

**Questions and Answers**  
**Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program**  
**RFA # 1607010255 / Grants Gateway # DOH01-SHCFTP-2016**

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
1	Advanced Funding	For organizations that want to transform and restructure their systems, will the Department reexamine its position on advancing funds?	No advances will be allowed for contracts resulting from this procurement.
2	Amount of Funding Request	How should an applicant determine what funding is available to them? Previous applications have provided a Grant Allocation Table based on levels of nonprofit size to determine the grant funding level.	An applicant should base their funding request on what is necessary to carry out their Plan and the Projects that are associated with the Plan.
3	Amount of Funding Request	Is there a dollar limit amount per request? Or what would be reasonable?	<p>There are no minimum or maximum amounts for funding requests. The intent of the Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program is to fund as many eligible applications as possible. The strength of an application and the likelihood that it will be evaluated positively is largely dependent on the overall approach taken by the applicant to improve their long-term financial sustainability and/or protect and strengthen access to health care services in the community. Per statute, priority in determining an award is given to projects that were not funded in whole or in part in response to the Capital Restructuring Financing Program RFA or the Essential Health care Provider Support Program RFA. Also, a minimum of \$30 million of the \$195 million in total funding will be awarded to community-based providers.</p> <p>If an Eligible Applicant submits multiple applications for funding under this RFA, the Eligible Applicant should assign a priority to each application where indicated in the application.</p> <p>The DOH and DASNY will review applications to determine the appropriate level of public investment needed for the Eligible Project, and the final amount of each Eligible Applicant's total award will be determined based upon the criteria set forth in Section III-C.</p>
4	Amount of Funding Request	I would like to know how the grants will be divided. Is it for large, medium or small projects. We have needs for small capital but also we would like to do an expansion to our facility. Would this grant be for amounts over a million dollars for additions? What is the maximum that will be given? Can you elaborate on bands of dollars to be distributed.	See answer to question #3.
5	Amount of Funding Request	Please find below our questions re: RFA # 1607010255 for Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program. Is there a limit on how much an applicant can request under this RFA?	See answer to question #3.
6	Applicant Webinar	Applicant Webinar – will the webinar be recorded and available after?	The webinar recording and the slide set used during the webinar are available on the DOH website at <a href="http://www.health.ny.gov/funding/rfa/1607010255/index">www.health.ny.gov/funding/rfa/1607010255/index</a> . The Department's official response to questions will be posted on the DOH website on August 24, 2016.
7	Application Due Date	We request consideration of extending the Sept. 16 application due date by at least another 30 days. The application was posted in July with less than 60 days to respond. Among the criteria to be considered in evaluating an application (see RFA page 7, Section C, viii) is: "the extent to which the Eligible Applicant has engaged the community affected by the proposed Eligible Project and the manner in which community engagement has shaped the Eligible Project." This exercise, as well as fully developing a project concept and conducting other related due diligence, will take time. Providing less than 60 days for a prospective applicant to complete all of these activities will serious limit the diversity of applicants and proposals.	The application due date is September 16, 2016 by 4:00 PM EST. There are no plans to extend the due date at this time.

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
8	Architectural Plans	Section III – Project Narrative/Workplan – Page 6: The RFA notes that “it is understood that design plans and specifications are unlikely to be available at this stage of Project development.” It is believed that the State had a similar understanding in the CRFP and Essential grant processes. We are aware, however, of at least one CRFP/Essential application evaluation in which the State noted that points were lost due to a lack of architectural plans. Despite the State’s understanding in this case, will an applicant be less likely to receive a higher ranking if it does not include design plans and specifications in its application? If two applicants submitted the same exact project that would rank equally in all ways, but one of the applications included design plans and specifications and the other did not, would the application with the design plans and specifications be ranked higher than the application without the design plans and specifications, assuming the design plans and specifications were of an acceptable quality?	No, design plans and specifications are not a requirement of this RFA. Eligible Applicants are encouraged to provide a written description of the project and anticipated costs in sufficient detail for the reviewer to make a judgement on the reasonableness of the costs and how the Eligible Applicant estimated the costs. Funding under this RFA will be awarded at the discretion of the Commissioner of Health in accordance with the Review and Award Process outlined in the RFA Section V.C.
9	Architectural Plans	Are architectural plans required to be submitted with the RFA?	No.
10	Architectural Plans	Are we required to submit floor plans or architectural designs for the proposed capital project? If so, where on the Grant Gateway should these be uploaded?	No, floor plans or architectural designs for the proposed project are not a requirement of this RFA. If submitted, this upload must be made into the “Grantee Document Folder” in the Forms Menu of your online application in the NYS Grants Gateway. Please clearly label all uploaded documents.
11	Audited Financial Statements	In Section V 7, Eligible Applicant Financial Stability, the RFA indicates that the applicant must “submit a copy of the prior three years’ annual audited financial statements and any other evidence of this stability. Entities whose financial statements have not been subjected to an audit should include any additional information available to satisfy this test and appropriate certifications”. Please clarify the types of “additional information to satisfy this test and appropriate certifications” that are acceptable for an eligible applicant “whose financial statements have not been subjected to an audit”.	Entities whose financial statements have not been subjected to an Audit may submit unaudited financial statements and a signed attestation from an authorized officer of the entity certifying that an audit of the entity's financial statements is not conducted and why, and also certifying as to the source, accounting methods applied, and accuracy of the financial information submitted.
12	Award Amounts	Is there a minimum or maximum award per health clinic and/or application?	There are no minimum or maximum award amounts. The intent of the Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program is to fund as many eligible applications as possible. The strength of an application and the likelihood that it will be evaluated positively is largely dependent on the overall approach taken by the applicant to improve their long-term financial sustainability and/or protect and strengthen access to health care services in the community. Per statute, priority in determining an award is given to projects that were not funded in whole or in part in response to the Capital Restructuring Financing Program RFA or the Essential Health care Provider Support Program RFA. Also, a minimum of \$30 million of the \$195 million in total funding will be awarded to community-based providers.  If an Eligible Applicant submits multiple applications for funding under this RFA, the Eligible Applicant should assign a priority to each application where indicated in the application.  The DOH and DASNY will review applications to determine the appropriate level of public investment needed for the Eligible Project, and the final amount of each Eligible Applicant’s total award will be determined based upon the criteria set forth in Section III-C.
13	Award Amounts	What do anticipate will be the average award?	See answer to question # 12.
14	Award Amounts	What is the estimated amount of awardees for the state?	See answer to question # 12.
15	Award Amounts	Is there a ceiling on the amount that can be requested in one application?	See answer to question # 12.

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
16	Award Announcement Date	What is the anticipated award announcement date?	The Department plans to announce awards in late 2016.
17	Award Announcement Date	When is the expected award notification date?	See answer to question #16.
18	Award Payment	How will grant funding be paid to awardees? Will it be strictly on a reimbursement basis?	For construction projects, awardees will submit claims with documentation evidencing that expenses were incurred; they will be reimbursed for valid, documented expenses. For debt reduction, payments will be assigned to the lenders.
19	Award Payment	Page 12 of the RFA indicates complete and accurate billing invoices will be submitted for incurred expenses. Page 13 refers to reimbursement structured payments once the invoices have been paid. Will awarded projects require payment to vendor and then the awardee is reimbursed? Or will the awardee receive the funds in order to make payment to the vendor upon submitting approved invoices?	See answer to question # 18.
20	Budget	For Attachment 3 budget/staff/client data sheets: a. Should the Previous Year and Current Year data reflect the Eligible Applicant only and NOT include data from the Partner agency that will be merging with us? b. Should the Previous Year and Current Year data for the Partner agency be included, and if so, how? c. Should the 1st Year, 2nd Year and 3rd Year data reflect the projected data that will result from the merger of the Eligible Applicant and the Partner agency? If not, what should be reflected?	A. The previous and current year financial information should represent the organization that will be entering into a contract with the Department (the applicant) and will implement the plan.  B. If the financial position of a partner agency or a potential merger candidate will support the proposed plan this may be submitted as supporting documentation to the application. Submission of financial information of the partner agency or merger candidate is not a requirement of the RFA.  C. The projected financial information (1st, 2nd, 3rd year information) should reflect the organization that entered into a contract with the Department after the implementation of the proposed projects. If the plan involves the applicant merging with another organization the projected financial information should reflect the surviving organization.
21	Budget	What is the capitalization rate for equipment used for this RFP?	There is no specific capitalization rate for equipment in this RFA.
22	Capital versus Non-capital Priority	Will capital projects be prioritized over non-capital projects?	Funds available under this RFA are to provide grants to health care providers that primarily support capital projects. To the extent that funds are available to make awards for non-capital projects or purposes, such awards will be made in accordance with overall project rank. However, once funds for non-capital purposes are exhausted, awards will only be made for projects that are eligible for bond financing, regardless of whether such bondable projects are ranked in the same to a lower tier than <u>non-bondable projects</u> .
23	Capital versus Non-capital Projects	Section III. Project Narrative/Workplan Paragraph 5 I want to clarify a statement made during the Webinar earlier this week – will the funding be first given to capital projects, and, if any funds remain, then non-capital projects - debt retirement, etc., would be considered?	See answer to question #22.
24	Capital versus Non-capital Projects	Please confirm that capital projects won't be prioritized over non-capital projects. If they will, please explain why?	See answer to question #22.

