2026 Community Health Improvement Grants FAQs

I know the applicant must be a 501(c)3 organization. Are there specific guidelines or requirements for the partner organizations?

Partner organizations with distinct, complementary and substantive roles in the proposed project can be non-profit organizations or public agencies (e.g., public health departments, school districts).

There is an application question that asks whether the proposed project activities will involve the grant-making hospital's participation. What are examples of this participation, and is it an expectation?

The grant program does not require or expect the hospital's participation. This question is included in the application because it is important to know in advance if the applicant intends to request any specific role for the hospital in the project.

Some applications do include the hospital in proposed activities. For example, a hospital may be requested to be (or already be) a partner with the applicant organization in delivering health education programs. Or the proposed project may involve coordination between the applicant and the hospital (e.g., to help community members find a medical home). It is also possible that the applicant and the hospital both may be members of a local coalition helping to address the health need.

If we propose to work with the hospital on our project, does the grant require an exclusive relationship? We have existing collaborations with other providers.

No, there is no expectation of exclusivity. The grant program exists to support community health services delivery and the enhancement of collaborative community service systems. We fully expect applicant organizations to be well-networked and working with multiple organizations in the community.

Is the grant for a referral program between the applicant organization and the granting hospital?

No, the grant program is not for a referral program between the applicant and the hospital. See the grant program web page for a full description of the purpose and eligibility criteria. In some cases, applications are submitted and grants awarded that help support service delivery to people who are clients or patients of both the applicant and the hospital, but that is only one type of activity funded.

Is it permitted for an applicant organization to submit applications to more than one hospital?

Yes, it is permissible to submit an application to more than one hospital, either for similar projects or different ones, if the applicant has a presence and operates in the service areas of those hospitals. Note that some hospitals located relatively near each other grant together, and do not individually accept applications.

For coordination purposes, we request that applicants disclose in the application when they are applying to more than one hospital. And, grant program staff ensure that hospitals' Local Grant Leaders are informed when an applicant has done so.

Is it permitted to be the applicant organization on one grant proposal, and to be a collaborating partner organization on another?

This is permitted as long as the proposals are distinct from each other (i.e., not for substantially the same project activities, meeting the same needs, for the same population) and the partner organization has distinct, complementary and substantive roles in the proposed project on which they are a partner.

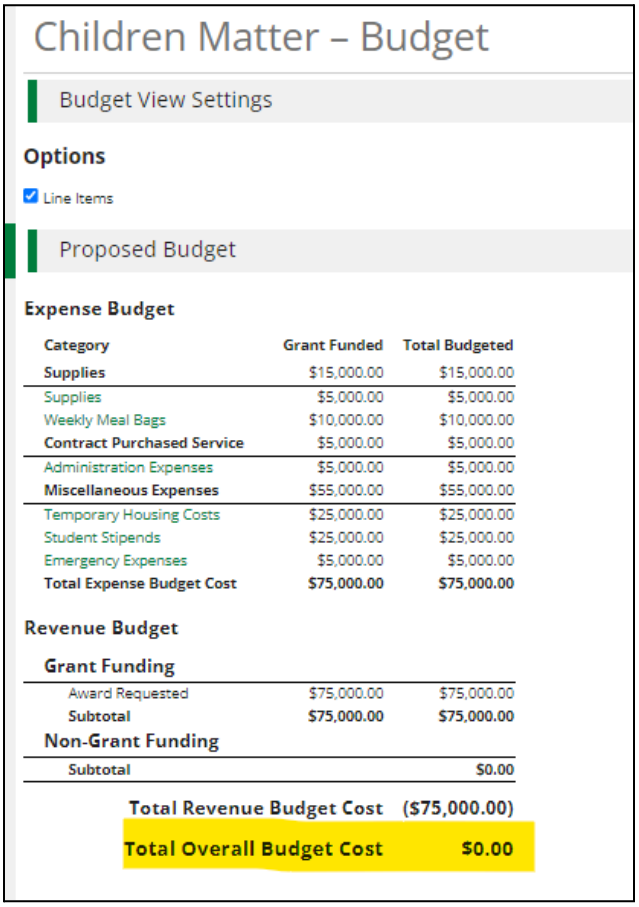
Are applicants required to provide a budget for the overall project, if that budget includes other funding sources and amounts not included in this Community Health Improvement Grant request? If so, where is this information entered in the application?

The application's budget template does include fields to enter other funding sources supporting the project.

(see next page)

When completing the project budget in the application portal, what does “Total Overall Budget Cost $0.00” mean?

When Total Overall Budget Cost below the budget line items is $0.00, this means the sum of individual budget expense line items equals the award amount you requested. It verifies that you have allocated your full request. This is correct.



Children Matter – Budget

Budget View Settings

Options

☑ Line Items

Proposed Budget

Expense Budget

Category	Grant Funded	Total Budgeted
Supplies	$15,000.00	$15,000.00
Supplies	$5,000.00	$5,000.00
Weekly Meal Bags	$10,000.00	$10,000.00
Contract Purchased Service	$5,000.00	$5,000.00
Administration Expenses	$5,000.00	$5,000.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	$55,000.00	$55,000.00
Temporary Housing Costs	$25,000.00	$25,000.00
Student Stipends	$25,000.00	$25,000.00
Emergency Expenses	$5,000.00	$5,000.00
Total Expense Budget Cost	**$75,000.00**	**$75,000.00**

Revenue Budget

Grant Funding		
Award Requested	$75,000.00	$75,000.00
Subtotal	**$75,000.00**	**$75,000.00**
Non-Grant Funding		
Subtotal		**$0.00**
	Total Revenue Budget Cost	**($75,000.00)**
	Total Overall Budget Cost	**$0.00**

Can you provide guidelines on the reporting requirements for grant recipients?

Reporting for grants of $20,000 or more is semi-annual. Reporting for grants of less than $20,000 is annual only, at the conclusion of the grant period.

The report questions will closely follow the application, and in particular ask about year-to-date and final performance compared to the proposed activities, numbers of persons served, and specific outcome goals. Information will be required about grant program expenditures compared to the submitted budget, and about notable project barriers and successes.