

Building Workforce Capacity of Rural/Frontier Local Health Departments to Respond to COVID-19, Year 2

Request for Applications (RFA)

Informational Webinar

March 2, 2022

Agenda

Introductions and Housekeeping



Project Overview



RFA Overview



Q&A

The following will be posted on **RFA Blog Post**.

- Slides
- Recording
- FAQ Document

About NACCHO



NACCHO is comprised of nearly **3,000** local health departments across the United States.

Our mission is to serve as a **leader**, **partner**, **catalyst**, and **voice** with local health departments.

About NACCHO



Advocacy



Partnerships



Funding



Training and education



Networking



Resources, tools, and technical assistance

Goal:

To increase the workforce capacity of local health departments (LHDs) that serve rural/frontier jurisdictions to effectively respond to, recover from, and build community resiliency related to the COVID pandemic and other public health emergencies

Request for Applications (RFA) Overview

RFA Overview

Project Purpose

Funding Overview and RFA Timeline



Project Expectations and Requirements

Application and Selection Process

Project Purpose

This funding opportunity is focused on to increase the capacity of additional LHDs that serve rural and frontier jurisdictions to effectively respond to, recover from, and build community resiliency related to the COVID pandemic and future public health emergencies.

NACCHO will achieve this goal by:

-  providing support to build LHD workforce capacity and strengthen partnerships focused on COVID testing and vaccine administration, as well as longer-term emergency response sustainability.
-  identifying, developing, supporting, assessing, and disseminating best, promising, and innovative practices as well as implementation resources in support of COVID-19 testing, vaccine administration and workforce development sustainability in rural and frontier communities.

Funding Overview and RFA Timeline

Funding Description

- NACCHO will issue awards in the form of fixed priced contracts for \$35,000 each to selected LHD demonstration sites that agree to complete required activities.
- An LHD may be a part of one submitted application only, whether they are the application lead or a support agency included in the application.

Funding Overview and RFA Timeline

Eligibility

- This RFA is open to governmental LHDs 1) not previously awarded under this specific funding mechanism in 2021, and 2) with **at least 50%** of their jurisdiction being designated as rural or frontier according to the USDA; this is determined as follows:
 - **Rural:** For this project, rural will be defined by [Rural Urban Commuting Area \(RUCA\)](#) codes to determine the degree of urbanization of a community. RUCA codes 4-10 are for jurisdictions that are considered rural.
 - **Frontier:** For this project, frontier will be defined by RUCA code 10 to indicate areas with very small population density.

Funding Overview and RFA Timeline

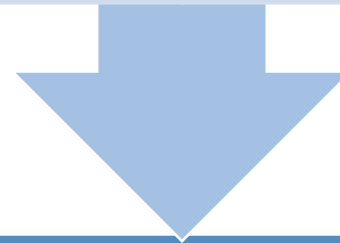
Event	Date
Release of Rural and Frontier Workforce site project RFA	Wednesday, February 16, 2022
Application period closes	Wednesday, March 16, 2022 @ 11:59pm ET
Anticipated notice of award	Week of March 21, 2022

Project Expectations and Requirements

Focus Areas

Administrative Preparedness

Emergency Preparedness and Response



Training and Technical Assistance Areas

Technical training

Communications

Workforce Mental
Health and Well-
Being

Health Equity

Emerging Issues

Other (COVID
workforce topics
indicated by
applicant).

Project Expectations and Requirements

Project Expectations

- The project approach will focus on 2 primary activity areas:
 1. The provision of training in content topics to build the workforce capability of responding to COVID-19.
 2. Direct technical assistance to incorporate administrative preparedness processes and practices in the COVID-19 response activities to support emergency preparedness infrastructure building and sustainability for current and future response needs.
- Improvement or development of Administrative Preparedness Plan or plan section during 9-month period of performance

Definition

Administrative Preparedness is the process of ensuring that fiscal, legal, and administrative authorities and practices governing funding, procurement, contracting, and hiring can be modified, accelerated, and streamlined during an emergency to support public health preparedness response and recovery efforts.

TTA Approaches for LHDs

- You will receive the following support:
 - One-on-one technical assistance to each cohort member with the goal of developing or updating administrative preparedness plans or plan sections, authorities, and practices.
 - Spend an average of 4 hours per month with the technical assistance consultant over the 9-month period of performance.
 - Access to a list of tools/resources for your use.
 - Access to a virtual session to learn more about emergency and administrative preparedness.