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
25	Capital versus Non-capital Projects	Section I – Introduction – Page 3: “primarily support capital projects – but may include non-capital expenses such as debt restructuring”. The language suggests that there will be a preference for capital projects over non-capital expenses such as debt restructuring. This reading is supported by language in Section V.C. Review and Award Process – Page 24, “To the extent that funds are available for non-capital projects...” Will an applicant that applies for a non-capital expense, such as debt restructuring, be at a disadvantage relative to an applicant that applies for a capital project, all other things being equal? Is there a limit on how much of the \$195 million will go toward non-capital expenses? Is there any element of the application review process that will result in a preference for capital projects over non-capital expenses?	See answer to question #22.
26	Capital versus Non-capital Projects	Please describe how the award process might differ for debt restructuring and non-capital purposes (see page 9, referencing Chapter 59 of the Laws of 2016, Part F, Section 1). Specifically, would there be a different timeline for awards, and different criteria for debt restructuring applications and/or non-capital (operating expense) awards?	See answer to question #22. The evaluation criteria and timeline for award notification will be the same for capital and non-capital projects.
27	Capital versus Non-capital Projects	When distributing awards, will capital projects be prioritized over non-capital projects?	See answer to question #22.
28	Certificate of Need	If a project for which we are seeking funding through this RFA requires Certificate of Need approval, must that approval be in-hand at the time of the RFA submission?	No.
29	Certificate of Need	If a CON has already been submitted and is under review, is the request to fund this project allowable?	Projects that are already in process may be eligible for funding. However, only expenses incurred after the start date of the Contract (anticipated to be 3/1/2017) would be considered eligible expenses under this RFA.
30	Change in Scope	Our capital project would require us to purchase an adjacent lot and demolish an existing structure to allow for expansion of our facility. If the actual cost for acquisition and demolition is higher than we estimated, can that amount be adjusted when the grant is awarded?	An award is a fixed amount based on the best estimate of future costs as articulated in the application. The amount reimbursed by the resulting contract with the state will not exceed the amount of the award. If costs such as acquisition and demolition exceed original estimates, other estimates for construction, etc., can be reduced, either based on actual costs coming in lower than estimates for such categories, or because grant funds will not cover final costs. To ensure reasonable costs, awardees are encouraged to solicit multiple bids from a variety of subcontractors, and to obtain fair property appraisal values.
31	Change in Scope	We are only able to provide anticipated costs for the capital project based on a preliminary review by an architect. How would it be addressed should the actual bids/costs incurred differ from the anticipated costs?	See answer to question #30.
32	Community Engagement	Can you describe what is expected for community engagement? How might an organization engage the community in development of the transformation plan? Does it have to be the community at large, or can it be the community of patients or referral providers? Can you define community and what you are looking for here?	It is up to the applicant to determine how best to engage the community they serve. Community engagement should include, however, evidence that the Applicant has solicited input from community stakeholders who will be impacted by the Project.
33	Community Engagement	Section 5, Identified Community Need, question d With regards to community engagement, how much is necessary? Given the condensed timeline of this RFA process, and the consideration that the Applicant will be proposing a project and plan not currently in existence, the amount of community engagement is limited.	See answer to question #32.
34	Community Engagement	What strategies would you recommend for engaging the community in the development of the Plan?	See answer to question #32.
35	Community Engagement	Can the State provide examples of what some acceptable tasks are to meet the community engagement requirements for the application?	See answer to question #32.

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
36	Community Engagement	The evaluation criteria listed on page 7 of the RFP indicate that DOH and DASNY will consider "The extent to which the Eligible Applicant has engaged the community affected by the proposed Eligible Project and the manner in which community engagement has shaped the Eligible Project" when assessing application for Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program funding. Can your office provide any further information regarding this evaluation criteria? Are there specific engagement activities expected?	See answer to question #32.
37	Community Need Assessment	What data sources will the DOH rely upon in determining community need?	All Eligible Applicants are expected to demonstrate that have assessed the health status of the residents of the community or communities that will be served, and adequacy of service capacity, using data that is available to them. See Section V. Completing the Application, 5. Identified Community Need. It is up to the Applicant to determine if the community need assessment satisfies the requirements of this RFA and that the data used is current.
38	Community Need Assessment	If there is no building development, does the community need to be involved in the development plan?	See answer to question #37.
39	Community Need Assessment	Please define what is expected for the community needs assessment. (Section V. Paragraph 5.)	See answer to question #37.
40	Community Need Assessment	For DSRIP, exhaustive community needs assessments, including adequacy of area service capacity were conducted. Can the DSRIP community needs assessments be used for the SHCFTP applications, or are new community needs assessments required for the application?	See answer to question #37.
41	Community-based Providers	We see that by statute a minimum of \$30 million will be awarded for community-based providers. Is there a scenario in which MORE than \$30 million would be awarded to community-based providers?	Yes, it is possible that more than \$30 million could be awarded to community-based providers. After \$30 million of awards to community-based health care providers are made, awards will be made to all Eligible Applicants (including community-based providers), until the available amount of funds pursuant to the RFA are exhausted. Awards will be made first to applications ranked as "Good", then "Acceptable", then "Poor".
42	Contract Date	There is no mention in the RFA of a required timeline for expenses to be incurred after the submission of the application, or the award of funds.	Only expenses determined allowable under the contract budget and work plan and incurred on or after the start date of the contract of 3/1/17, may be vouchered for reimbursement.
43	Contract Date	Will awards cover costs retroactively? If so, how far back?	See answer to question #42.
44	Cost Savings	Are all projects expected to result in a cost savings to the health care system? (page 21)	The DOH Review Team will evaluate applicant responses to V. Completing the Application. Describing and quantifying to the extent possible how the Plan and Eligible Project(s) will result in cost savings to the health care system is one component of Section V. Completing the Application.
45	Debt Restructuring	Regarding debt refinancing, what terms are being offering (interest rate, maturity, amortization term)? In addition will there be a credit evaluation we need to pass beforehand. If so, is there specific collateral requirements and covenants attached to the loan (minimum debt service ratio, etc.).	Debt retirement or restructuring to be funded by a grant under this RFA would be defined by the applicant and its lenders as part of the plan and the project. The Department is not offering lending options with this Grant.
46	Debt Restructuring	In reference to the above mentioned RFA, can you please provide more detail on what would be covered under debt restructuring? Could you please give concrete examples and what justification, backup information, etc. that would be necessary to submit with the application.	Debt restructuring may cover long-term liabilities such as mortgage loans, capital leases, and other debts due to mature in more than one year. The application should indicate how repayment of proposed debts will strengthen and protect continued access to health care services and foster financial sustainability through mergers, consolidation and restructuring activities. Backup documentation can include audited financial statements, if available; loan agreements; or lender statements reporting loan amounts and payment history. Awards may be used to repay debt principal and/or interest.
47	Definition of Essential Health Care	We are one of a number of certified home care agencies in our service area. How do you define essential healthcare in the community and strengthen and protect continued access to healthcare services in their community(ies).	Service needs vary from community to community based on population demographics, health status indicators and the insurance status of the community. Each applicant's community needs assessment should assess these factors, among others as indicated, to determine the range and amount of services needed to provide quality, comprehensive and integrated health care services to the communities it serves. Where there are gaps in services, the applicant should address these gaps in order to strengthen and protect access to care.

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
48	DSRIP	The RFP asks for the project to facilitate the priorities of DSRIP. Is that a general goal or must it be tied to a specific component of the DSRIP plan? If the submitted plan does not specifically tie to a DSRIP component will it be rejected?	It is a requirement that submitted projects align with DSRIP. A project that does not tie to a specific DSRIP component will not be rejected solely on that basis.
49	Eligible Applicant	Can a County operated Article 31 facility apply for RFA# 1607010255 / Grants Gateway# DOH01-SHCFTP-2016?	Publicly operated providers are eligible to apply, as long as they meet the minimum eligibility criteria outlined in Section II. Who May Apply.
50	Eligible Applicant	I would like to confirm whether or not nonprofit provider organizations, who in addition to other services, provide healthcare services – Would they be eligible for this funding?	Not-for-profit and for-profit (or proprietary) providers are eligible to apply, as long as they meet the minimum eligibility criteria outlined in Section II. Who May Apply.
51	Eligible Applicant	Can you tell me if these RFA grants are available to for-profit community based providers?	See answer to question #50.
52	Eligible Applicant	I just wanted to be sure that proprietary nursing homes would be eligible to apply, as opposed to just public or not-for-profit providers.	See answer to question #50.
53	Eligible Applicant	Is this only for not-for-profits, or can proprietary providers apply also?	See answer to question #50.
54	Eligible Applicant	I am looking to determine if the recently announced \$195 million under the Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program RFA applies to individual primary care provider or group primary care provider practices.	Individual or group primary care providers are eligible to apply, as long as they meet the minimum eligibility criteria outlined in Section II. Who May Apply.
55	Eligible Applicant	Under this RFA, would individual practices be eligible for funding for transformation assistance?	See answer to question #54.
56	Eligible Applicant	I work at a hospital that is part of the Health and Hospital Corporation, we would benefit from the redesign of our space and be able to provide better care, could we apply?	General hospitals licensed under Article 28 of the PHL are Eligible Applicants. Eligible capital projects include renovation costs.
57	Eligible Applicant	Are nursing homes licensed under Article 28 an eligible facility to apply?	Residential health care facilities licensed under Article 28 of the PHL are Eligible Applicants.
58	Eligible Applicant	I am writing to determine if skilled nursing and rehabilitation facilities are eligible for this grant. We are an 82-bed skilled nursing and rehabilitation Center in Hoosick Falls New York. We need much help through the transformation.	See answer to question #57.
59	Eligible Applicant	This RFP can be for both mental health and substance use providers, correct?	Mental health clinics certified or licensed under Article 31 of the Mental Hygiene Law (MHL), and alcohol and substance abuse treatment clinics certified or licensed under Article 32 of the MHL, are Eligible Applicants.
60	Eligible Applicant	Do Assisted Living and Enriched Housing Providers qualify to apply for the grant?	Assisted Living and Enriched Housing Providers are not Eligible Applicants under this RFA.
61	Eligible Applicant	Would the State consider adding Article 16s (providers of mental health services to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities) to the list of eligible applicants?	Article 16 clinics are OPWDD-certified treatment facilities that operate pursuant to Article 16 of the Mental Hygiene Law and are, therefore, Eligible Applicants pursuant to statute.
62	Eligible Applicant	We are a not-for-profit community based organization and a federally funded health center. We subcontract with other organizations for the primary health care services provided at FQHCs in our Network. We are not yet an Article 28 provider but our contractors are. Are we eligible for this grant under "primary care providers"? Also, we plan to build our own health center (FQHC) and we are currently in the pre-development phase. We will be submitting our Certification of Need and should have our Article 28 status by the time the project starts. Does this make us eligible for this grant?	Section II. Who May Apply, specifies who are Eligible Applicants. An Eligible Applicant must be a legally existing organization and capable of entering into a binding Master Grant contract with DOH, be one of the types of provider organizations listed, and deemed by the Commissioner to fulfill or will fulfill a health care need for acute inpatient, outpatient, primary, or residential health care services in a community. <b>An Eligible Applicant must meet these minimum eligibility requirements at the time the application is submitted.</b>
63	Eligible Applicant	Are fiscal intermediaries operating in the State's Consumer Directed Personal Assistance program eligible to apply for funds under this opportunity?	No, fiscal intermediaries operating in the State's Consumer Directed Personal Assistance programs are not one of the eligible provider types listed in Section II of the RFA and so are NOT considered Eligible Applicants under this RFA.

