

## RFA: Eliminating Hepatitis C by Improving Access to Hepatitis C Care and Treatment

### OVERVIEW

Last month, the New York State Department of Health (DOH) AIDS Institute released a Request for Applications (RFA) for organizations to conduct targeted outreach, provide treatment and peer-delivered services, and coordinate care to help people with hepatitis C (HCV) and those with HIV/HCV access timely and appropriate services in a primary care setting. This RFA aims to develop a primary care-based integrated model of care with a multidisciplinary team that will work to:

- Increase HCV education and prevention;
- Increase the number of people living with HCV who are linked to care;
- Increase HCV treatment initiation and completion rates; and
- Increase the number of people cured of HCV.

DOH will award up to \$4.5 million annually to eligible not-for-profit Article 28 health care facilities who develop primary care-based integrated models of HCV care and treatment in accordance with the goals of the RFA.

The full RFA is attached. Applications are due on October 29<sup>th</sup>.

### FUNDING

DOH will provide up to 15 organizations with awards of up to \$300,000 annually. Funding awards will be allocated by region, as outlined in the chart below.

Region	Counties/Boroughs	Maximum Number of Awards
Central New York	Cayuga, Herkimer, Jefferson, Lewis, Madison, Oneida, Onondaga, Oswego, St. Lawrence	1
Finger Lakes	Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Wayne, Yates	1
Hudson Valley	Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster, Westchester	2
Long Island	Nassau, Suffolk	2
Northeast	Albany, Columbia, Fulton, Greene, Montgomery, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Schoharie, Warren, Washington	1
North Country	Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Hamilton	1

Region	Counties/Boroughs	Maximum Number of Awards
Southern Tier	Broome, Chenango, Chemung, Cortland, Delaware, Ostego, Tompkins, Tioga	1
Western New York	Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Genesee, Niagara, Orleans, Wyoming	2
New York City	Manhattan	1
New York City	Brooklyn	1
New York City	Bronx	1
New York City	Queens, Staten Island	1

Applicants may submit a maximum of two applications in response to this RFA. If applying for more than one region, applicants must submit a separate and complete application for each region. Applicants should select their primary region of service based on the location where the largest number of clients are served. Contracts will last for five years beginning July 1, 2020.

## ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Applicants must be not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organizations licensed by DOH under Article 28 of the New York State Public Health Law. Preference will be given to applicants who demonstrate the following:

- A minimum of five years of experience delivering HCV medical care, treatment, and supportive services within a primary care setting;
- At least one provider qualified under the Drug Addiction Treatment Act of 2000 (DATA 2000) to prescribe medication for addiction treatment (MAT) onsite, such as buprenorphine/suboxone or methadone; and
- At least one peer certified through the New York State DOH AIDS Institute Peer Certification Program in the HCV and/or harm reduction tracks.

## PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

Successful applicants should demonstrate their ability to:

- Outreach, recruit, and link people living with HCV to care and services;
- Provide care coordination to assess and address issues impacting care;
- Provide comprehensive, high-quality HCV medical care, treatment, and peer-delivered supportive services to all people with HCV;
- Provide services that are culturally responsive, trauma-informed, and free of stigma and discrimination;
- Design a program that addresses the social determinants of health that impact access to HCV care and completion of treatment;

- Prescribe MAT; and
- Involve people with lived experience of HCV in the planning and design of the proposed program.

## APPLICATION

Applications will be reviewed based on the following criteria:

- Community and Agency Description (20 points)
- Program Design and Implementation (60 points)
- Budget and Justification (20 points)
- Preference Factors (up to an additional 3 points)

Awards will be made to the highest scoring applicants in each region based on the above criteria, up to the maximum number of awards indicated for that region. In the case of a tie, the applicant with the highest score on Program Design and Implementation will receive the award.

## Timeline

Applications must be submitted by October 29<sup>th</sup>.

Questions should be submitted by September 26<sup>th</sup> to Colleen Flanigan at [hepatabc@health.ny.gov](mailto:hepatabc@health.ny.gov) with a reference to the RFA section and paragraph to which the question refers. Questions will be posted on the DOH [website](#) on or about October 10<sup>th</sup>.