



Investing in Dental Care Technology

Grant Application Questions and Answers

Question 1: Do semi-rural counties qualify for this grant? For example, would Rock County qualify?

Answer 1: This funding opportunity seeks to provide services that benefit people living in rural and semi-rural areas of Wisconsin. The definitions of rural counties can be found in Addendum Exhibit 1.

Question 2: Can we implement an in-house digital denture program using mid-tier dental printers? Does this qualify for the grant?

Answer 2: Yes. Purchasing a dental printer, if used for dental services, is allowable. Applicants should describe how the digital dental printers support the funding goals. If the per unit cost of the equipment is \$10,000 or more, it will require prior written approval from CMS once the application is approved by DHS.

Question 3: Is the purchase of a 3D printer to create dentures and other 3D-printed dental removable or permanent dental appliances to improve efficiency and reduce patient and clinic costs for such appliances allowable?

Answer 3: Yes. Purchasing a 3D printer, if used for dental services, is allowable. Applicants should describe how the printer supports the funding goals. If the per unit cost of the equipment is \$10,000 or more, it will require prior written approval from CMS once the application is approved by DHS.

Question 4: Please clarify the allowable cost listed: "Portable or mobile dental equipment for outreach services." What constitutes "outreach services" – does that include clinical care?

Answer 4: Outreach services refer to dental services that are delivered outside of a traditional clinical setting to reach rural and semi-rural communities. Direct clinical care services are not an allowable expense under this grant funding. However, the purchase of technological equipment to facilitate those services is allowable.

Question 5: Is the purchase of a mobile van/RV for mobile clinical dental services allowable?

Answer 5: Purchasing mobile vans alone does not fit within the scope of this grant funding opportunity. However, the purchase of a mobile van that includes retrofitting the van with dental technology to increase access to rural Medicaid patients and other rural populations who lack access to and resources for dental care could be allowable. Please note that the Care Coordination funding opportunity also allows for the purchase of a mobile van to increase access to care.

Question 6: Is upgrading/retrofitting a mobile van/RV for mobile clinical dental services allowable?

Answer 6: Upgrading or retrofitting mobile vans alone does not fit within the scope of this grant funding opportunity. However, retrofitting a mobile van with *dental technology* to increase access to rural Medicaid patients and other rural populations who lack access to and resources for dental care could be allowable. Please note that the Care Coordination funding opportunity also allows for the purchase of a mobile van to increase access to care.

Question 7: A dental mobile unit would enhance our impact in rural communities; could that be a consideration to reach the other areas of our service areas to eliminate the transportation barrier?

Answer 7: A mobile dental unit alone does not fit within the scope of this grant funding opportunity. However, the purchase or upgrading of a mobile dental unit that includes dental technology to increase access to rural Medicaid patients and other rural populations who lack access to and resources for dental care could be allowable. Please note that the Care Coordination funding opportunity also allows for the purchase of a mobile van to increase access to care.

Question 8: Will grants advanced through this funding opportunity be reviewed in relation to other available funding opportunities, such as the care coordination grants, such that an applicant might apply for funding through each program as part of their comprehensive proposal? For example, a health care organization uses the Dental grant to purchase a tele-dentistry platform and applies to the care coordination grant for funding to launch a school-based collaborative restorative dental program staffed by Dental Therapists?

If so, how should applicants indicate the interconnected or dependent nature of their applications to multiple funding opportunities?

Answer 8: Organizations may apply to more than one Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP) funding opportunity. Applicants can describe how the funding opportunities are connected as part of their narrative application responses in both applications. We cannot guarantee that both funding applications will be successful, as awards will be reviewed independently. However, we will give consideration to the strength of the broader plan to braid funds to achieve program goals.

Question 9: Will applications for this funding opportunity be approved all or none, or alternatively partially, if an applicant submits a request for multiple initiatives within a single application?

Answer 9: The award amounts will depend on the number of applications received and the scope of the proposed projects. DHS will work with the selected applicants to negotiate the terms of the award and the award amount before entering into the contract.

Question 10: Do recipients need a SAM ID?

Answer 10: All applicants are required to have a valid Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) and maintain an active SAM.gov registration. A UEI is required when the grant is awarded in October. If your organization does not currently have one or needs to renew, you may begin the registration process now. Failing to maintain an active registration may result in delayed funding or loss of eligibility.

Question 11: Do applicants need letters of support from grant writers they hire?