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
64	Eligible Applicant	Our organization is an OMH licensed agency that provides housing and rehabilitative services to adults with serious mental illness. We are not however, an Article 28 or an Article 31 hospital; nor are we a primary care provider or a licensed home care provider. With this being said, would we be eligible to apply for Capital dollars for a specific step-down program we have been providing to our local PPS? More specifically, our current program provides two separate residences (non-licensed) to two hospital systems designed to serve individuals who are ready for hospital discharge, medically and/or psychiatrically stable, but are not ready to go home immediately following discharge (or who have no home to go to). The two residences we operate are only short term solutions as we need a longer term solution in order to continue to provide the hospitals with this service.	See answer to question #62.
65	Eligible Applicant	I am inquiring whether setting up/starting a Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) Program within a RHCF is eligible for the "Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program" grant opportunity?	Residential health care facilities licensed under Article 28 of the PHL are Eligible Applicants under Section II, Who May Apply. Eligible Applicants must meet the other minimum eligibility criteria under Section II of the RFA.
66	Eligible Applicant	Will Personalized Recovery Oriented Services (PROS) programs be eligible for the Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation RFA? Would a PROS program be eligible to apply?	See answer to question #62.
67	Eligible Applicant	We currently operate an 822 program under OASAS and I am wondering if this type program would be eligible to apply.	Yes, Article 32 Alcohol and SUD Clinics are certified Part 822 outpatient (which includes opioid treatment programs) or 825 integrated outpatient clinics and are Eligible Applicants, as long as they meet the other minimum eligibility criteria under Section II of the RFA.
68	Eligible Applicant	May an organization that will likely be in receivership of a nursing home for another year and intends to submit a CON regarding the purchase of the facility, qualify to apply for this grant?	An organization acting in the capacity of a receiver is not an eligible applicant as defined in the minimum eligibility criteria outlined in Section II "Who May Apply". An organization acting in the capacity of a receiver may apply on behalf of the Article 28 provider, as long as the provider meets the minimum eligibility criteria outlined in Section II. However, if awarded a grant, a master grant contract will be enacted between the Article 28 Provider and the Department. If still in good standing as a receiver the organization acting in said capacity could function as agent to the eligible applicant.
69	Eligible Applicant	Different from the CRFP process, it seems that each eligible applicant submits their own application(s) as opposed to having them come through a PPS for review and ranking. Is this correct?	Yes.
70	Eligible Applicant	Section II. Who May Apply Paragraph 2 Is an Article 28 network (active parent, but no a specific hospital) an eligible applicant?	An entity that is established as an Article 28 provider such as a parent corporation that is co-established as an Article 28 provider (an "active parent") is an Eligible Applicant as long as it meets the other minimum eligibility requirements in Section II Who May Apply of the RFA.
71	Eligible Applicant	In Section II a., Who May Apply, the RFA indicates that "applicants must be a legally existing organization and capable of entering into a binding Master Grant Contract (MGC) with DOH". Please clarify whether a legal entity, operating services currently or not currently operating services, presently awaiting approval for a certificate of need to construct a new service can be considered an eligible applicant.	See answer to question #62.

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
72	Eligible Applicant	<p>In Section II (b), Who May Apply, the RFA indicates that “Primary Care Providers” and “Diagnostic and Treatment Centers certified or licensed under Article 28 of the PHL” are considered within the definition of community-based health care providers. Please clarify whether a physician’s private practice (individual, group or Individual Provider Association) can be an eligible applicant for the purpose of submitting an application to expand and enhance services for the communities in need under the definition of a “primary care provider” and community-based health care provider”. Please clarify whether an applicant’s proposal to provide and/or expand dialysis (including home dialysis) services and outpatient physical and occupational therapy services, under its certified and licensed Diagnostic and Treatment Center, would be considered acceptable within the requirements of the RFA and meet the definition of “community-based health care provider”.</p> <p>Please clarify whether an applicant’s proposal to provide primary ophthalmology and/or dental services, under its certified and licensed Diagnostic and Treatment Center or as part of its private practice, would be considered acceptable within the requirements of the RFA and meet the definition of “community-based health care provider”.</p>	<p>A. Yes, a physician in private practice (whether an individual or IPA) is considered an Eligible Applicant and a Community-based health care provider for purposes of this RFA, as long as the entity meets the other minimum eligibility criteria as stated in Section II of the RFA.</p> <p>B. An entity established as an Article 28 Diagnostic and Treatment Center that is not owned by an Article 28 Hospital is considered a Community-based health care provider for purposes of this RFA and is an Eligible Applicant as long as the entity meets the other minimum eligibility criteria as stated in Section II of the RFA.</p> <p>C. An entity established as an Article 28 Diagnostic and Treatment Center that is not owned by an Article 28 Hospital or an entity that is a private physician practice is considered a Community-based health care provider for purposes of this RFA, and is an Eligible Applicant as long as the entity meets the other minimum eligibility criteria as stated in Section II of the RFA.</p>
73	Eligible Applicant	<p>In Section V 2, Completing the Application – Organizational Capacity, the RFA indicates the applicant must provide a description of its organization that addresses items related to its business activity (e.g. number of admissions or patient visits, payer composition of populations served, etc.). Please clarify whether an applicant that is a legal entity (including one awaiting Certificate of need approval) but not presently providing services must provide the information requested in Section V 2.</p>	<p>To be an Eligible Applicant, an entity must meet the minimum eligibility requirements in Section II of the RFA at the time of RFA submission. A legal entity awaiting CON approval to be established as a provider organization listed under Section II(b), is NOT an Eligible Applicant. All applicants are required to provide information requested in Section V.A.2.</p>
74	Eligible Applicant	<p>Our agency is a not-for-profit home health care organization comprising a Certified Home Health Agency, a Medicare-certified Hospice, and a Licensed Home Care Services Agency. Our organization entered into an agreement on October 17, 2015 with another organization that is a New York not-for-profit corporation. The agreement proposes an affiliation of our organization with the other for the purpose of having the organization combine with and into the other in support of their common and unifying vision for value and quality health care. As a not-for-profit organization that has been committed to strengthening and protecting continued access to health care services for the people of our counties regardless of ability to pay, we entered into this agreement in order to work toward a long-term financially sustainable system of care. It is anticipated that the transaction will formally take place in 2017. We would appreciate further clarification about project eligibility under the terms of the SHCFTP.</p>	<p>A home care provider licensed under Article 36 of the PHL, is considered a community-based provider for purposes of this RFA, and would be an Eligible Applicant as long the entity meets the other minimum requirements of Section II of this RFA. The question does not provide enough information regarding the project for which grant funding is requested to provide clarification regarding project eligibility. An Eligible Project must include Eligible Expenses as defined in RFA Section III B.</p>
75	Eligible Applicant	<p>We are a health system with multiple entities. If we submit separate applications with different entities as the applicant, will we still need to rank our proposals by priority?</p>	<p>If the applications are part of one Plan, the relative priority of each application should be ranked. Applications, not proposals or projects, are required to be ranked. A health system with multiple entities and multiple Plans, should describe the relative priority of each application submitted by an entity within its system.</p>



Q#	Category	Question	Answer
76	Eligible Applicant	<p>Does a New York State Accountable Care Organization (ACO) under PHL Article 29-E (i.e. NOT an MSSP ACO) constitute an “Eligible Applicant” for the purposes of the RFA? The ACO is permitted by law to itself practice medicine.</p> <p>a. Does every member of the ACO need to be a primary care provider for the ACO to constitute an “Eligible Applicant” for the purposes of the RFA?</p> <p>b. Is it sufficient, for the purposes of an ACO being an “Eligible Applicant” for the purposes of the RFA, if a majority or some significant percentage of the members of the ACO are primary care providers?</p> <p>c. What if there is a mix of primary care and specialty care providers who are participants/members of the ACO, but by contract with the members the benefits received pursuant to this RFA are restricted to only the primary care providers in the ACO’s network of participants/members?</p>	<p>An ACO itself is not one of the provider organizations listed in RFA as an Eligible Applicant, however the definition of an ACO per PHL 29-E is an organization of clinically integrated health care providers. The health care providers within an ACO may include an entity licensed or certified under article twenty-eight or thirty-six of PHL, or an entity licensed or certified under thirty-one or thirty-two of the mental hygiene law; or a health care practitioner licensed or certified under title eight of the education law or a lawful combination of such health care practitioners, and as such are each an eligible provider type under Section II(b) of this RFA, as long as they meet the other minimum eligibility requirements of Section II of the RFA.</p> <p>a. An ACO itself is not an Eligible Applicant, however the primary care physicians that are members of an ACO are an eligible provider type under this RFA , as long as they meet the other minimum eligibility requirements of Section II of the RFA.</p> <p>b. See answer to a. above.</p> <p>c. See answer to a. above.</p>
77	Eligible Applicant	<p>If an ACO is an “Eligible Applicant” for the purposes of the RFA, but the entity has an application for a Certificate of Authority pending with the NYS DOH to become an ACO, can the entity still apply for the RFA at this time in anticipation that a decision on the ACO application for a Certificate of Authority will be made by DOH prior to the Estimated Contract Start Date of March 1, 2017?</p>	<p>See answer to question #76.</p>
78	Eligible Applicant	<p>Does a Medicare Shared Savings Program (MSSP) ACO (that has been issued a Certificate of Authority by DOH to operate as a “Medicare-only ACO”) constitute an “Eligible Applicant” for the purposes of the RFA, provided that the services rendered by the ACO are limited to Medicare patients? a. Can the MSSP ACO be an “Eligible Applicant” for the purposes of the RFA and provide services to ALL patients (irrespective of payor – i.e., not only Medicare patients)?</p>	<p>A MSSP ACO itself is not one of the eligible provider organizations listed in the RFA Section II(b) and so is not an Eligible Applicant.</p>
79	Eligible Applicant	<p>Can a single primary care practice serve as the “lead” “Eligible Applicant” for the purposes of the RFA but engage, for the purposes of carrying out the project(s) that it is undertaking pursuant to the RFA, other primary care practices and/or an IPA, ACO or an MSSP ACO in which the “lead” primary care practice participates?</p>	<p>Yes, a primary care provider that meets the other minimum eligibility requirements in Section II of the RFA is an Eligible Applicant and can submit an application that engages other providers including other primary care practices, an IPA, an ACO, or an MSSP ACO in a project. However, the grant contract, if awarded will only be with the Eligible Applicant that submits the application.</p>
80	Eligible Applicant	<p>Can an IPA’s medical director (a primary care physician) apply for the RFA in his/her individual capacity but, by contract or otherwise, engage, for the purposes of carrying out the project(s) that the medical director is undertaking pursuant to the RFA, the IPA in which he/she is the medical director, or otherwise turn over the benefits of the RFA to the IPA?</p>	<p>Yes, a primary care provider certified under title eight of the education law or a lawful combination of such health care practitioners, such as an IPA, is an Eligible Applicant for purposes of this RFA, as long as the entity meets the other minimum eligibility requirements of Section II of the RFA.</p>
81	Eligible Applicant	<p>We are interested in applying for the Health Care Facility Grant that is being offered. We wanted to understand how to go about submitting our application if the current ownership is transferring in the next few months prior to the March 1, 2017 deadline. How should we apply?</p>	<p>The applicant must meet the minimum eligibility requirements in Section II of the RFA Who May Apply at the time of application submission. If ownership is transferred after the time of an award, the new owner would need to meet all eligibility requirements and, if met, the contract can be assigned to the new owner.</p>
82	Eligible Applicant	<p>Section II – Who May Apply – Page 5 (also impacts Eligible Expenses): May an Article 28 RHCF apply for funding that it would use to construct space that would be used to provide services to Young Adults who would ultimately be cared for and paid for under the to-be-developed Young Adult guidelines/regulations/reimbursement protocols emanating from the currently open Young Adult RFP?</p>	<p>Yes, an Article 28 residential health care facility is an Eligible Applicant as long as it meets the minimum eligibility requirements in Section II of the RFA. The proposed plan and project must meet the RFA evacuation criteria in Section III C and Section V.C. of the RFA .</p>
83	Eligible Applicant	<p>If a health care facility is not part of a PPS, do they meet the criteria for funding under this opportunity? 1a. If no, could a non-capital restructuring project include becoming part of a DSRIP program PPS?</p>	<p>Yes, if the applicant meets the minimum eligibility requirements in Section II of this RFA, it is considered an Eligible Applicant. Membership in a PPS is not one of the minimum eligibility requirements under this RFA.</p>

