

Frequently Asked Questions

Request for Applications:
Local Health Department Healthcare-Associated Infections and Antimicrobial
Resistance (HAI/AR) Project

How much will be awarded to selected local health departments and how many awards do you anticipate providing?

Local health departments (LHDs) that elect to complete the required activities may receive up to \$25,000; The number of LHDs receiving funding could be up to five.

Are federally recognized tribes eligible for this opportunity?

Eligible applicants for this funding opportunity are all local health departments, which include public health departments providing services locally or regionally and tribal health departments.

For the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act Data Collection Form, what should be listed as the CFDA # and Treasury Account Symbol (TAS) as reported in FPDS?

This grant opportunity is federally funded and the CFDA # is 93.421. There is no TAS for this award, so please leave that field blank. More information about this form can be found at: <https://www.frs.gov/>.

The project period starts in January 2022 and ends on July 31, 2022, with the possibility of a no-cost extension to end on December 31, 2022. Should applicants write their budgets for a project period from January 2022 – July 31, 2022?

Please budget for the 12-month project period, with the funding occurring in two portions—one ending July 31, 2022 and one ending December 31, 2022.

If I am applying (or have) applied to the IPC-AT or BLOC COVID-19 + (BC+) projects, am I eligible to apply for this opportunity?

Yes. All local health departments are eligible to apply and will be scored equally, however if scoring is equal, priority will be given to LHDs not already receiving support through NACCHO.

What are the differences between the BLOC COVID-19 + project, HAI/AR project, and the IPC-AT project?

BLOC COVID-19 +, HAI/AR and [IPC-AT](#) aim to enhance IPC capacity in LHDs so they can better respond to infection threats, such as COVID-19, healthcare-associated infections (HAIs), and antimicrobial resistance (AR). The projects differ in the following areas:

- **Timing.** The application period for BLOC COVID-19 + closes at 5:00 pm PT on Wednesday, November 24. The application period for IPC-AT is closed. NACCHO plans to open a second application period for IPC-AT in January 2022. More information will be shared via NACCHO's social media channels starting in late December 2021. The application period for HAI/AR is open and closes at 5:00 pm PT on Wednesday, December 8.
- **Facilities of focus.** BLOC COVID-19 + focuses on "high-risk" facilities, where high-risk includes long-term care facilities (LTCFs), congregate-living facilities, dialysis centers, other outpatient settings, critical access hospitals, and other healthcare facilities that serve people and communities who experience health disparities. IPC-AT focuses only on LTCFs. The HAI/AR project does not specify facility type.
- **Project activities.** The BLOC COVID-19 + project has more fixed activities than the HAI/AR project. See the [BLOC COVID-19 + application instructions](#) for more information about project activities. LHDs selected to participate in the IPC-AT project will receive technical assistance from an APIC-identified Infection Preventionist who will review how to conduct the CDC Infection Control Assessment and Response (ICAR) tool and practice with them delivering up to four remote TeleICAR assessments. The HAI/AR project is more flexible in the project's activities and approach.
- **Funding.** BLOC COVID-19 + sites will receive up to \$70,000 that elect to complete the required activities and up to \$100,000 that elect to conduct the required activities and up to 3 supplemental activities. BC+ demonstration sites will enter a contractor agreement with NACCHO to be reimbursed for deliverables completed. For IPC-AT, LHDs will not receive any direct funding from NACCHO. Rather, NACCHO will provide technical assistance to increase IPC capacity in up to 30 LHDs via a contract with APIC Consulting Services who will work with LHDs to refine their IPC skills. HAI/AR sites will receive up to \$25,000 through a subaward (direct reimbursement).

How should letters of support be written? Is there a standard format letters of support should follow?

NACCHO does not require letters of support written in a standardized way or follow a specific template. NACCHO asks letters of support included with applications be clearly labeled.

Can LHDs apply for BLOC COVID-19 + and the Local Health Department Healthcare-Associated Infections and Antimicrobial Resistance (HAI/AR) Project?

LHDs are eligible to apply for BLOC COVID-19 + and the HAI/AR projects. NACCHO will score applications according to the rubric in the application instructions for each project; application scoring does not

consider which projects a LHD applied for.

The only time applying for both projects may influence the award selection process is if a LHD applies for both projects, is awarded one, and has a score equal to another LHD for the other project. If the other LHD only applied for one project, they would get preference for that award over the LHD already receiving support from NACCHO.

Can funds from this project be used to purchase resources from APIC or get Certified in Infection Control (CIC)?

Yes. NACCHO would note that there could be challenges spending funds from this project on CIC given the timeline for completing the CIC exam and getting the results. Documentation associated with CIC (e.g., registration, exam results) are needed for LHDs to invoice NACCHO for reimbursement.

Can LHDs apply for this project with another LHD?

Yes. It is possible to co-apply with other LHDs for this project. If co-applying, the application must specify a "lead applicant." The lead applicant will enter a contract with NACCHO and be responsible for managing communication with NACCHO, invoicing, and submitting deliverables.

Should I apply for this opportunity if my LHD already does some of these activities?

LHDs should apply for this opportunity at their own discretion. If the LHD has need that this opportunity could support, and the LHD has capacity to participate in the project, LHDs should consider applying. To receive funding through this opportunity, LHDs can have any level of existing capacity. NACCHO asks applications speak to how funding through this opportunity would augment existing work, if applicable.

Please note NACCHO will only reimburse for work completed during the contractual period.

Can we request an extension beyond the 30 days required to sign a contract with NACCHO, if we are awarded funding? Are we able to modify the contract language?

If the applicant knows what language it would like to modify and what the suggested modification is, contact infectiousdiseases@naccho.org. NACCHO will confirm with its Contracts team whether the modification is allowable.

NACCHO understands it can take time for contracts to get signed. NACCHO asks applicants stay in communication with it regarding expectations and needs about the contracting process.