

Patients as Partners—Frequently Asked Questions

1. Could you provide some examples of related projects previously funded by NYSHealth?

The Foundation's priority area on [Empowering Health Care Consumers](#) is focused on two core strategies: (1) promoting information transparency in price, quality, and patient experience and (2) engaging patients as partners in health care and health policy decision-making. Descriptions of current and past projects in this area are available on the [NYSHealth website](#).

2. What are some examples of projects that NYSHealth is looking for?

Competitive proposals will seek to implement system improvements, practice innovations, or interventions designed to give patients of color a meaningful role in their health care at the systems and individual levels. Projects will fall into two areas:

- (1) promote health care organizational structure and governance that is culturally responsive to the needs, preferences, and experiences of patients of color; and
- (2) promote shared decision-making opportunities and approaches that account for what matters most to patients of color.

Examples of competitive projects may be:

- Incorporate patients of color and consumer voices into the design of clinical patient-engagement strategies; implementation of organizational crisis and emergency response policies and procedures; and development of patient-centered quality outcomes;
- Integrate routine and active participation from consumer-led community networks and coalitions into health care institution governance and decision-making;
- Build patient and physician communication competencies for engaging in shared decision-making with patients of color, including conversations about how what matters most to patients influences treatment decisions (e.g., quality of life, cultural preferences, trust-building);
- Identify and test solutions to address bias in treatment decision aids and clinical decision algorithms; and
- Test innovative telehealth and other digital or online tools to foster exchange of health information and shared decision-making with a focus on digital and health literacy. Proposals should demonstrate how the project will meaningfully engage people of color in the design, management, and execution of the work.

3. What types of projects are ineligible for funding?

- Projects that involve funding of ongoing services or activities similar to the normal activities undertaken by an organization.
- Projects that use funds exclusively for training staff and/or patients (e.g., implicit bias training, health literacy training). Projects can include a training component, but training needs to be part of a broader initiative.

- Capital expenses (e.g., buildings, vehicles, rent).

4. My organization has received a grant from NYSHHealth in the past or is a current grantee of the foundation, are we eligible to apply?

Yes. While NYSHHealth will provide some preference to new organizations and will consider whether an organization is a new grantee during our selection process, organizations that have received a grant from NYSHHealth are eligible to apply.

5. How much money can I apply for?

Projects will be assessed for the appropriateness of budget to the proposed scope of work and timeline. The amount of funds requested must be commensurate with the work proposed. Applicants may apply for a grant of up to \$200,000. Budget will be an important factor in selecting the most competitive proposals.

6. What is the expected time frame for projects?

Project durations will vary from one to three years. Some competitive projects can be completed more quickly and result in impact sooner than others. Larger, more ambitious projects may take longer to complete.

7. Can I receive advice from NYSHHealth staff members about my proposal idea before I submit the online inquiry form?

Yes. Please contact Program Officer MaKaya Saulsberry at Saulsberry@NYSHHealth.org or Program Assistant Jannel Tillman at Tillman@NYSHHealth.org with any programmatic questions prior to the online inquiry form due date. Technical questions regarding the online application system should be e-mailed to grantsmanagement@nyshealth.org. Please note that because of the large number of applicants, questions asked very close to the due date may not be answered in time.

8. What are the deadlines for submitting an online inquiry form and a full proposal?

The deadline for the online inquiry form is **Tuesday, December 8, 2020, at 1 p.m.** Selected organizations will be invited to submit full proposals with a deadline of **Thursday, February 18, 2021, at 1 p.m.**

9. Should I apply early?

Inquiries will not be considered on a rolling basis; rather, they will be reviewed collectively after the December 8th deadline. Early submission does not provide an advantage in decisions. We encourage you to reach out to Foundation staff, listed above, early in the process should you have any questions or seek guidance.

10. I've just submitted my online inquiry form. When can I expect to hear back from the Foundation?

Applicants will usually receive feedback on their online inquiry forms within four weeks following the submission deadline.

11. How does NYSHHealth review inquiry forms and make decisions on which applicants to invite to submit a full proposal?

Inquiry forms are all reviewed internally by Foundation staff, who then invite selected applicants to submit a full proposal for review. Selected applicants will be e-mailed specific submission instructions for full proposals.

12. How does NYSHHealth review full grant proposals and make funding decisions?

Proposals will be assessed by a panel comprising external reviewers and key Foundation staff. External reviewers will represent a range of expertise relevant to the subject matter.

13. What is the timeline for fund disbursement if the project is approved?

Applicants invited to submit a full grant proposal will be notified in April 2021 whether the project has been selected for funding. Receipt of grant funds is dependent on how quickly a grantee completes required fiscal due diligence materials, following grant approval.