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
84	Eligible Applicant	In that Ambulatory Surgery Centers are licensed under Article 28 as Diagnostic and Treatment Centers, would it be correct to assume that they can participate in this opportunity?	Yes, ASCs are Diagnostic and Treatment Centers licensed under A28 of the PHL and so are considered an eligible provider organization and a community-based health care provider for purposes of this RFA, and are eligible to participate as long as they meet the other minimum eligibility requirements in Section II of the RFA.
85	Eligible Applicant	An applicant received Public Health and Health Planning Council approval for the establishment and construction of an Article 28 diagnostic and treatment at the August 4, 2016 meeting of the Public Health and health planning Council meeting. Although the LLC has been formed, it will not have Article 28 powers until all contingencies are satisfied which is anticipated after the submission deadline of the RFP but prior to the commencement of the contract award. Please advise if this entity would be considered an eligible applicant.	No. To be an Eligible Applicant, an entity must meet the minimum eligibility requirements as stated in Section II of the RFA at the time of submission of the application.
86	Eligible Applicant	An applicant is an existing Article 36 provider of licensed home care services in the five (5) boroughs of New York City. As the LHCSA is an eligible applicant, can their use of a to-be-formed Article 28 diagnostic and treatment center be used as their transformation vehicle/justification for funding for their D&TC project?	A home care provider licensed under Article 36 of PHL is an Eligible Applicant as long as it meets the other minimum eligibility requirements in the RFA Section II Who May Apply. No, the project for which the Eligible Applicant is requesting funding should be related to the services the Eligible Applicant is currently licensed to provide.
87	Eligible Applicant	In section A questions 2d through 2g, you only ask about the Eligible Applicant. Are we correct to assume that the responses/data should reflect the information from both the Eligible Applicant and the Partner agency (that is merging with us)?	The information requested in the RFA Section V.2 Organizational Capacity should be submitted for both the Eligible Applicant and the entity expected to be the surviving entity in a merger transaction.
88	Eligible Applicant	Kindly inform whether an Article 31 Hospital (not clinic) is eligible to apply for funding.	An Article 31 licensed hospital is not an Eligible Applicant. However, an Article 31 hospital that is dually licensed under Article 28 of PHL is an Eligible Applicant under Section II(b) of the RFA as long as they meet the other minimum eligibility requirements of Section II of the RFA.
89	Eligible Applicant	I attended the Web Conference yesterday, and noticed that the slide presentation did NOT list or mention "home care providers certified or licensed under article 36" yet it is listed on page 5 of the RFA. Kindly clarify if a licensed home care provider may apply for the grant.	Yes, home care providers licensed under Article 36 of the PHL are an Eligible Applicant and considered a community-based health care provider for purposes of this RFA as long as they meet the other minimum eligibility requirements of Section II Who May Apply of the RFA.
90	Eligible Applicant	Can a joint application be submitted with another health care provider, with one provider serving as the lead applicant?	Yes, as long as the entity identified as the Lead Applicant meets the minimum eligibility requirements in Section II Who May Apply of the RFA. The Lead Applicant must be the entity who will enter into a grant contract with the state. Applications with multiple applicants should only be submitted when the Plan and project(s) being requested impact the financial sustainability of both applicants.
91	Eligible Applicant	Our Organization is a not for profit CCRC in Western New York which encompasses all levels of care (Independent Living, Assisted Living, Skilled Nursing). Our skilled component is licensed under Article 28. Since all levels of care are on the same campus and under the same Federal ID number, are we still an eligible applicant? We are beginning the process to apply for a certificate of need for our skilled component.	To be an Eligible Applicant, an entity must meet the minimum eligibility requirements as stated in Section II of the RFA at the time of submission of the application. An Article 28 residential health care facility is an Eligible applicant as long as it meets the minimum eligibility requirements in Section II of the RFA.
92	Eligible Applicant	Are state operated psychiatric centers eligible to apply?	State operated clinics licensed under Article 31 of the MHL are considered an eligible provider organization and community-based health care provider as stated in Section II of the RFA and are Eligible Applicants as long as they meet the other minimum eligibility requirements of Section II of the RFA. State operated Article 31 hospitals that are not duly licensed under Article 28 of the PHL are NOT considered an eligible provider organization for purposes of Section II of the RFA, and so are NOT Eligible Applicants under this RFA.
93	Eligible Applicant	Can I just confirm that international companies can apply for this opportunity?	International companies may apply for this funding however they must meet the minimum eligibility requirements in Section II Who May Apply of the RFA including being established in NYS as one of the provider organizations listed in Section II(b) of the RFA.

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
94	Eligible Applicant	Could an applicant agency with multiple licenses, including an Art 31 clinic license, submit a proposal to restructure and/or retire debt of its affiliated entities to ensure programmatic restructuring that supports long-term fiscal viability of the Art 31 clinic operation?	A clinic licensed under Article 31 of the MHL is an eligible provider organization and a community-based health care provider as stated in Section II(b) of the RFA and is an Eligible Applicant as long as the entity meets the other minimum eligibility requirements of Section II of the RFA. The plan and project (if debt retirement) should demonstrate a direct benefit to the Eligible Applicant's financial sustainability.
95	Eligible Applicant	I am writing today to get clarification about the eligibility for this grant opportunity. I am an OASAS licensed part 819 Supportive Living Program and I want to be sure about my eligibility to apply for some of the money. I am not an Article 28 residential program so I'm thinking that I do not meet the qualifications to apply. When you can, I would appreciate any guidance.	Parr 819 Supportive Living Programs are residential service providers licensed under Article 32 of the MHL and so are NOT considered alcohol and substance abuse treatment clinics licensed under Article 32 of the MHL and so are NOT an eligible provider type NOR a community-based health care provider under Section II of this RFA.
96	Eligible Applicant	We are an FQHC. We are both an Article 28 provider and a primary care provider. Which category should we check off?	Article 28 Diagnostic and Treatment Center which is also a community-based health care provider for purposes of this RFA.
97	Eligible Applicant	"Nursing Home A and Nursing Home B, both vital access providers and previously unrelated independent entities located within 2 to 3 miles of each other in the same county, recently affiliated under a common passive parent. As part of the affiliation and to transform the delivery of residential health care services by the affiliated nursing homes, both of the affiliated nursing homes wish to undergo capital projects which will result in the reduction of each nursing home's current respective bed size (40 beds for the larger of the two nursing homes and 23 for the smaller of the two) and which will result in greater efficiencies in the delivery of services. The respective capital projects will require debt restructuring. Will the now affiliated nursing homes be allowed to file one combined application for the proposed inter-related capital projects and one combined application for the proposed debt restructuring needed for each nursing home or will each nursing home be required to submit a separate application for their respective capital project and a separate application for their respective debt restructuring?"	Yes, one application can be submitted by one of the nursing homes for the capital projects, as long as the nursing home submitting the application meets the minimum eligibility requirements in Section II of the RFA. A separate application must be submitted for the non-capital project (debt restructuring) project.
98	Eligible Applicant	Are there any exclusions for a provider that has received Vital Access Provider (VAP) funding in the past?	No. Providers who meet the minimum eligibility requirements in Section II of the RFA, Who May Apply, will not be excluded from this opportunity if they received VAP funding.
99	Eligible Applicant	I am writing to you from the British Consulate in New York. We have seen your recent contracting opportunity for the Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program grant, and would like to clarify if British healthcare companies can qualify for this initiative. As the opportunity describes the need for community-based providers such as diagnostic or treatment centers, I wondering if you might be available to speak with us about the program in more detail, and give more detail into the types of health care providers you are looking for. Over the last 30 years, the UK's National Health Service has been working to leverage technologies for a value-based system serving over 60 million people. Because of this, UK companies offer evidenced-based products designed to enable population health management and value-based care delivery. We would be happy to share this opportunity with our networks and help you identify British healthcare innovations to match your needs. Would you be available to speak about this program later this week or next?	We would be happy to speak with you further about the SHCFTP once the applications are submitted. In order to be an Eligible Applicant under this RFA, the British health care companies must be established in NYS as one of the provider organizations listed in Section II (b) of the RFA, Who May Apply, at the time of application submission, and must also meet the other minimum eligibility requirements under Section II of the RFA.
100	Eligible Applicant	Is a behavioral health provider that does not operate an Article 31 or Article 32 clinic an eligible applicant?	No.

