

# 2025 Workplace Safety Grants for Healthcare Entities Questions and Answers

UPDATED: 4/25/2025

## **Q1. Are assisted living facilities eligible to apply for these grants?**

A1. Yes, assisted living facilities are considered long-term care facilities and are eligible to apply for this program.

## **Q2. Are memory care facilities eligible to apply for these grants?**

A2. Yes, memory care facilities are considered long-term care facilities and are eligible to apply for this program.

## **Q3. Are 245G substance use disorder licensed residential treatment providers eligible to apply for these grants?**

A3. Yes, 245G substance use disorder licensed residential treatment providers are considered eligible health care entities.

## **Q4. Are residential treatment programs and psychiatric treatment facilities for youth eligible to apply for these grants?**

A4. Yes, residential treatment programs and psychiatric treatment facilities for youth are considered eligible health care entities.

## **Q5. Are mental health crisis centers (drop-in and short-term residential care for adults and youth) eligible to apply for these grants?**

A5. Yes, mental health crisis centers are considered eligible health care entities.

## **Q6. Are individual clinics that are part of a larger health system eligible to apply?**

A6. Yes. Health care entities with multiple locations, such as larger health systems comprised of individual clinics, may submit a **maximum of three** separate applications for distinct projects happening at different locations or one application covering work that spans multiple locations. The award for each application will not exceed the statutory limit of \$50,000, as outlined in section 1.4 of the RFP.

**Q7. If a medical clinic is not located in a rural area, is the clinic still eligible to apply for these grants?**

A7. Yes, health care entities that are not located in rural areas are eligible to apply for this program. One category of eligible applicants, acute care hospitals staffed for 49 beds or fewer, includes a requirement that the hospital must be located in a rural area.

**Q8. Are health care associations representing health care entities eligible to apply for these grants?**

A8. No, health care associations are not eligible to apply.

**Q9. Do nursing homes qualify as long-term care facilities?**

A9. Yes, nursing homes are considered long-term care facilities and are eligible to apply for this program.

**Q10. Are mental health facilities eligible to apply for these grants?**

A11. Yes, mental health facilities are considered eligible health care entities.

**Q11. As a health care campus with a medical clinic, critical access hospital, and long-term care facility all located at the same location and under a single federal and state ID, are we able to submit an application for each facility? Or can we only submit one application for all the facilities at this location?**

A11. An organization with a single physical location, even if there are multiple facilities at that location, may only submit one application per grant cycle.

**Q12. Our higher education institution has a clinic. Is our higher education institution eligible to apply for these grants on behalf of our clinic?**

A12. Yes, if a clinic is part of a higher education institution, the institution may apply on behalf of the clinic.

**Q13. Is a mobile clinic serving rural MN eligible for this grant?**

A13. Yes, mobile clinics are considered eligible health care entities.

**Q14. One type of eligible entity is acute care hospitals staffed for 49 beds or fewer and located in a rural area. How is “rural” defined here?**

A14. For the purposes of this grant program, a “rural area” is defined as outside the seven-county Twin Cities metropolitan area.

**Q15. Is there a funding preference for critical access hospitals or clinics?**

A15. There is no funding preference for critical access hospitals or clinics. Both critical access hospitals and clinics are eligible to apply for this program, and applications from all eligible entities will be reviewed and scored according to the evaluation criteria in RFP Attachment A.

**Q16. Are staff time / wages to participate in workplace safety trainings considered an allowable program expense?**

A16. Yes, as noted in RFP section 2.2, salaries and fringe for staff involved in grant management or project implementation are an eligible expense. This includes time spent participating in workplace safety trainings.

**Q17. What is an example of fringe expenditures?**

A17. Fringe benefits are expenses that are not salary/wages but are related to salary/wages, paid by an employer on behalf of an employee. Examples include insurance benefits, retirement benefits, and paid time off.

