

RFA #20224
Grants Gateway # DOH01-SHC4ED-2023

New York State Department of Health
Office of Primary Care and Health Systems Management

Questions and Answers - Published November 28, 2022

Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program IV-ED

Questions from e-mail and via webinar:

1. A. I see SHCFTP IV has been released. Have awards been made on SHCFTP III submitted in February?
- B. Have the awards been released for the third round of statewide funding?

[Announcements are expected by the end of this year for RFA #18406, Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program III.](#)

2. Could you advise as to the status of the Transformation 3 project award announcements? We currently have two applications pending and would like to know if either will be awarded, so that we can make a decision about project selection for the Transformation 4 opportunity that has a deadline of 12/29/22. I've copied the Statewide 3 team as well.

[The newly released DOH01-SHC4ED-2023 Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Fund IV is not at all linked to the Statewide III opportunity that is still under review. An application to Statewide IV will not impact an application for Statewide III.](#)

3. A. Is there an approximate date when RFPs are expected to be released for healthcare facilities *other than* hospitals?
- B. When will the other Transformation IV RFP be posted?
- C. When is the IV grant going to be available? As this is the IV ED grant.
- D. Will there be another RFA be released for SHCFTP IV to provide funding for facilities/providers who don't qualify for SHCFTP IV-ED? If so, when?

[Additional RFA's relating to Statewide Healthcare facilities are anticipated to be released in 2023.](#)

4. A. Are Pediatric Level I Trauma Centers eligible to apply if they meet other aspects of eligibility (i.e. highest pediatric trauma volume, high Medicaid volume, capacity to segregate patients with communicable diseases, trauma, behavioral health?

B. Will the criteria on highest trauma volume in the region apply to pediatric hospitals among other pediatric hospitals in the region that meet all other criteria or among all hospitals in the region that meet all other criteria?

C. Are Hospitals with “Provisional Level 1” Trauma Center status eligible to apply?

D. RE: RFA page 4, Sec. 2 - Will the criteria on highest trauma volume in the region apply to pediatric hospitals among other pediatric hospitals in the region or among adult trauma centers in the region?

E. RFA page 4, Sec. 2 - Are Pediatric Level 1 Trauma Centers eligible to apply if they meet all other aspects of eligibility?

Each “Eligible Applicant” must operate an emergency department which (a) serves as a Level 1 trauma center with the highest volume in its region; (b) includes the capacity to segregate patients with communicable diseases, trauma or severe behavioral health issues from other patients in the emergency department; (c) provides training in emergency care and trauma care to residents for multiple hospitals in the region; and (d) serves a high proportion of Medicaid patients to be eligible to receive grant funding under this RFA.

5. It is noted that an Eligible Applicant needs to be a Level 1 Trauma Center and have the highest volume in the region. Is it the highest volume of ALL FACILITIES in the region -- or is it the highest volume of ALL LEVEL 1 TRAUMA CENTERS in the region?

An eligible Applicant needs to have the highest volume of all Level 1 Trauma Centers in its region.

6. A. If awarded, will the DOH consider grant reimbursement of project expenditures incurred prior to and/or from award date to contract date?

B. If awarded, would the DOH consider allowing grant reimbursement of project expenditures incurred prior to and/or from award date (2/1/23) to contract date (5/1/23)?

Only expenses determined allowable under the contract budget and work plan and incurred on or after the start date of the contract, may be vouchered for reimbursement. Any obligations assumed by the contractor prior to execution of the contract are assumed at risk.

7. A. Page 5 section III.B lists eligible expenses as including equipment costs. Does this include items such as new hospital beds and IV pumps?

B. Are ambulances an eligible expense?

Excluded expenses include general ongoing operating costs applicable to day-to-day operations and other non-capital expenses not directly related to the start-up operating costs of the Eligible Project

for which funding is being sought under this RFA. 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.

8. Are IT infrastructure costs associated with ED patient telehealth expenses eligible?

Yes, IT infrastructure costs associated with ED patient telehealth are eligible expenses.

9. A. Are modernization projects to CPEP included as eligible expenses? The hospital's CPEP is the only program in the eight county service area and is of critical regional significance. The hospital is also a Level I Trauma Center.

B. What is included under "ED/Trauma Center modernization", for example does this include CPEP or trauma OR?

C. To clarify an earlier response, we can only request funds for the Level I trauma center, but cannot use any funds for CPEP even if it is needed to modernize the ED?

The applicant can use funds for CPEP provided the funding is spent on capital assets.

10. A. Will today's slides be made available?

B. Will a recording of the webinar be made available?

C. If the webinar recording won't be available, will a transcript of the post webinar Q&As be made available?

Webinar presentation slides will be shared with everyone who attended the webinar and additionally available online on the [Grants Gateway](#) by clicking on the View Opportunity Button. Questions that were asked at the webinar, and their answers, are included in this Question and Answer document.

11. Where is the RFA for this grant?

This RFA has been posted on the NYS Grants Gateway website at:

https://grantsgateway.ny.gov/IntelliGrants_NYSGG/module/nysgg/GOPortal.aspx and a link provided on the Department's public website at: <https://www.health.ny.gov/funding/>.

12. And is webinar for the IV ED grant or IV grant?

The webinar held on November 10, 2022 was for the Statewide **Health Care Facility Transformation Program IV-ED RFA**.