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
101	Eligible Applicant	Does an independent practice association (IPA), the majority of whose membership consists of primary care practices, constitute an “Eligible Applicant” for the purposes of the RFA? The IPA itself does not practice medicine, but the primary care practices that are members of the IPA’s network do. The IPA assists the primary care practices with various primary care initiatives and the IPA itself is a central hub for value-based care coordination efforts for its member practices (including arranging for contracts with payors on behalf of their member practices for such initiatives).	Individual or group primary care providers such as an IPA are eligible to apply, as long as they meet the minimum eligibility criteria outlined in Section II. Who May Apply.
102	Eligible Applicant	The RFA, on page 5, says “Community-based health care providers which, in accordance with statute and for purposes of this RFA, are defined as: ...Home care providers certified or licensed under Article 36 of the PHL.” A. Does this mean that an applicant must already have a LHCSA or CHHA license in order to be eligible? B. Or could an existing eligible provider, such as a nursing home, apply for funding to initiate home care services?	A. Yes, the applicant must be an Eligible Applicant and meet the minimum eligibility criteria outlined in Section II. Who May Apply, at the time the application is submitted.  B. No, the applicant must be established as an Article 36 licensed provider at the time of application submission and meet the other minimum eligibility requirements in Section II of the RFA to be considered an Eligible Applicant and a community-based health care provider for purposes of this RFA.
103	Eligible Applicant	Our Hospital seeks clarification on the types of community based providers that are eligible applicants under this RFA. Do eligible "Article 31 licensed mental health clinics" include all OMH licensed outpatient programs? Could an article 31 licensed hospital be an eligible applicant under circumstances in which the application will be for funding to support a program operated by the hospital under a separate article 31 outpatient license.	A. Yes, all OMH licensed Article 31 outpatient programs are considered eligible provider organizations for purpose of this RFA as long as they meet the other minimum eligibility requirements in Section II of the RFA.  B. No, an Article 31 OMH licensed hospital is not an Eligible Applicant for purposes of this RFA.
104	Eligible Applicant	Regarding "Who May Apply" on page 5: Be one of the following types of provider organizations: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Home care providers certified or licensed under Article 36 of the PHL; Does this mean that fiscal intermediaries, which are a distinct class of home and community-based service providers of Medicaid Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Services (CDPAS), are not eligible to apply for this funding opportunity because they are not Article 36 certified or licensed? Currently, fiscal intermediaries are required to have a Medicaid provider ID number for personal care/CDPAP, per MLTC Policy 15.05	Fiscal intermediaries are not one of the eligible provider types listed in Section II of the RFA and so are NOT considered Eligible Applicants under this RFA.
105	Eligible Applicant	I was a part of the information webinar discussing the RFA. I noted at the end that the speaker stated that “assisted living facilities and enriched housing” do not qualify for the grant. Are Assisted Living Programs, the Medicaid capitated program regulated by the State Department of Health, eligible for the grant as a non-for-profit?	No, assisted living programs are not one of the eligible provider types listed in Section II of the RFA and so are NOT considered Eligible Applicants under this RFA.
106	Eligible Applicant	Will State and County operated hospitals and nursing homes be eligible to participate in this grant program?	Publicly operated providers are eligible to apply, as long as they meet the minimum eligibility criteria outlined in Section II. Who May Apply.
107	Eligible Applicant	Are applicants restricted from applying who did not apply for the CRFP or Essential Health Care Provider grant programs?	No, all Eligible Applicants may apply. The applicant must meet the minimum eligibility requirements in Section II of the RFA to be an Eligible Applicant.
108	Eligible Applicant	a. Section II – Who May Apply – Page 5: Is it correct that the eligible category of “Primary Care Providers” would include professional corporations (private practices of medicine), which would be eligible for funding, despite not having Article 28 status? b. Further to this point, may a hospital or other Article 28 provider submit a RFA response that seeks to secure and use funding for a project that will be implemented by a non-Article 28 Primary Care Provider, including a professional corporation/private practice of medicine such as a faculty practice or a captive PC?	a. Yes, private practices of medicine that meet the minimum eligibility requirements in Section II of the RFA are considered to be an Eligible Applicant.  b. Yes, the hospital can submit the application but the non-Article 28 primary care provider would not be considered a community-based health care provider for the purposes of this RFA.

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
109	Eligible Expenses	Our organization is a federally qualified health center network. We are interested in applying to this RFA to establish new school-based health centers in areas of high need. Could you clarify whether capital /operating expenditures associated with school-based health centers would be eligible?	Capital expenses related to school-based health centers are eligible expenses, assuming they are an integral part of an Eligible Applicant's transformation plan. General operating expenses applicable to day-to-day operations are not eligible expenses.
110	Eligible Expenses	Are capital expenses for housing that are connected to outpatient SUD and Primary Care services eligible under this RFA?	Capital expenses related to housing are eligible expenses, assuming they are an integral part of an Eligible Applicant's transformation plan.
111	Eligible Expenses	Would it be permissible to utilize these funds to: a. Purchase a mobile clinic to provide primary care? b. Purchase equipment for an immediate care center to provide increased hours of operation? c. Pay for staffing for a primary care office? d. Purchase another primary care provider? e. Pay for a new EMR, which would allow for greater care coordination?	Examples a,b,d and e appear to be capital expenditures eligible for funding under this RFA if they are connected to the Eligible Project or Plan for which funding is being sought under this RFA. Example c, paying for staff for a primary care office, is a personnel cost and is not an eligible expense as it is a general operating expenses applicable to day-to-day operations.
112	Eligible Expenses	I have a question regarding III. B. on page 5, Eligible and Excluded Expenses and Disallowed Costs. A project we are working on would entail working with a contractor to purchase and construct a new facility for one of our service lines. We would then lease and outfit the building. Would the construction and/or equipment costs be eligible expenses?	Lease hold capital improvements are eligible expenses. General operating expenses, including operating lease payments for equipment, buildings and vehicles, are not allowable.
113	Eligible Expenses	Would health information technology be an eligible capital expense? For instance, would a cloud-based electronic health record qualify, if directly related to an identified need for healthcare facility transformation?	Information technology (IT) expenses that are capital in nature are Eligible Expenses per this RFA. Cloud-based expenses, however, are not Eligible Expenses because they are considered a general operating expense. Terminals and laptops used to access a cloud based system would be Eligible Expenses as long as they have an expected useful life of three years or more.
114	Eligible Expenses	We are a community-based provider, providing home care services licensed under Article 36. Our question pertains to Section III Project Narrative/Workplan, subsection B. Eligible and Excluded Expenses and Disallowed Costs. We would like to apply for a significant technology (software & equipment) upgrade project. Would this be an eligible project? This is no mention of technology/software being either an allowable or excluded expense.	See answer to question #113.
115	Eligible Expenses	Can we be reimbursed for eligible expenses related to the purpose of this RFA incurred in the last 12 months, for projects that have been fully or partially completed? In other words, can funding cover past expenses?	No. Only expenses determined allowable under the contract budget and work plan and incurred on or after the start date of the contract of 3/1/17, may be vouchered for reimbursement.
116	Eligible Expenses	Are personnel services related to software development an eligible capital expense?	Personnel services related to the design and development of software for a particular IT project may be a capital expense.
117	Eligible Expenses	What are some examples of general operating expenses directly connected to the eligible project for which funding is being sought under allowable non-capital expenditures?	See RFA page 6.
118	Eligible Expenses	Regarding an unfunded primary care/urgent care physician office RFA application from last year, the project demand analysis shows a need for 4 to 5 providers in the area. The pro forma projects an operating loss in the first few years of operation; however, given the high demand for providers, Catskill Regional is pursuing the project. Can we request RFA funds to help subsidize the operating losses during the first few years of operation? Funds would be committed to physician salaries.	Specific project references aside, working capital expenses within the implementation of a larger eligible project per the Request for Applications (RFA) may be eligible expenses. This would be limited to start up and wind down project expenses that are not covered by project revenues. On-going operating deficits of an implemented project will not be funded. Separate applications are required for capital and non-capital Projects. If the Projects are considered interdependent to creating a financially sustainable system of care and are described as part of one Plan, they can be submitted as one capital or non-capital related application. If the projects are not interdependent, or are not related to the same Plan, they do not need to be submitted as one application.
119	Eligible Expenses	Please clarify whether the expense to purchase already completed improvements (for meeting regulations and clinic design) in space to be leased for an extension clinic by a Diagnostic and Treatment Center is considered a capital expenditure and allowable within the requirements of the RFA.	Only expenses incurred on or after the later of the contract begin date or March 1, 2017 that are otherwise eligible expenses will be considered for funding.

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
120	Eligible Expenses	During the webinar you noted that personnel costs were excluded as general operating expenses. Can personnel costs be covered as part of project start-up costs?	See answer to question #118.
121	Eligible Expenses	Can LHCA utilize funding for EMR system and connectivity to the RHIO?	See answer to question #113.
122	Eligible Expenses	Would the funding cover EMR software and the costs for the development and connectivity to the RHIO?	See answer to question #113.
123	Eligible Expenses	Can the Mental Health clinic utilize the funding for non-traditional care management services to overcome the social deterrents for compliance with medication and visits?	This type of project does not appear to be a capital expense. Please see the RFA for additional information.
124	Eligible Expenses	Can funding be utilized to open satellite expansion clinics?	The capital expenses associated with opening an extension clinic could be eligible expenses. Also see the answer to question #117.
125	Eligible Expenses	Section III. Project Narrative/Workplan Paragraph 7 For non-capital projects - what kind of debt is eligible The first bullet here refers to "long term liabilities" but the third bullet says, in effect, other non-capital expenses that are not day to day operating expenses.... So, would retirement of current debt liabilities be an eligible expense?	Yes.
126	Eligible Expenses	Are costs related to the construction of a medical office buildings for hospital-employed primary - care doctors eligible under this RFA?	Yes, construction costs are eligible expenses under this RFA.
127	Eligible Expenses	Are costs related to renovations and repairs of current hospital buildings eligible under this RFA?	See answer to question #126.
128	Eligible Expenses	Would the cost of telemetry monitors for a hospital - owned nursing home be eligible for funding under this RFA?	See answer to question #126.
129	Eligible Expenses	In past years the agency exceeded its cap of Medicaid clients. The agency was billed at one time by Medicaid for the multiple years of Medicaid overage, resulting in a debt to Medicaid by the agency, for exceeding the agency cap for several years. Is retiring or reducing this Medicaid debt allowable as the primary activity in a grant application to become more financially stable?	No.
130	Eligible Expenses	Allowable costs: Can we include in our project budget as an operating cost the salary of a project manager, (either a our current facilities manager or a contractual project manager)? Because this is non-capital would it require a separate application?	If this expense is a minor component and is part of a larger eligible capital project per the Request for Applications (RFA), and is integral to implementing the applicant's sustainability Plan, it may be considered a capital expense. Construction project management costs directly related to a construction project are considered capital expenses and are eligible for funding under this RFA.
131	Eligible Expenses	Please confirm that the funds can be used to train home care workers in specialized areas, such as advanced home health aide, coach to aides, working with dementia patients, etc.	See the answer to question #118.
132	Eligible Expenses	Can applicants apply for costs for which we already paid but which resulted in a deficit due to lack of grants in place to pay for renovations?	No. See the answer to question #119.
133	Eligible Expenses	Can funding be used to extend subcontracts with other providers? We have a subcontracted primary care provider for which funds run out in the future. We would be at risk of interrupting primary care services for our adult participants with serious mental illness if we are unable to continue services until our subcontractor has their certificate of need approved and the FQHC is operational.	These costs seem to be general operating costs rather than start up working capital or capital costs. See also answer to question #118.