**Q18. What kinds of equipment are allowable? What about equipment such as eyewash stations and autoclaves that relate to workplace safety but not to violence prevention?**

A18. As noted in the RFP, this grant program is focused on preventing workplace violence. See section 2.2 of the RFP for examples of eligible projects, activities, and expenses. Equipment requested must align with a proposed project to increase safety measures and/or establish or expand programs to train staff on de-escalation and positive support services in health care settings.

**Q19. Are indirect costs considered an allowable program expense? What qualifies as “indirect costs”?**

A19. No, as noted in RFP section 2.2, indirect costs are not an allowable program expense.

Indirect expenses refer to administrative or overhead costs that are not readily associated with a particular project or program. Examples include the cost of an organization's office space rent and utilities.

## **Q20. What is the need for the audited financial statement? If we do not have an independent audit, can we just upload income statements from the agency applying?**

A20. MDH conducts pre-award risk assessments of potential grant recipients in accordance with federal, state, and agency policies. The pre-award risk assessment allows MDH to better understand the capacity of applicants, determine if it is in the best interest of the state to award funding, and identify opportunities for technical assistance to those that receive grant funds.

The [Due Diligence Review Form](#) submitted by applicants is part of the pre-award risk assessment. Section 4 of the Due Diligence Review Form requires applicants to submit documentation that corresponds to their total revenue from the most recent twelve-month accounting period:

- For nonprofits:
  - Less than \$50,000: The most recent financial statement
  - \$50,000 - \$750,000: The most recent IRS form 990 or 990 EZ
  - More than \$750,000: The most recent certified financial audit
- For for-profits:
  - The most recent state and federal tax returns and most recent financial statements
  - Description of the assets and associated liens (if applicable)

## **Q21. How can we obtain a copy of the informational webinar presentation slides?**

A21. The informational webinar presentation slides will be posted on the ORHPC Grants and Funding [website](#). Please allow up to 2-3 weeks for the presentation to be posted.

## **Q22. Are home- and community-based service providers eligible to apply for these grants?**

A22. No, organizations that provide home- and community-based services are not eligible. Note that long-term care facilities are eligible.

## **Q23. Are larger health care entities with multiple sites restricted to submitting a total of three grant applications, or just**

**restricted to three total awards? Is this determination made based on EIN number or the overall parent company these sites roll up to?**

A23. As noted in RFP section 1.4, health care entities with multiple locations may submit a maximum of three separate applications for distinct projects happening at different locations, or one application covering work that spans multiple locations. This determination is made based on the overall parent company to which the sites belong.

**Q24. Are organizations providing positive behavioral supports for children with autism eligible to apply for these grants?**

A24. An organization must be one of the eligible entity types, such as a medical clinic or a community health clinic. Mental health facilities and residential treatment programs are eligible. Organizations that provide home- and community-based services are not eligible.

**Q25. Can an organization submit three separate applications for distinct projects that each cover multiple facilities?**

A25. Yes, an organization may submit up to three separate applications for distinct projects at different locations, and each application may cover multiple facilities. There should not be overlap in the facilities covered by each application.

**Q26. If we submit applications for multiple projects, can the sites, project work, and funding for the projects overlap across applications?**

A26. No. As noted in RFP section 1.4, an organization may submit up to three separate applications for distinct projects at different locations. Each application may cover multiple sites, but there should not be overlap in the sites, project work, or funding across the applications. An organization may also choose to submit one application covering work that spans multiple locations.

**Q27. Our staff currently need to park offsite while a new building is being constructed. Would the parking lot be considered part of our main site, or could it be designated as a separate site.**

A27. Parking lots or other parking facilities are considered part of the main site.

**Q28. When defining workplace safety, can we also include a focus on psychological safety?**

A28. Yes, activities related to psychological safety for staff and patients are eligible. Please refer to RFP section 2.2 for additional guidance on eligible projects.

