CommunITy Health IT

Accessing Funding from the FCC: CommunityHealth IT Consortium

2017

Connecting Communities with Broadband and Healthcare Vision

In order for residents to be healthy and well wherever they may live or work, broadband **and** healthcare delivery must be connected and allowed to expand throughout rural AND urban areas. Broadband **and** healthcare delivery must cover the entire healthcare delivery network in a given community.

CommunityHealth IT Consortium

✓ FCC-approved Consortium (CRN# 38493)

✓ Approved and recouping funds for eligible facilities through the $400M FCC Healthcare Connect Fund since 2014

✓ Works formally with broadband and telecom specialist G2 Telecom (CRN# 16080804)

CommunityHealth IT's Purpose

Connected Communities

Transportation

"Community partners "activated" on MyHealthStory HIE

Engaged Patients

Faith-based orgs, Emergency Food, Social Services

Community Health Workers, Paramedicine

Copies of health summaries from medical and behavioral health providers sent to MyHealthStory HIE

High-speed Internet Connectivity
(FCC-approved CommunityHealth IT Consortium)

FCC Healthcare Connect Fund

Healthcare Connect Fund (HCF) Program

- Supports broadband connectivity and broadband networks for eligible health care providers (HCPs)

- Eligible services and equipment | 65% discount

ARE YOU ELIGIBLE?

FACILITY TYPE

RURAL HEALTH CLINICS

POST-SECONDARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS OFFERING HEALTH CARE INSTRUCTION, TEACHING HOSPITALS, AND MEDICAL SCHOOLS

PART-TIME ELIGIBLE ENTITIES

CONSORTIA OF THE ABOVE ENTITIES

COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH CENTERS

LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS OR AGENCIES

COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS OR HEALTH CENTERS PROVIDING HEALTH CARE TO MIGRANTS

DEDICATED EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS OF RURAL FOR-PROFIT HOSPITALS

Skilled Nursing Facilities added to Eligible Facility Types Jan 1 2017!

Considerations for Applying

Category	HCF Program
Off-Site?	Connections associated with off-site data centers and off-site administrative offices used by eligible HCPs for health care purposes are eligible for funding
Rurality	HCP can be located in non-rural location if applying as a member of an eligible consortium

Under the consortium, who can be Healthcare Connect Fund eligible?

- Public or non-profit and one of the following:
  - ✓ Hospital (non-profit)
  - ✓ Post-secondary educational institution offering healthcare instruction (e.g., teaching hospitals or medical schools)
  - ✓ CHCs or centers providing healthcare to migrants
  - ✓ Local health departments or agencies
  - ✓ Community mental health centers
  - ✓ Rural health clinics, includes mobile clinics
  - ✓ **Skilled Nursing Facilities**

- Certain dedicated EDs of non-profit or FOR-profit hospital

Considerations for Applying

Category	HCF Program
Eligible Expenses	• Telecommunication services • Broadband services • Network equipment • HCP-constructed and owned network facilities (consortia only)

Benefits of the Consortium Approach

- Creation and growth of broadband HCP networks

- Lower administrative costs

- Sharing of medical, administrative, and technical expertise

- Lower prices, higher bandwidth, and better quality connections

- Non-rural sites may participate in consortia and receive the discount, as long as they are in a consortium with a majority rural sites.

- Consortia can include ineligible health care provider sites, who pay their "fair share" but can be part of the network and benefit from negotiated rates

- Improved quality and reduced cost of healthcare through leveraging broadband connections in consortia

AFTER Agreements Signed:
Required Forms for Program

HCF Program

FCC Form 460
Eligibility and Registration Form

FCC Form 461
Request for Services Form

FCC Form 462
Funding Request Form

FCC Form 463
Invoice and Request for Disbursement Form

Why join the Consortium instead of going it alone?

- ✓ *Individual* applicants (not as a part of a consortium) can receive funding for broadband services and equipment necessary to operate and manage the dedicated broadband healthcare network (e.g., routers, servers)

- ✓ *Consortium* applicants can receive funding for broadband services, equipment, off-site data centers, administrative offices and up-front costs

Why join the Consortium instead of going it alone?

- Consortium members may apply for funding for non-rural sites. *Major changes to the Rurality list for 2016 have impacted many HCP's that were previously rural*
- Consortium applications are typically processed substantially quicker than individual HCPs (ex. Apalachee Center: CommHIT hire to funding commitment was much less than the typical 90 days for an individual application [Apr 6 – Jun 21])
- CommunityHealth IT handles all aspects of funding from eligibility application to funding disbursement.

CommunITy Health IT

What happens when you join the CommunityHealth IT Consortium?

- ✓ Agreements (HCF-required Letter of Agency and others)
- ✓ Assess eligibility
- ✓ Provide 2017 Consortium Checklist + Timetable (*Items/ assistance facility will need to provide through assigned point of contact*)
- ✓ Submit request for services and RFPs, if needed
- ✓ Apply for funding
- ✓ Apply for disbursement of funds

If reimbursements or savings aren't identified or you choose not to approve the proposed reimbursements/savings, there are NO fees for the consultation and you receive all deliverables for FREE.