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
134	Eligible Expenses	<p>In Section III B, Project Narrative/Work plan – Eligible and Excluded Expenses and Disallowed Costs, the RFA indicates that eligible expenditures for capital projects include “the planning or design of the acquisition, construction, demolition, replacement, major repair or renovation of a fixed asset or assets, including the preparation and review of plans and specifications including engineering and other services; construction costs; renovation costs; asset acquisitions; equipment costs; and consultant fees and other expenditures associated with the preparation of Certificate of Need (CON) applications required for the proposed establishment action, construction activity or service expansion (so long as the costs are incurred in connection with original construction and not an ownership transfer)”.</p> <p>Please clarify whether the application would be acceptable for an applicant proposing to lease space for a primary care extension clinic and the cost of purchasing the renovation improvements and equipment from the lessor, exclusive of the lease expense, can be considered as acceptable capital expenditures within the application. Please clarify whether the purchase expense associated with the acquisition of a mobile clinic unit to service communities in need can be considered an acceptable capital expenditure in the application.</p> <p>Please clarify whether the consultant, architectural and legal services expenses related to the preparation of the Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program application and the preparation of the required Certificate of Need application are allowable expenses as defined within the RFA.</p>	<p>The cost of purchasing the renovation improvements and equipment from the lessor can be considered as acceptable capital expenditures. The purchase expense associated with the acquisition of a mobile clinic unit to service communities in need can be considered an acceptable capital expenditure. The consultant, architectural and legal services expenses related to the preparation of the required Certificate of Need application are allowable expenses as defined within the RFA.</p>
135	Eligible Expenses	<p>Our eligible Project involves the phased conversion of a 144-bed RHCF building on our campus to housing, and the reduction of beds by that number both through attrition and alternate placement on our campus. Are transition costs (including loss of revenue from operations) during the conversion phase Eligible non-capital costs? (Section III, Paragraph B).</p>	<p>See the answer to question #117.</p>
136	Eligible Expenses	<p>Can an RHCF as an Eligible Applicant, as part of their system transformation, request funding to support construction of an ALP (beds for ALP have been awarded through the RFA); (Section V. Paragraph 4.)</p>	<p>Yes.</p>
137	Eligible Expenses	<p>Under the non-capital projects or purposes part of the grant, we wanted to enquire whether the following liabilities would be eligible for funding. Both constitute significant burdens on our overall balance sheet and have impacted our ability to ensure a financially sustainable system of care.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outstanding Balance on Line of Credit</li> </ul> <p>In 2010 our organization entered into a commercial revolving line of credit agreement with a bank, with interest being charged at the bank’s prime rate. The line of credit is secured by, substantially, all assets of our organization. The outstanding balance on the line of credit was \$475,000 at December 31, 2015. Will we be able to request funds to pay some portion of or to pay off in full this line of credit?</p>	<p>Retirement of lines of credit may be an eligible expense if it assists in achieving the goals of a Plan.</p>

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
138	Eligible Expenses	Outstanding Insurance Deficit Assessment From 1996 to 2009, our organization participated with other health care organizations in a Health Care Providers Self-Insurance Trust for its workers compensation insurance. The organization was notified on January 15, 2010 by the State of New York, Workers Compensation Board (WCB), that the Trust was insolvent. The WCB invoiced the organization and we received revised assessments over the years. Effective March, 2011, a Memorandum of Understanding was reached with certain members of the Trust. A new Memorandum of Understanding went into effect in March, 2013, and in March, 2014 our organization received a Settlement Agreement from WCB that specified revised payment schedules and terms, including adjustments based on granting of hardship provisions. On December 31, 2015, the net of current portion of the insurance assessment was \$861,491. Would we be able to request funds to pay in full or to pay some portion of this long-term liability?	Specific project references aside, the current portion of long term debt is an eligible expense as a non-capital project or purpose.
139	Eligible Expenses	Would mortgage closing costs be eligible for funding for a debt restructuring application?	Yes.
140	Eligible Expenses	Would a bond premium on the early refunding of debt be considered for funding?	Yes.
141	Eligible Expenses	Are one-time personnel costs for start-up allowable as part of working capital associated with a transformative capital project?	See the answer to question #117.
142	Eligible Expenses	Is training an eligible non-capital expense?	See the answer to question #118.
143	Eligible Expenses	Is moving / relocating a home care agency (LHCSA) an eligible expense if it is a key part of a transformation plan?	See the answer to question #118.
144	Eligible Expenses	Section III.B. – Eligible and Excluded Expenses and Disallowed Costs – Pages 5-6: Previous RFAs of this nature have explicitly stated that, expenses incurred prior to the grant period or for which a Certificate of Need Application has been approved that included a funding plan that was not dependent on grant funding, would not be eligible for grant funds under those RFAs. Under this RFA, will otherwise eligible expenditures that were made prior to the grant period be eligible for approval? Under this RFA, if a project is proposed that has previously had an approved Certificate of Need Application with a funding plan that did not include grant funding, would that project be eligible for grant funding? As an example of the latter situation, would the following situation be eligible for grant funding under this RFA: an applicant has an approved CON with an approved financing plan that did not include grant funding. It is midway through the construction of its project, which would fit well within the criteria of this RFA. The applicant would be helped financially if a portion of the remaining costs of the project were paid for by grant funds from this RFA. Would the applicant be eligible for that grant funding if it applied through this RFA?	Please see the answer to question #119. The prior submission or approval of a CON application will not be a factor in determining eligible expenses.
145	Eligible Expenses	Section III.B. – Eligible and Excluded Expenses and Disallowed Costs – Page 6: Please confirm that operational costs such as personnel are allowable if directly related to the project.	See the answers to questions #118 and #130.
146	Eligible Expenses	We will also incur expenses related to moving to a new location. What specific expenses related to a move would qualify?	Necessary moving expenses associated with an eligible project may be funded.
147	Eligible Expenses	To clarify, a home care entity seeks to transform and restructure its current system of care. Can funding from this RFA be used to support detailed demand studies, consultant fees and start-up operating expenses for such a project if the expenses are incurred on or after March 1, 2017?	See the answers to questions #118 and #130.
148	Eligible Expenses	Will funding be available to support Health Information Technology (HIT) and telehealth?	See the answer to question #113.



Q#	Category	Question	Answer
149	Eligible Expenses	Is it a requirement that the funds be spent directly on the clinic or can they be spent on other organizational priorities?	There is insufficient information provided to address this question.
150	Eligible Expenses	Would purchasing a practice (i.e. an Article 28) be considered an eligible capital expense? Would this qualify as an asset acquisition, even if the physical clinic site is not acquired?	Yes, this acquisition may be an eligible capital expense.
151	Eligible Expenses	If we, a skilled nursing and rehabilitation facility, include EMRs in our capital project, may we include the training costs for this purchase in our budget? This will definitely be an expensive budget item for us to train our staff.	See the answers to questions #113 and #130.
152	Eligible Expenses	If a Certified Home Health Agency needs to improve its ability to manage utilization and cost effectiveness with an enhanced electronic health record system, is that technology an allowable capital expense under this program?	See the answer to question #113.
153	Eligible Expenses	Can core building systems such as HVAC that are essential for operations and in need of replacement be justified as supporting a plan for care delivery transformation that would not be able to occur if not housed within a sustainable environment?	Yes, this is an eligible capital expense.
154	Eligible Expenses	Page 5, B. Eligible and Excluded Expenses and Disallowed Costs 1. Can we request funding for legal expenses associated with this project, for example costs related to preparing to meet with community boards and or town representatives about the location of a community provider? 2. Can we request funding to redeem existing tax exempt bonds? 3. Can we request funding for consultants who will work on getting approvals from licensing and/or regulatory agencies about changing a location of services?	The answer to all three questions is Yes.
155	Eligible Expenses	We have a strong organization with solid financials. A smaller, weak organization will be merging with us but they have significant debt issues that need to be addressed. Elimination of that debt could substantially facilitate merger of the two entities. a. They have a \$335,000 debt related to a Workers Compensation Trust settlement. Could the SHCFTP funding be used to eliminate that liability? b. Could the SHCFTP funding be used to settle their OMIG paybacks (that they have already self-disclosed)?	Specific project references aside, such debt retirement may be funded.
156	Eligible Expenses	We would like to include expenses related to a capital project at a site that we own as well as capital improvements at a second site that we lease. Would we be allowed to include both as part of the overall project?	Yes, if both site are integral to a single Plan/project.
157	Eligible Expenses	Please see the following substantive questions, Are the following considered eligible expenses for capital projects for this RFA: (RFA, pages 5-6, section III B.) a. Costs related to the selection of a replacement EMR system and the costs to train employees on the new EMR system. b. Costs associated with conversion of a CHAA's affiliate LHCSA agency from for-profit to nonprofit status as part of restructuring for cost efficiencies (would these have to be construction/renovation-only costs to be eligible for capital budget?) c. Costs associated with joining a RHIO (e.g., initial investments for hardware, software, membership, implementation).	a. See the answer to question #113. b. See the answer to question #118 and #130. c. See the answer to question #113.
158	Eligible Expenses	Are there any guidelines for what might be included in allowable costs in the "Other" category in the Capital Based Budget in Attachment B-3?	No.
159	Eligible Expenses	Also the RFA notes Acquisitions as an allowable cost does this include real estate purchases?	Yes.
160	Eligible Expenses	Can the grant monies be used to for training and education?	See the answer to question #130.
161	Eligible Expenses	Can funds be used to renovate LEASED space rather than owned space?	Yes.

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
162	Eligible Expenses	Can non-consumable supplies for the facility (e.g., furniture and electronic equipment)--which may not qualify as equipment based on unit cost--be purchased with this funding ?	See the answer to question #130.
163	Eligible Expenses	Can funds be used to pay for fees to add a satellite clinic license to our current OASAS license?	Yes.
164	Eligible Expenses	I just listened in to the webinar and I believe you said that EHR system hardware would be an allowable capital cost. I just want to make sure that this would include software as well.	Yes, electronic health record hardware is generally a capital expense and is eligible for funding under this RFA.
165	Eligible Expenses	Are technology solutions that are purchased as capital expenditures eligible for the award?	See the answer to question #113.
166	Eligible Expenses	Please provide examples of "general operating expenses directly connected to the Eligible Project" that are not excluded expenses. For example, if a current staffer is assigned to the new Project, can a portion of the person's salary be paid for under HCFTP funds? Can HCFTP funds be used to hire staff? If existing space and current staff are used, for example, could funds be used for renovations to the new space, training staff, educating consumers, developing clinical protocols and work flows, and creating IT linkages with partners?	See the answer to question #118 and #130.
167	Eligible Expenses	If awarded, will it be allowable for the organization to submit expenses for retroactive reimbursement? If so, how far back may we expense costs to the award funding? Will we only be able to charge award funding to projects started on 3/1/2017 and after, or will we be able to apply funds to project funds incurred prior to the start date, for example back to 1/1/2017.	See the answer to question #119.
168	Eligible Expenses	Is software considered an eligible capital expense?	See the answer to question #116.
169	Eligible Expenses	Is software considered an eligible non-capital expense?	See the answer to question #116.
170	Eligible Expenses	Are personnel services related to software development an eligible non-capital expense?	See the answer to question #116.
171	Eligible Expenses	Are there any restrictions as to what type of debt refinancing is eligible? We are interesting in applying for costs related to a 7-year loan refinancing as well as audit payments, pension and capital financing. Are these eligible expenses?	The costs associated with the refinancing of a seven year loan is an eligible expense for non-capital projects or purposes.
172	Eligible Expenses	We are interesting in applying for a project which would consolidate staff to a new space. Are the following expenses eligible? Architect, engineering, minor construction, furniture and moving costs?	Such expenses would be eligible.
173	Eligible Expenses	Can the capital grant funds be used to purchase vehicles such as cars and or buses?	Yes.
174	Eligible Expenses	Since most telemedicine companies lease their equipment instead of selling it, can the capital lease expenses be included as a capital cost?	See the answer to question #113.
175	Eligible Expenses	What are the requirements/restrictions for using this funding to renovate a leased property?	Capital costs associated with the renovation of leased space are eligible.

