

mHealth Grant Announcement Q&A

On May 2, 2017, the Maryland Health Care Commission (MHCC) released an announcement for grant applications (Grant ID MHCC 17-014) entitled, *Diffusing mHealth Technology for Opioid Treatment*.¹ The MHCC is making available some common questions and answers that pertain to this announcement. This document will be updated as we receive additional questions from potential applicants.

1. **Question:** Could you provide an example of the grant and match fund requirements?

Answer: If the grant is for \$100,000, then the recipient must provide a match of at least \$100,000. No grant funds are paid towards startup costs, technology, and integration with electronic health record systems.

2. **Question:** Could you please explain what you mean by ‘use case’ in the announcement?

Answer: A use case is a series of related actions between a user(s) and a technology system(s) that enables the user to achieve a particular goal. The project announcement seeks to have grant applicants propose the technology and methodology to be used in order to test the use of a specific type of telehealth, as described in an applicant’s proposal, to improve health outcomes, reduce costs, increase efficiencies and/or improve the patient experience for a particular population.

3. **Question:** What does “diffusion” mean in terms of this grant?

Answer: For this grant announcement, diffusion means increasing the current number of users within a target population in Maryland. Each applicant must detail the current utilization of the mHealth technology in Maryland and a targeted number of users who will utilize the mHealth technology for a minimum of 90-days as part of the grant, if awarded. The applicant must define utilization of mHealth technology that is specific to their use case as part the application.

4. **Question:** What is the difference between mHealth and telehealth?

Answer: For this grant announcement, mHealth includes the practice of health care and public health using mobile devices, such as smart phones and tablets, to increase patient engagement in their own health. Telehealth is the use of real-time audio video

¹ The announcement can be found here:
<http://mhcc.maryland.gov/mhcc/pages/home/procurement/procurement.aspx>

conferencing, store-and-forward, and remote monitoring to deliver health care services from a health care provider to a patient located remotely.

5. **Question:** Can out-of-State organizations collaborate with a Maryland organization and submit an application if they focus on the counties and outcomes defined?

Answer: A non-Maryland based company could apply for the grant in partnership with a Maryland-based organization that serves Maryland residents. The primary applicant would need to be the Maryland-based organization.

6. **Question:** If two or more organizations are forming a partnership to respond to the grant announcement, which organization should be the primary applicant?

Answer: The primary applicant would need to be a Maryland-based organization and be able to meet the criteria as outlined in sections VI, VII, and VIII of the Announcement.

7. **Question:** The application requests that we provide an individual resume or detailed bio for each of the personnel who will be assigned if we are awarded the grant. Are you looking for a multi-page highly detailed document, or a one page biography?

Answer: A bio will suffice; however, we would prefer a copy of a resume or CV for these individuals.

8. **Question:** What is meant by ‘other grant funds cannot be used as matching funds’?

Answer: If the applicant has been awarded grant funds for this project from another source, those funds cannot be counted toward the 1:1 financial match.

9. **Question:** If an applicant is partnering with an organization that is currently receiving or has previously received funding from an MHCC grant, would this disqualify the applicant from being considered for this grant?

Answer: No, this would not disqualify an applicant from being considered to receive an award. Please note, the applicant would need to ensure all requirements outlined in the Request for Applications are met.

10. **Question:** By existing technology, does this mean the organization needs to be currently using the technology?

Answer: No, existing technology means a technology that has already been developed. The MHCC will not reimburse funds for technology development. An organization can propose diffusion of a technology that is not currently in use by that organization.