

Mission:

To protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts.



Ron DeSantis
Governor

Joseph A. Ladapo, MD, PhD
State Surgeon General

Vision: To be the **Healthiest State** in the Nation

Questions and Answers

RFA24-001

DR. AND MRS. ALFONSE AND KATHLEEN CINOTTI HEALTH CARE SCREENING AND SERVICES GRANT PROGRAM

DATE: August 21, 2024

TO: Applicants

FROM: Division of Public Health Statistics and Performance Management, Florida
Department of Health

SUBJECT: Questions and Answers: Request for Applications (RFA) #24-001

Question #1

With regards to cancer specific screenings, can this program be used for diagnostic screenings, e.g. follow-up colonoscopy to a positive fecal stool test or diagnostic mammography?

Department Response:

Yes. Diagnostic screening is a type of screening and is therefore eligible for funding. See RFA24-001, "Appendix A" for more information. Note that all requested costs must be reasonable and necessary (subsection 4.8, Proposed Budget Summary and Narrative).

Question #2.

Are local county health departments eligible to apply?

Department Response:

No. This grant is intended for non-profit organizations. County health departments are part of the Florida Department of Health, and are therefore ineligible.

Question #3.

Would the purchase of sunblock for skin cancer prevention screenings be eligible for funding? Or the purchase of hats and long sleeve shirts for farmworkers?

Department Response:

See Addendum 1 of RFA24-001, Section 6. This grant is designed to provide no-cost



screenings and related services. The purchase of sunblock, hats, and shirts is not considered screenings or related services.

Question #4.

Only screening is covered. Follow up service as in tooth extraction is NOT covered, please confirm

Department Response:

Please see the Department Response to Question #3 above. Follow-up treatment is not considered screenings or related services.

Question #5.

Is there a definition of "services"?

Department Response:

Please see the Department Response to Question #3 above.

Question #6.

If looking for cancer screenings, is it recommended to stick to one type of screening or several?

Department Response:

Applicants can select one screening area to implement or multiple screening areas per RFA24-001, subsection 1.8. Each applicant must determine their own scale and capacity for engaging in multiple screening efforts.

Question #7.

Please expand on the Certification of a Drug-Free Workplace. Is this a specific state certificate or simply a statement attesting to the office's personnel policies?

Department Response:

The Certification of Drug Free Workplace is a required document that is provided by the applicant attesting to a drug-free workplace. A state specific certificate is not required.

Question #8.

Are we able to include more than one screening or are we limited to one type of screening on the list provided?

Department Response:

Please see the Department Response to Question #6 above.

Question #9.

With Cancer screening- can helping people enroll at a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) and providing education on breast and skin cancer be considered a screening event?

Department Response:

See Addendum 1 of RFA24-001, Section 6.

Question #10. How will awards be determined?

Department Response:

Please refer to Section 5.0, "Evaluation of Applications," the Cinotti Grant Program: Application Evaluation Scoring Rubric RFA# 24-001 pages 23-27, and Section 6.0, Grant Awards of RFA24-001.

Question #11.

Dental screening. Will the grant also cover the dental service. Example Tooth Decay screened. Will the extraction of the tooth be covered?

Department Response:

Please see the Department Response to Questions #3 and #4 above.

Question #12.

Please describe what type of entity is eligible for this grant.

Department Response:

See RFA24-001, subsection 1.6 "Eligible Applicants". A grant awarded under the Cinotti program may be awarded to any nonprofit entity to implement new health care screening or services programs that the entity has not previously implemented. A nonprofit entity, per the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), is defined as an entity that is organized and operates exclusively for a specified purpose, that meets certain requirements, and are tax exempt under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3).

Question #13.

What are examples of allowable and unallowable expenditures on this grant?

Department Response:

See subsection 2.5 in the RFA ("Use of Grant Funds"). Grant funds may be expended on allowable expenditures only.

Question #14.

Is a local government who operates a federally qualified health center eligible for this grant. Pinellas County runs a health care for the homeless program that is a funded health center program through HRSA. We serve approximately 2200 homeless individuals in Pinellas County with primary medical, dental, specialty, behavioral health and more. Please advise.

Department Response:

Eligible applicants are defined in RFA24-001, subsection 1.6 of the RFA24-001. "A nonprofit entity, per the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), is defined as an entity that is organized and operates exclusively for a specified purpose, that meets certain requirements, and are tax exempt under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3). The application must clearly identify a single lead agency and any subcontractors with respect to program accountability and administration. Subcontractors must also meet the eligibility guidelines stated above. Only one (1) application will be accepted per organization as identified by the Federal Employee Identification Number (FEIN)."

Question #15.

Hi, I have two questions: 1) which sites will be used for this grant and 2) can referrals be to any hospital or clinic?

