

Equipping Local Health Departments to Address Vaccine Hesitancy

Request for Applications (RFA) Webinar FAQ

October 6, 2022

A recording of the webinar can be found [here](#).

The RFA and links to the application and required documents can be found [here](#).

General

- Q What jurisdictions are most likely to receive the grant?**
- A All jurisdictions with a need to address vaccine hesitancy in their community are encouraged to apply for this opportunity. All applications will be reviewed on the criteria outlined in the RFA.
- Q How will the effectiveness or success of deliverable completion be measured?**
- A Deliverables will be reviewed by the NACCHO program staff for completeness. Effectiveness will be measured through the multiple evaluation components of the project.
- Q Can I preview the application?**
- A The questions in the application come directly from pages 6-9 of the RFA. You are also able to go into the application system and start the application and save to complete it later.
- Q How much will be awarded and how many awards do you anticipate being able to provide?**
- A Up to three local health departments will be selected to receive \$100,000 to complete the required project activities.
- Q If we are unable to get jurisdiction or disease specific data what resources are available?**
- A CDC has several vaccine data trackers that can be utilized including all the [VaxView trackers](#) and the [COVID Data Tracker](#). Additional databases may be available online as well.
- Q Can we request an extension beyond the approximately 30 days required to sign a contract with NACCHO if we are awarded funding?**
- A NACCHO understands it can take time for contracts to get signed and asks applicants to stay in communication regarding expectations and needs about the contracting process.

Eligibility

- Q If we are currently receiving funding through another NACCHO project, are we eligible for this funding opportunity?**
- A Yes, recipients of other NACCHO funding are eligible to apply for this opportunity, however they must clearly demonstrate the need for additional funding and how this project will differ from current efforts.
- Q Can multiple health departments apply together?**
- A Yes, multiple health departments may apply for this opportunity together. However, if selected, they will only receive one award and NACCHO will only contract with one entity. Applications submitted for multiple LHDs should demonstrate how the funding and/or technical assistance will be made available to all those LHDs.

- Q What if your county is not considered a Medically Underserved Area but surrounding counties that use your services are?**
- A Your county does not have to be considered a MUA to apply for this funding opportunity. NACCHO recognizes that there are still areas of need within non-MUA counties. You will be able to justify your area's need in the application.
- Q If my area does not have a CDC SVI score, can we substitute other SVI scores from a different source?**
- A NACCHO will take this into account when scoring the applications and will substitute another appropriate score as necessary.
- Q Is my local health department required to be a NACCHO member at the time of submitting my application, or can we become a member after receiving notice of selection?**
- A The local health department is not required to be a NACCHO member in order to apply for the funding opportunity, however the applicant will need to create a free MyNACCHO account to access application. Health departments may become a member once they have been selected for this award. To learn more about NACCHO membership and member benefits, please refer to the [Membership section](#) of NACCHO's website.
- Q Are non-Local Health Departments allowed to apply for this funding opportunity?**
- A This funding opportunity is open only to local health departments. NACCHO will consider applications from other organizations where a local health department does not exist and/or where another organization functions like a local health department.

Use of Funding

- Q Can these funds be used to support personnel?**
- A Yes, personnel can be supported with these funds. The individuals' names, titles, percent effort, and salary will need to clearly be outlined in the budget.
- Q Can we contract with someone to do the RCA for/with us instead of using our own staff?**
- A Yes, these funds can be used to contract with an individual or organization to assist with completing the RCA and project deliverables.
- Q Under what circumstances and what types of incentives are allowable for participants? What is the process for prior approval?**
- A Incentives, such as store specific gift cards and other tangible items, may be allowable under certain circumstances. A justification for these items must be provided in the budget and budget narrative. Prior approval includes a review by CDC which may cause delays in the contracting process.
- Q Can this funding supplant existing funding, particularly regarding staff support?**
- A The funding can be used to support existing staff, however the time covered by this funding should be spent on activities specific to this project, not on other responsibilities.

Activities

- Q Would you like to see this money broaden/deepen already existing efforts or target new neighborhoods/communities?**

- A This funding is intended to be flexible enough to meet jurisdictions' vaccine hesitancy needs as applicable to their local context. The application should demonstrate the local priorities to either deepen existing efforts or expand efforts to new groups.
- Q Would you be able to share best practices or previous successes from other organizations utilizing this type of funding?**
- A Though not the same project, another NACCHO demonstration site project also completed Rapid Community Assessments and used the data they collected to inform their projects. A summary of their experiences can be found [here](#).
- Q Do you have to complete the Rapid Community Assessment (RCA) if the community is currently involved in a hesitancy assessment?**
- A Completing an RCA is one of the core aspects of this project. If you have already completed a health assessment you may use that data to help you select a sub-population to focus on in the RCA.
- Q Are there racial equity components to this funding?**
- A Equity is incorporated throughout the application, scoring, and the project activities. Applicants are encouraged to describe how equity considerations will be incorporated in their project proposal.
- Q The CDC Rapid Community Assessment (RCA) is written specific to COVID-19 vaccines. Is the RCA expected to be completed as written or can it be adapted to general vaccine hesitancy/misinformation?**
- A While the RCA was developed during COVID and was written for COVID vaccines, the principles and activities are broadly applicable and can be tailored for addressing vaccine hesitancy generally or for other vaccines as needed.
- Q Can funding be used for mass and individual communications?**
- A Yes, funding can be used to develop communications materials or campaigns for your target audience based on the results of the Rapid Community Assessment.