Answer 11: You are not required to submit a letter of support from grant writers that are hired. Applicants must include letters of support from each partner with an active role in the project.

Question 12: Explain the 8% administrative part of the budget. Can grant writers charge 8% for ongoing support of the grant? How does this affect staff time to input information to the grant writer?

Answer 12: Your budget cannot include more than 8% for administrative expenses. Personnel costs associated with administering RHTP grant activities may be considered administrative costs. In contrast, if staff are directly carrying out program initiatives, the costs generally are considered programmatic.

Administrative costs support the day-to-day operations and general grant oversight. These costs generally include indirect costs, audit expenses, and salary and fringe benefits for personnel whose primary responsibilities involve managing, tracking, and overseeing the grant. More information is available in Addendum Exhibit 3: Budget Instructions.

Question 13: Does equipment purchased (over \$10,000) need special conditions to be met from CMS? Like disposition and end of life requirements?

Answer 13: Equipment is defined as having a per-unit cost of over \$10,000 and requires approval from CMS once the application is approved by DHS. CMS follows the federal Uniform Guidance requirements in 2 CFR 200.313 for the use and disposition of equipment. Annual updates must be provided to DHS detailing the status, location, condition, and use of equipment.

Question 14: Under part 14, is the b section the allowable minor construction, or is it a sub of 14 the unallowable construction?

Answer 14: New construction is unallowable. The hypothetical examples under 14b (page 13) are examples of allowable expenses since they are enhancements and not new construction.

Question 15: If someone uses a grant writer, how will that person access the reporting portal post award?

Answer 15: Upon award notice, DHS will coordinate with awardees on reporting requirements.

Question 16: We served patients with Medicare & Medicaid in our practice, however, we are not in network with Forward Health. Would this still qualify?

Answer 16: Yes. This funding opportunity seeks to increase access to dental care for underserved populations in rural and semi-rural Wisconsin. We are looking for applicants that describe strategies to provide care for patients with Medicaid coverage or others with limited resources (e.g. low-income and uninsured). Applicants should provide evidence of current systems or plans to ensure access to dental care for rural populations who have limited resources and/or Medicaid members.

Question 17: Is the grant amount \$10,000 for each recipient or is the amount divided among grantees? What is the minimum grant amount one can receive?

Answer 17: The Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP) estimates awarding up to \$10 million for this funding opportunity pending CMS approval. The award amounts will depend on the number of applications received and the scope of the proposed projects. DHS will work with selected applicants to agree on the award terms and award amount before the contract is signed.

Question 18: The bullet point "A private, non-profit, or public dental clinic or dental practice" was confusing some of our constituents who were considering applying.

Answer 18: Eligible applicants include dental practices that are private, public, or non-profit. Examples could include corporate dental offices, independent or solo group practice, Federally Qualified Health Centers that provide dental services, state or local public health clinics, Tribal dental clinics, or non-profit dental clinics in community health centers.

Question 19: Is there a cap on the amount that can be requested?

Answer 19: The award amounts will depend on the number of applications received and the scope of the proposed projects. DHS will work with the selected applicants to negotiate the terms of the award and the award amount before entering into the contract.

Question 20: Will there be partial awards? If so, how will they be determined?

Answer 20: The amount of funding awarded will depend on the total number of applications received and the scope of each project. Applications will be reviewed and scored on a 100-

point scale. Organizations located and providing services in rural counties (rather than semi-rural alone) will receive additional weight of 0.15 on the total score.

Question 21: Can multiple dental equipment projects be included?

Answer 21: Applicants can request funding for more than one dental equipment project.

Question 22: "Total number of Medicaid members" Are you looking for an annual or monthly total?

Answer 22: We are looking for the number of Medicaid members you serve monthly. You may also provide the number of Medicaid members served annually.

Question 23: "Served per month" Are you looking for the previous year's average monthly total or most recent full month?

Answer 23: We are looking for an annual average of patients served per month, or the total number of patients served during the recent full month with the reporting metric clearly indicated.

Question 24: Technology needs are substantial. We would like to move our dental servers for the current host and purchase WISDOM that would integrate with EPIC our current EHR. Is that level of request allowable along with the other equipment needs?

Answer 24: Yes. This is allowable under this grant.

Question 25: Could you please clarify what might happen if a grant was awarded, and a provider ended up retiring or selling their practice in any particular timeframe after receiving the award?

Answer 25: The awardee is responsible for the terms and conditions outlined in the contract and is expected to communicate to DHS with any changes in project scope or personnel.