Department Response:

Eligible applicants are defined in subsection 1.6 of RFA24-001. RFA24-001 does not specify where referrals for treatment must be directed.

Question #16.

We do not provide any clinical services on-site, as we are an administrative referral office. All of our patients receive services off-site in our volunteer provider offices within the county (as part of the VHCPP program) or at diagnostic and/or lab facilities. Our VHCPP providers provide their service at no cost; however, we reimburse for diagnostic testing at a prenegotiated rate for all diagnostics and pay the facility directly. Being that we do not provide services on-site, are we eligible to apply for the cost of those screenings and pay the providers directly?

Department Response:

Eligible applicants are defined in subsection 1.6 of RFA24-001 of the RFA. Grant requirements are provided in subsection 2.1 of RFA24-001. Page 6 the RFA states, “4. Subcontracts are allowed under this grant. However, subcontractors are accountable to the grantee for the management of any funds received. Grantees may sub-contract any of the proposed services with prior written approval from the Contract Manager. Grantees must demonstrate to the Department the procurement method used to secure all subcontract agreements. Subcontract agreements will be restricted to no more than 15% of the total final award and subcontractors must be registered with the Division of Corporations under the Florida Department of State (www.sunbiz.org). Subcontracts must meet the eligibility guidelines of this grant and any work by the subcontractor must meet the grant requirements specified in the RFA and in the program contract.”

Question #17.

We have a quick question. We currently offer diabetes screenings via our mobile unit. Are we eligible for the grant if we were to expand our screenings to include dental?

Department Response:

Please see the Department Response to Question #2 above

Question #18.

We just learned of this grant opportunity and believe our free and charitable clinic (no federal funds) is a perfect fit for us.

Is there a way to see the webinar?

Department Response:

The August 8, 2024 Pre-Application Webinar is available online at www.FloridaHealth.gov/CinottiGrantProgram.

Question #19.

Thank you for the information session held this morning. We understand that a purchase of mobile units is not allowed under the grant. However, if we have an existing mobile unit to utilize for the proposed services, would the grant cover the maintenance of the mobile unit? Thank you for your time.

Department Response:

See subsection 2.5 of RFA24-001. Additional information is provided in subsection 4.8. "Justification for all cost items contained in the Proposed Budget Summary must be described in a separate Budget Narrative, the format for which is contained in the Attachments. Only cost allocations under the terms of the RFA and applicable state cost principles may be included in the line-item budget. All requested costs must be reasonable and necessary. Regarding Mobile grant programs, the purchase of vehicles is not allowable with this funding and any equipment purchases over \$5000.00 will need to be specifically reviewed and approved by the Department."

Question #20.

I hope you're having a great day. I apologize for missing the webinar this morning due to a prior commitment.

I have a quick question regarding the qualifications for this grant. I noticed that epilepsy is not listed among the eligible conditions. Would it be possible to add epilepsy to the list? We are interested in applying and would like to confirm our eligibility.

Please advise at your earliest convenience. Thank you!

Department Response:

Grant requirements are provided in RFA24-001, subsection 2.1 and screening types are provided in section 381.9855, Florida Statutes. Pursuant to subsection 2.1, paragraph 5 of the RFA, "Grant funds must be spent on staffing, supplies and other necessary costs directly related to screenings or related services, including referrals for treatment, if appropriate for one or more of the following:

- a. **Hearing.**
- b. **Vision.**
- c. **Dental.**
- d. **Cancer.**
- e. **Diabetes.**
- f. **Renal disease.**
- g. **Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.**
- h. **Hypertension.**
- i. **Heart disease.**
- j. **Stroke.**
- k. **Scoliosis."**

Question #21.

Yesterday, I was sent information about the Cinotti Grant Program.

I have been reading through the material and need clarification on whether my organization qualifies.

Our vision is for all residents of Indian River County to have access to specialty medical services regardless of their financial resources or employment status.

The screening we do is post-primary care evaluation, where they do initial screening.

When patients are referred to us, we send them to the appropriate volunteer physician for further evaluation.

In many cases, the clinic or our hospital's charity program usually absorbs the cost of testing. We are a very small shop but greatly impact the community's health and well-being. These funds would make a huge impact on our budget, but there is no need to go through everything if we are not going to qualify from the start.

I'd greatly appreciate your thoughts and any guidance you could provide - Thank you so much!