13. A. An Eligible Applicant must be a Level 1 Trauma Center with the highest volume in its region. How is a region defined? (i.e., county, etc.)

B. Just looking for clarification -- Per the RFA, "Region" is defined on page 2 of the RFA as "The geographic region served is defined as the service area from which the provider draws at least 75 percent of its patients during the most recent 12-month cost reporting period." Can clarification of "region" be provided? Trauma regions are defined differently than NYS economic regions.

C. Is it true then that since there are 8 regions in the state there would be only a max of 8 possible applicants since only one in each region would have the top volume and be eligible to apply?

D. Do we know how "region" is defined?

The definition of region is correct on page 2 of the RFA, "the geographic region served is defined as the service area from which the provider draws at least 75 percent of its patients during the most recent 12-month cost reporting period".

14. For highest volume, what year of data should be used?

Per page 2 of the RFA, the geographic region served is defined as the service area from which the provider draws at least 75 percent of its patients during the most recent 12-month cost reporting period.

15. Is eligibility based on ED volume?

Each "Eligible Applicant" must meet all the following criteria to be eligible to receive grant funding under this RFA:

- a) Be a legally existing organization and capable of entering into a binding Master Grant Contract (MGC) with NYSDOH.
- b) A General hospital licensed under Article 28 of the PHL;
- c) Operate an emergency department which (a) serves as a Level 1 trauma center with the highest volume in its region; (b) includes the capacity to segregate patients with communicable diseases, trauma or severe behavioral health issues from other patients in the emergency department; (c) provides training in emergency care and trauma care to residents for multiple hospitals in the region; and (d) serves a high proportion of Medicaid patients; **and**
- d) At the time the application is submitted, and at all times thereafter, applicants **MUST** be prequalified, if not exempt, in the New York State Grants Gateway. Please refer to Section IV.M. Vendor Prequalification for Not-for-Profits for details on the steps that must be completed to meet registration and prequalification requirements.

16. Is there a rubric and definition of what constitutes as "Good, Poor and Non-Responsive?

No, however per the RFA, "...applicants are advised to put forward their best efforts in thoroughly completing and fulfilling all the requirements of the RFA. While the award is discretionary, the criteria listed in PHL 2825-g will be utilized to make the awards".

17. I believe that the slide stated that the CON needed to be 'submitted.' But, I wanted to make sure that the CON 'approval' is not necessary for eligibility of the project and that 'submission' is sufficient? It was noted that "construction must be able to be started soon". How is that defined - is the submission of a CON Application acceptable? If yes, is there a date at which CON submission should occur? Or is it a requirement to have already submitted a CON application prior to submission of the RFA response?

An Eligible Applicant must be appropriately certified or licensed to complete all aspects of the proposed project at the time of application. Certificate of Need (CON) approval of the Eligible Project is not needed at the time of application submission.

18. How do you define "high proportion of Medicaid patients"?

A "high proportion of Medicaid patients" is measured by whether the hospital is in the top half of hospitals in its County in terms of the share of ED visits represented by Medicaid patients.

19. RFA page 5, Sec. 3 A. Eligible Projects – Must eligible projects be directly related to the ED and/or Level 1 Trauma Center, or may projects be indirectly related to the ED and/or Level 1 Trauma Center, or not related at all, as long as the project is within the A28 licensed Hospital that is designated a Level I Trauma Center?

Please see RFA, Section III. B.

20. Are multi-faceted projects eligible if a portion of a capital project is for the ED/Trauma Center and another portion of the project is for capital expenditures related to other aspects of care, i.e., NYS birthing initiative to create an antepartum center for equitable high-risk pregnancies and deliveries?

Please see RFA, Section III. B.

21. May a pediatric hospital and an adult hospital located in the same region, both with Level 1 Trauma Centers collaborate and submit a combined application with a project to benefit each hospital partner?

Yes, if they are part of the same health system.

22. The RFA on p. 4, Sec 2, Notes states: "The proposed project should align with the licensure the applicant is using to demonstrate eligibility for this grant funding". What does this mean?

Please see RFA, Section II.

23. Will the DOH give preference in selection of awards for ED “capital” projects verses non-capital projects such as debt reduction?

Per the RFA, “...applicants are advised to put forward their best efforts in thoroughly completing and fulfilling all the requirements of the RFA. While the award is discretionary, the criteria listed in PHL 2825-g will be utilized to make the awards”.

24. If submitting a capital project for ED equipment, is there a requirement for a minimum useful life of the equipment?

Per the RFA, “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”.

25. Will the NYSDOH be providing a list of all Eligible Applicants, based upon the criteria?

No.

26. Can a system that operates a Level I and Level II trauma center request funds for both EDs, or only the Level I center?

Funding requests need to be for the Level 1 Trauma Center.

27. What's your sense for how long the review process for Round IV (ED) will take, including announcing of the awardees and release of funds?

It is anticipated that awards will be made February 2023 and contracts are anticipated to begin May 2023.

28. Can we apply for two or more projects within the same application, and then potentially be funded for one of them?

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. Please also see the RFA, Section V., C.

29. If no CON required such as equipment capital purchases, should the applicant refer to its originally approved CON and operating cert?

An Eligible Applicant must be appropriately certified or licensed to complete all aspects of the proposed project at the time of application. Certificate of Need (CON) approval of the Eligible Project is not needed at the time of application submission.