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
176	Eligible Expenses	Our agency has both an Article 28 medical clinic and an Article 31 mental health clinic. We also provide comprehensive wrap-around services to the clients served in the clinics and will be providing care management services as a Care Management Agency through the NYS Children’s Health Home program. These services are central to our ability to provide integrated, patient-centered health care delivery as part of the system of care (“the Plan”) we are proposing. Our question involves capital improvements to the space that houses the essential wrap-around services including educational services, social services, recreation programming, parenting education, the Care Managers, etc. These services are located on a different floor from the clinics but clients move back and forth between these spaces during any given visit to the agency. Would the costs of capital improvements to this space be an eligible expense?	Such capital expenses are eligible expenses.
177	Eligible Expenses	We would like to include as “equipment” or “asset acquisition” the cost of one or more wheelchair-accessible vans to transport patients who cannot use public transportation. This will be important to assuring the ongoing availability and accessibility of health care services for these individuals. Would this be an allowable cost?	Yes.
178	Eligible Expenses	Our agency owns a new Mobile Medical Van (MMU), an essential component of our system of care in ensuring access to needed healthcare services by our target population. The initial operating costs of this van are a financial burden to our agency and funding of these expenses over the first years of its operation would greatly contribute to improving the agency’s financial condition as we ramp up its use and begin to offset such costs through Medicaid revenues. Are any initial operating expenses for the MMU an allowable cost?	See the answer to question #118.
179	Eligible Expenses	As a part of a strategy to promote long term sustainability of the services provided, can we: a) Include the cost of staff to increase the agency’s fundraising capacity? b) Include staff such as credentialed Family Peer Advocates for the purpose of improving engagement and therefore show-rates at clinic appointments – ultimately resulting in increased Medicaid revenue?	See the answer to question #130.
180	Eligible Expenses	To finance the recent construction of our new healthcare facility housing A28 and A31 clinics, we currently have a line of credit with our bank, and a construction loan with an outstanding balance. With regard to “debt restructuring and refinancing of long-term liabilities,” how is long-term defined? Is it possible to include any of the above costs/debts which may be considered short-term liabilities?	The short-term liabilities described are not eligible expenses. The current portion of long-term liabilities are eligible expenses.
181	Eligible Expenses	If portions of a project that have been completed but not paid for, are they eligible for funding through SHCFTP?	See the answer to question #119.
182	Eligible Expenses	Is furniture considered an Eligible Project Expense?	Yes
183	Eligible Expenses	Are moving expenses associated with the project considered an Eligible Project Expense or an Eligible Non-Capital Expense? i.e. general operating expenses directly connected to the Eligible Project. Also, can you clarify what is meant by “to the extent that funds are available pursuant to Section 1 of Part F of Chapter 59 of the Laws of 2016”.	Moving expenses associated with an eligible capital project may be included as eligible expenses of the project. There are limited funds available for non-capital projects or purposes, so to the extent funds remain after considering the non-capital costs which may be part of projects that are mostly capital projects, non-capital projects may be funded.
184	Eligible Expenses	Do the equipment costs referenced on RFA page 6 include technology - specifically IT hardware and software?	See the answer to question #113.
185	Eligible Expenses	We would like to know if the purchase of vehicles (cars or vans) for transporting our clients to doctor appointments would be a valid purpose for (applying for) and receiving Grant money?	The purchase of vehicles is an eligible expense.

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
186	Eligible Expenses	Are these funds eligible to be used on construction of an Administrative location for a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC)? Our goal is to hopefully one day make a "campus" scenario with the piece of land that was acquired recently.	Construction costs are eligible expenses.
187	Eligible Expenses	We are a federally qualified health center network located in Brooklyn. We are interested in applying to this RFA to establish new school-based health centers in areas of high need. Could you clarify whether capital /operating expenditures associated with school-based health centers would be eligible?	To the extent that the project is primarily a capital project, such expenses may be eligible.
188	Eligible Expenses	I understand from the webinar that expenses must be incurred after the contract date of 3/1/17. Can some expenses be ongoing, for example if an agency is joining with another which will make our agency financially sustainable. We have already begin to incur expenses relating to this consolidation.	See the answer to question #119.
189	Eligible Expenses	In regards to debt restructuring, we are currently in the process of moving our article 28 Clinic to a new location in an effort to increase availability to our target population. This move requires significant construction and cost. Are we eligible to request funding to restructure our debt, even though much of these costs have already been incurred prior to this application?	Debt restructuring expense is an eligible cost for non-capital projects or purposes.
190	Eligible Expenses	Our organization was previously awarded a CRFP award for a lease. Could we apply to the Transformation Program for purchase money to convert the lease and purchase the property?	Yes.
191	Eligible Project	Our hospital submitted an Essential HC Provider RFA last year that was not funded. The project was for the construction of a primary care/urgent care physician office to help address the high need of patients for health care services in our county. We have proceeded with the project despite not being funded and will be using a significant amount of borrowed funds. We expect to draw down most of the funds by the second quarter of 2017. Considering we were not funded last year for this critically important project, the question is can we apply for this RFA and request debt service relief for the debt we are now incurring to fund this project?	Yes.
192	Eligible Project	Could non-capital operating funding be requested (via a separate application) to support the start-up or ramp-up of an augmented CRFP project?	See the answer to question #130.
193	Eligible Project	Restructuring: can the restructuring have taken place prior to the project being submitted for consideration but has directly influenced the project plan and the need for the grant funding which will transform the health facilities?	Restructuring expenses incurred prior to March 1, 2017 are not eligible expenses.
194	Eligible Project	Can a Licensed home care agency seek funding to restructure debt and in what way. Provide example. Or fund mandates that are unfunded by the regulatory bodies. I.E.: Over time, wage parity, living wage, ACA?	See page 6 of the RFA.
195	Eligible Project	Can a Licensed Home care Agency apply for funding technologies that will promote patient engagement and employee engagement?	See the answer to question #113.
196	Eligible Project	Can a mental health clinic apply for funding for expansion of clinic services to underserved geographic locations?	Yes, if it a capital project.
197	Eligible Project	Define what Debt restructuring would be?	See page 6 of the RFA.
198	Eligible Project	Can the funding be utilized to support complex care management services in a mental health clinic? (Which is currently not reimbursable?)	See the answer to question #130.

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
199	Eligible Project	Section V. Completing the Application If this is a debt service application, what parts/components of the application apply vs. a construction based project. Not all questions/parts are relevant.	The applicant may indicate "Not Applicable" to any question that does not apply to the project.
200	Eligible Project	If a project is multi-phased, can an applicant apply for a distinct aspect or phase of a larger project and remain an eligible applicant for this RFA?	Yes, an Eligible Applicant can apply for funding for a distinct phase of a larger project. The distinct phase of the larger project must qualify as an Eligible Project.
201	Eligible Project	Are multi-phase projects, which may have already initiated the early phases of a capital project eligible for this RFA?	Yes, an Eligible Applicant can apply for funding for a distinct phase of a larger project. The distinct phase of the larger project must qualify as an Eligible Project and only expenses determined allowable under the contract budget and work plan and incurred on or after the start date of the contract of 3/1/17, may be vouchered for reimbursement.
202	Eligible Project	We are very interested in pursuing funds from the Health Care Facility Transformation Program . However, before we submit an application for consideration, I wanted to know if we would be disallowed due to our project already having CON approval from DOH ? We just broke ground on our transformation project for our nursing home(83 million) , and it has a 3 year construction schedule. Please let me know if we would still receive consideration before we undertake the effort to complete the grant application. Thank you	There is nothing in the RFA to preclude an application for an Eligible Project that has already received CON approval. However, only expenses determined allowable under the contract budget and work plan and incurred on or after the start date of the contract of 3/1/17, may be vouchered for reimbursement.
203	Eligible Project	Would adding services to a residential health care facility, such as outpatient rehabilitation, be an eligible project if it fulfills a health care need at the facility?	Eligible Projects are outlined in Section III. Project Narrative/Workplan. The quality of the Eligible Project will be judged based on how well it contributes to the Plan to enable the Eligible Applicant to achieve financial sustainability and strengthen and protect continued access to health care services in the community.
204	Eligible Project	Our organization is a community-based provider that operates five Article 28 licensed health centers, and we are interested in applying for capital funds to renovate up to three of our health centers that will enable us achieve more efficient patient flow, improve patient access, and enhance the patient experience. Is it a requirement that all proposed projects involve a merger, consolidation, acquisition, or other significant restructuring activity, and/or partnership with another entity?	The quality of the Eligible Project will be judged based on how well it contributes to the Plan to enable the Eligible Applicant to achieve financial sustainability and strengthen and protect continued access to health care services in the community. As indicated in the SHCFTP RFA, creation of a financially sustainable system of care should be associated with a merger, consolidation or significant restructuring activity. Restructuring activities encompass a broad array of approaches. The quality of the Eligible Project will be judged based on how well it contributes to the Plan to enable the Eligible Applicant to achieve financial sustainability and strengthen and protect continued access to health care services in the community. As indicated in the SHCFTP RFA, creation of a financially sustainable system of care should be associated with a merger, consolidation or significant restructuring activity. Restructuring activities encompass a broad array of approaches.
205	Eligible Project	Do projects have to be associated with a merger, consolidation or corporate restructuring? If yes, how do you define each term?	The quality of the Eligible Project will be judged based on how well it contributes to the Plan to enable the Eligible Applicant to achieve financial sustainability and strengthen and protect continued access to health care services in the community. As indicated in the SHCFTP RFA, creation of a financially sustainable system of care should be associated with a merger, consolidation or significant restructuring activity. Restructuring activities encompass a broad array of approaches.
206	Eligible Project	Do proposed projects have to be associated with a merger, consolidation or significant corporate restructuring activity (that is part of an overall transformation plan intended to create a financially sustainable system of care)? The CRFP funding opportunity did not have this particular requirement.	The quality of the Eligible Project will be judged based on how well it contributes to the Plan to enable the Eligible Applicant to achieve financial sustainability and strengthen and protect continued access to health care services in the community. As indicated in the SHCFTP RFA, creation of a financially sustainable system of care should be associated with a merger, consolidation or significant restructuring activity. Restructuring activities encompass a broad array of approaches. As you correctly indicate, the requirement for a Plan was not part of the CRFP RFA.
207	Eligible Project	Can this funding be utilized to start a mental health partial hospital program? Or step down program?	See the answers to questions #203 and #130.