Department Response:

Eligible applicants are defined in subsection 1.6 of RFA24-001. Grant requirements are provided in subsection 2.1 of the RFA. Page 6 the RFA states, "4. Subcontracts are allowed under this grant. However, subcontractors are accountable to the grantee for the management of any funds received. Grantees may sub-contract any of the proposed services with prior written approval from the Contract Manager. Grantees must demonstrate to the Department the procurement method used to secure all subcontract agreements. Subcontract agreements will be restricted to no more than 15% of the total final award and subcontractors must be registered with the Division of Corporations under the Florida Department of State (www.sunbiz.org). Subcontracts must meet the eligibility guidelines of this grant and any work by the subcontractor must meet the grant requirements specified in the RFA and in the program contract."

Question #22.

We are wondering if the grant funds can go toward expanding services. Our Promise Fund grant ended and was not renewed and our Closing the Gap grant was cut.

In the same vein, we have been doing prevention work for decades. Grants come and go. How long would we have to go NOT providing the proposed prevention activity?

We were unable to attend the webinar because we just found out about the grant. Please send us the link.

Department Response:

Addendum 1 of RFA24-001, paragraph 2. states, "To be eligible to add a new screening to your current location, the clinics must not have been doing that type of screening on the date that RFA24-001 was released, August 1, 2024."

Question #23.

Thank you for the Webinar yesterday. We would like to apply for this funding to meet the needs of our area's uninsured residents.

We read the statute and the RFA and hope staff will further clarify the scope of the services that will be funded.

Florida Statute 381.9855 (1)(b) and (c) state:

(b) A nonprofit entity may apply for grant funds in order to implement new health care screening or services programs that the entity has not previously implemented.

(c) A nonprofit entity that has previously implemented a specific health care screening or services program at one or more specific locations may apply for grant funds in order to provide the same or similar screenings or services at new locations or through a mobile health clinic or mobile unit in order to expand the program's delivery capabilities.

And the RFA initially describes the purpose of the grant program consistently with the statutory language... see for example the purpose statements on pages 3 and 5, but later the RFA

switches to using the terms “screening services” and “referral” to services. So, we would appreciate clarification.

- Does this program fund screenings and services (such as office visits and medications), or only screenings and referrals to services?
- If the program does not fund services such as office visits and medications, where should funded agencies refer uninsured individuals in need of disease care and treatment?
- And what about follow-up lab work? For example, lab work other than those specific tests outlined in Appendix A? Or the specific tests outlined in Appendix A that need to be repeated during the grant period? Would those be covered?

Department Response:

Please see the Department Response to Questions #3 and #15 above.

Question #24.

We would like to obtain clarification on the following question:

- Do you anticipate continued funding past the first 8-month term?
- Regarding allowable screening services, are only the screening types referenced in Appendix A. Health Screenings Table allowable? For instance, if we want to pursue dental screenings, are we only able to request funding for a school-based dental sealant program? Or can we propose other types of dental screenings?

Department Response:

The funding period is explained in subsection 1.4 of RFA24-001. Grant renewals are explained in subsection 1.6 of the RFA. Applicants are not limited to a school-based dental sealant program. Additionally, section 381.9855(1)(b), Florida Statutes, states that “a nonprofit entity may apply for grant funds in order to implement new health care screening or services programs that the entity has not previously implemented.”

Question #25.

Is the Pre-Application Webinar going to be published? I am located in Taylor County and we were hit with Hurricane Debby this week and I was unable to attend.

Department Response:

Please see the Department Response to Question #18 above.

Question #26.

Is there a link to the recording of the pre-application webinar for RFA24-0011? I was provided the information yesterday, the 9th, and would like to make sure I don't miss anything.

Department Response:

Please see the Department Response to Question #18 above.

Question #27.

Is there a recording of the 8/8/2024 webinar for this grant application?

Department Response:

Please see the Department Response to Question #18 above.

Question #28.

Good morning, I just received the information on the Cinotti grant application. I see that there was a webinar I missed. Was the webinar recorded, and if so how, may I access it? Thank you so much for your help.

Department Response:

Please see the Department Response to Question #18 above.

Question #29 and #30

- In section 2.6 Method of Payment item 4, it states “total number of participants and names, or unique identifiers, of individuals who benefit from grant activities...” Our organization provides screening services to school districts. The school districts do not provide names or unique identifiers to us due to FERPA regulations. Is there an alternative method, such as the school district confirming in an email in writing how many children were screened, that would satisfy this requirement for payment? Additionally, will these names need to be submitted with the quarterly invoice, or maintained by the grantee for auditing purposes?
- In section 2.9 Programmatic Specifications, the third bullet point for other specifications states professionals must have a valid and current license for the specific screening type. Our organization uses screeners who are supervised under a licensed provider. Can you please clarify if screenings performed by staff employed by our organization under the supervision and direction of a licensed healthcare provider will qualify as screenings under this grant?

Department Response:

RFA24-001 subsection 7.1, states that “the format of required reporting will be reviewed with successful grantees in the post-award period. Grantees must complete reporting utilizing the provided systems and reporting tools if any are provided. The grantee and the Department will engage in negotiation prior to establishing the agreed upon reporting method.”

