

Maryland Community Health Resources Commission
Answers to Frequently Asked Questions on Dental Request for Proposals

Once a Letter of Intent is submitted, will the Commission respond to the applicant that they should submit a proposal? Or is a proposal to be automatically submitted?

Applicants should plan to submit a proposal after submitting a Letter of Intent. The Commission will contact organizations which have submitted a Letter of Intent only if the applicant is found to be ineligible to apply for this grant round. In this case, the Commission will contact the applicant within 10 business days of receiving the Letter of Intent.

Will funding be November 1, 2007 –November 1, 2008 or till June 30, 2008?

Funding will start on the date the award agreement is signed by the Commission and the grantee, and will end 14 months later for the new dental services grants and 12 months later for the expansion of existing dental services grants.

Can county funding be used for the 10% internal support?

Yes.

Can renovation costs donated by another government agency such as the Board of Education be considered as part of the 10% of the budget coming from the community funding commitments?

Yes.

Is it required to have 3 chairs for an extension of a dental clinic?

No.

Are there certain restrictions on requirements for dental providers – do dental hygienists have to have a waiver to work without a dentist present?

It's the Commission's understanding that there are restrictions on dental hygienists' practice when a dentist is not present. Please contact the Maryland State Board of Dental Examiners at 410-402-8500 for further information.

Can we use a small amount of the funding to have a small presentation for local dental providers to market the program?

Yes.

Can grant funds be used to provide a conference or education for dentists to get them more comfortable working with low-income and uninsured patients?

Yes.

Would funding pay for food, building (meeting room rental), and speaker to have a small presentation for local dental providers to market the program?

Yes.

Is it possible to set up some type of internships with the University of Maryland Dental School for assignments of recent graduates or fellows to work in the sites around the state for finite periods of time?

The Commission has spoken to the School of Dentistry. The Commission understands that the number of individuals in the Fellows Program is very small, so the School can't guarantee to place fellows in the Commission's grantee sites. You can contact the School of Dentistry directly at 410-706-7461.

Can the proposal include timeline items that would go past 1 year grant period? If so, by how much is acceptable, i.e. 3, 4, 6 months?

The Commission expects that new service delivery will begin within 14 months of receiving a grant. The Commission will consider applications with a longer timeframe if the applicant can clearly demonstrate with historical data or information why such an extended timeframe is necessary."

Can funds be carried over past the end of the grant project period?

No.

Can the grant be used to pay for medications for anesthesia necessary for dental procedures?

Yes.

Can a grantee offer free services?

Yes.

Can the grant funds be used to hire an evaluator to make sure the program is being carried out correctly?

Yes, though the Commission would prefer that funds be used for direct services or to develop direct services.

Can grant funds be used for parent and community education on the need for and value of dental care?

Yes.

Can grant funds be used for a case manager position? For a dental program administrator position?

Yes.

Are weekend and evening hours necessary?

Direct provision of evening and weekend hours is not necessary. The Commission strongly encourages arrangements for patient contact with grantee staff outside of clinic hours to advise the patient on how to handle urgent/emergency dental problems.

What is the indirect cost allowed in the grant?

The applicants may include a 10% indirect cost as part of the total request of no more than \$550,000 for starting new services, and no more than \$300,000 for expanding existing services.

Can grant funds be used to serve undocumented immigrants as part of the target population?

Yes.

Can other models of care such as a School Based Health Center be used to deliver services?

Yes. A School Based Health Center can be a grantee's delivery site for dental services funded by the grant.