	Is the purchase of a vehicle an eligible expense?	Please review Section III. B for Eligible and Excluded Expenses and Disallowed Costs

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			Costs not eligible for funding under SHCFTP IV include general ongoing operating expenses such as routine supplies; utilities; operating lease payments, equipment with a useful life less than three years; ongoing, routine training and maintenance costs related to IT projects; and employee salaries and benefits.
29	Funding	Are quotes for proposed expenses required?	See Section V. A. Questions 8b. and 8c. "Describe the financial impact or benefit of the Eligible Project(s) on the Eligible Applicant. Include any assumptions used in projecting the incremental revenues and expenses associated with the Eligible Project(s) and their impact on the Eligible Applicant." "Provide a narrative detailing all financial projections including assumptions made for utilization, revenue and expense, balance sheet and cash uses and sources."
30	Funding	What happens in the event awarded funds are not yet spent by the end of the contract period?	Contractor will be reimbursed for eligible, actual expenses incurred as allowed in the Contract Budget and Workplan. At the end of the contract period left over funds would be rebudgeted by the Department.
31	Funding	Is there a minimum or maximum dollar amount for grant requests?	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
32	M/WBE	Do the M/WBEs need to be identified in the RFA?	Each Applicant is required to make a good-faith effort to plan to meet 15% MBE and 15% WBE for a total combined effort of 30% for MWBE over the life of a proposed contract. Please provide relevant details with who you are proposing to work with.

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33	M/WBE	In the pre-submission uploads, both 4a and 4b are marked as required documents. What should we do for the one that isn't applicable (for-profit v not-for-profit MWBE forms)?	Attachments 4a and 4b are required for the specific applicant organization. Only one of the forms will be specific to your organization. Please complete that attachment and upload to each attachment area (4a and 4b). A document needs to be uploaded to each Attachment 4a and 4b in order to submit an application.
34	M/WBE	In the Pre-Submission Uploads, there is an asterisk indicating that both Attachment 4a (MWBE forms for non-profits) and 4b (MWBE forms for for-profits) are required. What should be uploaded in the spot that is not applicable?	Attachments 4a and 4b are required for the specific applicant organization. Only one of the forms will be specific to your organization. Please complete that attachment and upload to each attachment area (4a and 4b). A document needs to be uploaded to each Attachment 4a and 4b in order to submit an application.
35	Scoring	Is there any information available on the values or relative weights per section?	No, this information is not available to applicants See Section V. C. Review & Award Process for evaluation information.
36	Scoring	Will an organization that is fiscally sound (with moderate reserves and that is not operating at a loss) be scored lower?	While the award is discretionary, the evaluation criteria listed in the RFA and criteria in PHL 2825-g will be utilized to make the awards.
37	Scoring	What constitutes, or what are parameters for, the evaluations of good, acceptable, poor, not responsive?	Per Section, V. C Review & Award Process, under Stage 2 review, the evaluation of applications by the Review Team will be based on or supported by summaries and other factual analyses prepared for the Review Team by NYSDOH or other State agency staff, or in consultation with other internal or external sources. While the award is discretionary, the evaluation criteria listed in the RFA and criteria in PHL 2825-g will be utilized to make the awards.
38	Scoring	Will the non-profit be scored favorably or less favorably if it can	The RFA 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

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		<p>provide a board designated match of from its own verified resources?</p>	<p>Eligible Project receives an 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 PHL 2825-g establishes as an evaluation criterion “the extent to which the applicant has 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.</p>
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