**Q29. Would workplace safety include a focus on the physical safety of patients with disabilities? For example, a patient lift in a dental clinic?**

A29. As noted in the RFP, this grant program is focused on preventing workplace violence. See section 2.2 of the RFP for examples of eligible projects, activities, and expenses. Equipment requested must align with a proposed project to increase safety measures and/or establish or expand programs to train staff on de-escalation and positive support services in health care settings.

**Q30. Is this grant available for both non-profit and for-profit facilities?**

A.30 Yes, eligible health care entities, regardless of non-profit status, may apply for this program.

**Q31. Does workplace violence include physical aggression or violence from residents towards staff members?**

A31. Yes, physical aggression or violence from residents toward staff members is considered workplace violence.

**Q32. Would an alarm system or badge swipe installation to a secured area be considered an allowable expense?**

A32. Yes. See RFP section 2.2 for examples of eligible activities, including environmental changes such as installation of door access systems and other safety measures.

**Q33. If an organization has already received another state grant, will that affect its chance of getting another grant in this area?**

A33. Having received a grant from MDH or another state agency does not by itself affect an organization's chance of receiving a Workplace Safety for Health Care Entities grant. MDH reviews the past performance of prior grant recipients as part of the pre-award risk assessment process, to better understand the capacity of applicants, determine if it is in the best interest of the state to award funding, and identify opportunities for technical assistance to those that receive grant funds.

**Q34. If our main or only source of workplace violence is due to pediatric patients' physically aggressive behaviors toward staff, self, and/or others, is this within the purview of this grant?**

A34. Yes, physically aggressive behaviors from pediatric patients are considered workplace violence.

**Q35. Many of our clients come in with acute mental health symptoms combined with withdrawal. We have talked about expanding Mental Health First Aid training for all direct service staff. With the de-escalation focus of that sort of training, would that be potentially be an eligible type of activity?**

A35. Yes, as noted in section 2.2 of the RFP, de-escalation trainings such as Mental Health First Aid are eligible activities.

**Q36. We have a program that was funded last round within a clinic as a de-escalation pilot project. Now we want to expand our offering to the entire hospital system. If the scaled-up project continues to serve that clinic, but is also expanded to serve the larger acute care hospital, would it be considered eligible?**

A36. Yes, as noted in RFP section 2.2, grants may be awarded to expand programs to train staff on de-escalation and positive support services in health care settings.

**Q37. Are Community Health Boards/Local Public Health eligible?**

A37. Community health boards/local public health agencies may apply on behalf of medical clinics and dental clinics that they operate.

**Q38. How will workplace safety incidents be defined for the dataset reporting?**

A38. This grant program is concerned with incidents or threats of violence. Applicants will provide recent data on workplace safety incidents, specifically incidents or threats of violence, in their response to the Workplace Safety Data prompt in Section 3 of the grant application. Grantees will then report on workplace safety incidents in the Final Workplace Safety Dataset.

**Q39. Can you provide examples of projects that were funded in the first round?**

A39. Examples of current projects include, but are not limited to, installing door security badges/key fob entry, adding interior and exterior security cameras, construction or renovation to create calm rooms for staff and patients, de-escalation trainings such as Management of Aggressive Behaviors (MOAB) Training, and procuring staff emergency communication devices. See RFP section 2.2 for additional examples of eligible activities.

#### **Q40. Does an organization have to pay back any grant funds if it was not successful in meeting benchmarks?**

A40. As noted in RFP section 2.3, per [State Policy on Grant Payments](#), grant payments are made on a reimbursement basis. All grantee requests for reimbursement must correspond to the approved grant budget. MDH reviews each request for reimbursement against the approved grant budget, grant expenditures to date and the latest grant progress report before approving payment.

If a grantee is experiencing challenges meeting their work plan goals, they are encouraged to reach out to the grant program administrator as soon as possible for technical assistance and problem-solving support.

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*To obtain this information in a different format, call: 651-201-3838.*