Ongoing COVID-19 Response and Beyond

- Public health preparedness, response, and recovery guidance that will help the communities emerge from the current pandemic in a position that is better able to respond to future public health threats

TTA Approaches for LHDs

- You will receive the following support:
 - 90-minute monthly virtual, interactive workshops on topics including communications, workforce resilience, health equity and any other emerging issues.
 - One-on-one technical assistance, as requested, in the TTA topic areas of public health communications; workforce resilience, mental health, and any potential other areas that emerge during the period of performance.
 - Access to a 60-minute monthly virtual Community of Practice (CoP) session to aid the workforce development emergency preparedness efforts.
 - List of tools/resources for LHD to use.

Other Training and Technical Assistance Areas

Public Health Communications: A focus on engaging with the community in a meaningful way that builds trust, decreases vaccine hesitancy, and counters vaccine mis/disinformation, including how to use and frame data/information to a range of stakeholders.

Workforce Resilience, Mental Health and Well-Being: Addressing current workforce challenges related to recruitment and retention concerns arising due to burnout, moral injury, and mental health concerns in the workplace. Learning innovative practices in supporting the mental well-being of staff throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond.

Health Equity: An increased understanding of health equity principles and how they relate to and can be incorporated into these and other emergency preparedness capacity-building activities.

Emerging Issues: Given the ongoing and evolving nature of the COVID-19 pandemic, NACCHO and its partners will work with LHD grant recipients to identify and address, as feasible, emerging issues relevant to COVID-19 workforce development capacity-building needs.

Project Activities

1. Participate in a virtual kick-off call and create an introductory slide
2. Participate in a training and technical needs (TTA) assessment
3. Participate in three (3), up to 90-minute monthly virtual workshops
4. Participate in comprehensive 1:1 technical assistance engagements with a goal of developing or updating a section of an administrative preparedness plan

Project Activities

5. Submit the newly developed or updated administrative preparedness plan section
6. Submit a short interim progress report
7. Participate in a virtual project wrap-up call and create a progress report slide
8. Participate in all evaluation activities (see section below: Participation in Evaluation Activities)

Project Expectations and Requirements Cont.

Participation in Project Evaluation Activities

1. A needs assessment related to TTA categories
2. Completing pre-post surveys [each less than 30 minutes]
3. Participating in focus groups [up to two, each 60 minutes]
4. Participating in interviews [up to two, each 60 minutes]
5. Ad hoc listening sessions built into TTA activities [up to three; 30–45-minute sessions]

Application Process

- Complete application document (save for your records) and submit responses via online submission form linked to RFA document.
- Project budgets, budget narratives, and other required attachments (a comprehensive list with templates can be found in the RFA) and submit to CovidWorkforce@naccho.org
- Subject line: “rural/frontier COVID workforce TTA grant - <name of LHD>”

Application Required Attachments

1. [NACCHO Vendor Form](#)
2. [W-9](#)
3. [COVID Workforce Yr. 2 Budget Template](#)
4. [Budget Narrative](#)
5. [Certificate of Non-Debarment](#)
6. [FFATA Form](#)
7. Proof of active registration with Sam.Gov in accordance with active DUNS number

Selection Criteria

- Recent/current COVID-19 Workforce Activities (15%)
- Recent/current COVID-19 Workforce Challenges (15%)
- Technical Assistance Needs (40%)
- Project Staff & Partnerships (15%)
- Proposed Engagement with Project Activities (10%)
- Proposed Budget and Budget Narrative (5%)

Q&A



Webinar slides, recording, and FAQ Document will be posted to NACCHO's Preparedness Webpage:
[Request for Applications: Building Workforce Capacity of Rural and Frontier Local Health Departments to Respond to COVID-19 – NACCHO](#)



Contact NACCHO at COVIDWorkforce@naccho.org if you have any questions regarding this funding opportunity

NACCHO
National Association of County & City Health Officials

Thank You!



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Meet the NACCHO Team



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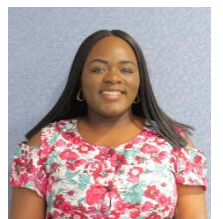
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