The programmatic specifications, outlined in subsection 2.9 of the RFA, state the following: “Professionals must have current and valid licenses as required by state and federal law and proof of licensure must be available for programmatic review during grant activities. For example, all screening personnel must have completed the appropriate practical exams for Florida Licensure whether for a specific health discipline (hearing, vision, etc.,) or a general health practitioner license which allows such screenings to be provided by the individual.”

In addition, under the project management plan in subsection 4.7.4 of the RFA states, “B. A description of how the program will be staffed, (e.g., paid staff and/or volunteers, and subcontracts). Identify the number and type of positions needed, which positions will be full-time, and which will be part-time, and qualifications proposed for each position, including type of experience and training required. Applicant must explain how staff and volunteers are recruited as well as how consultants and subcontractors are procured.”

Question #31.

Can you please advise on the following question:

Can project funds be used to retrofit a mobile unit owned by the applicant with a dental operatory in order to provide mobile dental services?

Department Response:

The use of grant funds is provided under RFA24-001, subsection 2.4. Additional information is provided in subsection 4.8. “Justification for all cost items contained in the Proposed Budget Summary must be described in a separate Budget Narrative, the format for which is contained in the Attachments. Only cost allocations under the terms of the RFA and applicable state cost principles may be included in the line-item budget. All requested costs must be reasonable and necessary. Regarding Mobile grant programs, the purchase of vehicles is not allowable with this funding and any equipment purchases over \$5000.00 will need to be specifically reviewed and approved by the Department.”

Question #32:

Given the strict presentation of the screening area, we wish to submit a proposal to provide screenings for Heart Disease. However, we would like to focus on Sudden Cardiac Arrest for adolescents, particularly those participating in sports. Would this be acceptable?

Appendix A. Health Screening Table

Heart Disease: Sudden Cardiac Arrest			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EKG • If indicated, further evaluation by a Pediatric cardiologist 			
Screening Population (by age group, by gender, etc.)	Screening Time Interval	Recommending Organization for Screening Guidelines	Screening Protocol Effective Date
<p>Adolescents (typically 12-18 years old): This age group is at higher risk for conditions that could lead to SCA, such as hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, long QT syndrome, or other structural heart abnormalities.</p> <p>Students with a family history of SCA or sudden death: Those with a family history of cardiac conditions or unexplained sudden death may be at higher risk and benefit from EKG screening.</p> <p>Students with symptoms: Those who have experienced unexplained fainting, chest pain, or shortness of breath during exercise may need an EKG to rule out cardiac issues.</p> <p>Boys and girls should be screened.</p>	<p>The EKG is quick, typically lasting only a few minutes, and is painless. The results are reviewed by a healthcare professional, usually a cardiologist, to look for any abnormalities that could indicate a risk for SCA.</p> <p>Students should be screened to evaluate cardiovascular risk once per year.</p>	<p>American Heart Association</p> <p>American Academy of Pediatrics</p>	<p>11/01/2024</p>

Department Response:

Grant requirements are provided in RFA24-001, subsection 2.1 of the RFA and section 381.9855(1)(a)3., Florida Statutes. Pursuant to subsection 2.1, paragraph 5 of the RFA, “grant funds must be spent on staffing, supplies and other necessary costs directly related to screenings or related services, including referrals for treatment, if appropriate for one or more of the following:

- a. Hearing.
- b. Vision.
- c. Dental.
- d. Cancer.

- e. Diabetes.
- f. Renal disease.
- g. Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.
- h. Hypertension.
- i. Heart disease.
- j. Stroke.
- k. Scoliosis.”

Question #33.

Could you tell us when the submission dates are for the 2nd round of funding?

Department Response:

The submission dates for any future funding for the Cinotti Grant Program have not been released at this time.

Question #34.

1. Can you define a passive post-screening referral process more clearly?
2. Is a passive post-screening referral process acceptable for reporting if there is no other way to follow up with patient? (e.g. if the patient lives outside the service area)

Department Response:

A definition of “passive referral” is provided in RFA24-0011 subsection 4.11 areas follows: “Passive Referral: Referral process that considers only the information going from the screening program provider to the referred community program or resource.”

A passive post-screening referral process is acceptable for reporting. Note that subsection 4.7.3 of the RFA “Program Description” states: “9. Include a description of the process for post-screening referrals whether active or passive. An active bi-directional process with established partnerships and regular communications with clinical providers and follow-up with the client is encouraged. The application should describe the process for referrals to treatment and if the process is currently in place or if it needs to be established.”

This is not a competitive solicitation subject to the notice or challenge provisions of section 120.57(3), Florida Statutes.