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
208	Eligible Project	In Section 1 v., ii., Introduction, the RFA indicates that “elements of the plan should include”...”steps to be taken to create a sustainable system of care through a merger, consolidation, acquisition or other significant restructuring activity and/or the partnership or other relationship between the Eligible Applicant and a separate health care facility or system(s) (“the Partner”)” and “the nature of the relationship between the Eligible Applicant and the Partner”. Please clarify whether the application must demonstrate a “partner” relationship as a criteria for evaluation and whether, assuming the application meets all other requirements, can evaluation be determined in the “good” tier without a “partner” relationship.	See the answer to question #206.
209	Eligible Project	In Section II (b), Who May Apply, the RFA indicates that “residential health care facilities licensed under Article 28 of the PHL” are acceptable types of organizations within the requirements of the RFA. Please clarify whether the an application proposing the conversion of a resident unit that provides an improved therapeutic environment and care program for residents with particular conditions (e.g. Dementia, Young Adults, etc.) would be acceptable within the requirements of the RFA.	If the project is primarily a capital project, the costs may be eligible.
210	Eligible Project	Section II – Who May Apply – Page 5 (also impacts Eligible Expenses): May an Article 28 RHCF apply for funding that it would use to construct space that would be used to provide services under Article 16 OPWDD certification?	This project would be considered an Article 16 project and this procurement is not intended for Article 16 projects.
211	Eligible Project	Section 4, The Project As a general question, does the project need to be on land/property owned by the Applicant?	No.
212	Eligible Project	The center campus and buildings of our organization are owned by the Executive Director and CEO of the Center. Our organization has been occupying all or part of this property since 1994. The Center has been occupying the entire property consisting of two historic buildings since the year 2000. Due to the increasing demands of our community and the heroin epidemic we have maxed out the usable space in both these buildings. We recently enclosed a large porch into another group / office and are in the process of splitting another room in half. We are reaching a crisis situation in our lack of new office space and the increasing demand for services. We are proposing to utilize the grant money to replace a very large storage building in the back of the property. We are proposing a 20’ X 70 foot structure that will house additional clinical offices, a physician medical suite, psychiatry office, a 20’ X 20’ group / training / community room / kitchen / reception booth/ and bathrooms. We are also talking with the town to build a foot bridge over the creek at the rear of the property to access the municipal parking lot for additional parking. Our question is the following. The building and foot bridge will be used solely for the Center. Can the Grant money be used for a building owned by the current owners and leased to the Center? If not, how can this project be arranged. What are the legal requirement to guarantee the mission of the grant.	While the project may be an eligible project, eligible applicants are limited to those noted in Section II of the RFA. Awarded grant funds will be paid as reimbursement to eligible awardees after a contract is executed, which notes the deliverables and conditions of the award.
213	Eligible Project	If the project involves a complex facility construction/renovation project, what happens if there are changes from the submitted project plan over the 5 year project period? How will changes in the project schedule affect reimbursement to the awardee?	Any change to an awarded project will be evaluated during the contract phase on a case by case basis. Contract extensions which involve no cost increase to the project may be granted by the Department. As stated in the RFA, the Department reserves its rights to decrease an award or not award a grant.

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
214	Eligible Project	If an applicant needs to expand their Art 31 clinic operation and wants to convert existing space of another OMH licensed program, can debt retirement for an outdated, fiscally risky program be combined with capital construction expenses to re-purpose space for updated Art 31 clinic service delivery?	Project specifics aside, non-capital projects related to capital projects may be eligible, but must be submitted as a separate application.
215	Eligible Project	Please confirm that the funds can be used for technology, including electronic health records, connectivity with other health care partners, telehealth.	See the answer to question #113.
216	Eligible Project	Please confirm that the funds can be used for the cost of joining a Regional Health Information Organization (RHIO).	See the answers to questions #113 and #130.
217	Eligible Project	Question: Are investments in IT and IT security projects eligible for support?	See the answer to question #113.
218	Eligible Project	Are investments in electronic medical record systems eligible for support?	See the answer to question #113.
219	Eligible Project	Our federally qualified health center was created in 2013 as the result of a merger between a family practice and a nonprofit social service provider. We will open a new site in an underserved area in 2017. We will file a Certificate of Need application in order for the site to become a NYS Article 28 Diagnostic and Treatment Center. We view this expansion as the next step of the restructuring that began with the 2013 merger to create our FQHC. The new site will help us sustain our core services, increase access to expanded healthcare services in an underserved area, lower healthcare system costs, and expand our capacity to generate additional revenues. SHCFTP funds would be used for construction purposes at the new site. Would such a project be considered an acceptable activity under SHCFTP?	Project specific elements aside, construction of a new Article 28 site by an established Article 28 provider is an eligible project.
220	Eligible Project	We have approximately \$750,000 in outstanding debt (~\$400K Bank Capital/Equipment Loan; ~\$350K Promissory Note balance remaining on the nonprofit's purchase of the family practice) as a result of the 2013 merger. Would these be eligible for debt reduction through SHCFTP?	Debt restructuring expense is an eligible cost for non-capital projects or purposes.
221	Eligible Project	We submitted a CRFP proposal for a capital project that was subsequently submitted and approved through the Certificate of Need process. Project has not yet begun. Would this project still be considered for funding through this application?	A project that was funded under the CRFP initiative is not eligible for this procurement. If the project was not awarded a CRFP award, then the submission and/or approval of a CON application for the project is not a factor in determining an eligible project.
222	Eligible Project	This is a three-(3)-part general question about project eligibility. Is a project eligible to be funded through this Transformation Grant if: a) A C.O.N. Application has already been submitted and is currently under review by the NYSDOH, and the Application states it will be partially funded through cash equity, but it does not specifically state it will be funded through the Transformation Grant? b) A C.O.N. Application has already been submitted and approved by PHHPC, and the project was to be partially funded through cash equity, but it does not specifically state it will be funded through the Transformation Grant? c) A C.O.N. Application has already been submitted and approved by PHHPC, the project is under construction, and the project was approved to be partially funded with equity, but it does not specifically state it will be funded through the Transformation Grant?	The submission and/or approval of a CON application for the project is not a factor in determining an eligible project. Also see the answer to question #130.
223	Eligible Project	Page 19, 3. The Plan 1. If we are contemplating purchasing an asset vs. renting a new space to provide services, do we need to specify either in the application? If we are considering both do we need to submit 2 separate applications?	An applicant should put forward a complete application that best represents an intended project. The quality of the Eligible Project will be judged based on how well it contributes to the Plan to enable the Eligible Applicant to achieve financial sustainability and strengthen and protect continued access to health care services in the community.

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
224	Eligible Project	Page 21, 10. Plan and Project Timeline Do we need to include the new address for the move of a community provider in the application or can part of the proposal request timeline be to identify a new location?	The current address of the Eligible Applicant should be provided at time of application. The future address should be included as part of the application, if possible, or a description of the targeted geographic region to be served.
225	Eligible Project	For a capital project, what is the minimum length for site control of a rented property?	There is no minimum length of time for site control of a rented property in the RFA. However, if CON approval is required, 10 years is the minimum length required for demonstrating site control.
226	Eligible Project	Can the RFA capital funds be utilized to accelerate the retirement of a Defined Benefit Pension Plan (currently frozen) that is creating growing financial pressure with future liabilities growing, and impacting the financial stability of the applicant?	Please see page 6 of the RFA for non-capital projects and purposes.
227	Eligible Project	We are a large nonprofit human services agency in Nassau County and we are interested in submitting a funding application for the Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Project. We are eligible to apply because we have two licensed Article 32 alcohol and substance abuse treatment clinic. A substantial number of the individuals and families served throughout our agency are Medicaid eligible clients who, historically, are over-reliant on hospital emergency departments for care. Our community-based services are aligned with DSSRIP's definition of the "social determinants of health" and we would utilize grant funds to help increase their access and accessibility to outpatient treatment services. Will we be allowed to use grant funds for this broader purpose or can those funds only be used to support the specific Article 32 clinics?	Capital costs associated with an Article 32 clinic constitute an eligible project.
228	Eligible Project	Can you clarify whether an organization that did receive a CRFP grant to build out the first phase of a new FQHC diagnostic and treatment center will receive consideration for a proposal submitted for this RFA to substantially increase the DTC capacity and scope of services by building out the remaining space at the site. Community data supports the need for more services, but we are trying to determine if a proposal by a CRFP awardee would be given relatively low priority.	A project that was funded under the CRFP initiative is not eligible for this procurement.
229	Eligible Project	Adult care facilities are not eligible for this grant, but could the renovation of an existing nursing home into assisted living (ALR) and ALP beds qualify for funding?	Projects for adult care facilities are not eligible projects.
230	Eligible Project	If the applicant has applied for a CON for a given capital project, is that project ineligible?	The submission and/or approval of a CON application for the project is not a factor in determining an eligible project.
231	Eligible Project	Will projects that offer community alternatives to addressing behavioral health crises and are aligned with their local PPS goals to reduce inpatient and emergency service use be eligible for funding such as community crisis respite programs?	See the answer to question #130.
232	Eligible Project	Can an Article 31 provider apply for capital funds for an adult or adolescent crisis respite program, which is not a service within the scope of their Article 31 license, but are aligned with the local PPS' goals and projects?	The described project does not appear to be an eligible project.
233	Eligible Project	Do projects have to be associated with a merger, consolidation or corporate restructuring? If yes, how do you define each term?	No.
234	Eligible Project	Would adding services to a residential health care facility, such as outpatient rehabilitation, be an eligible project if it fulfills a health care need at the facility?	See the answer to question #130.
235	Eligible Project	Regarding Eligible Projects; would the costs associated with the closure of a facility (nursing home) and a reduction in the number of available beds in a community, be eligible expenses for funding through this RFA?	See the answer to question #130.



Q#	Category	Question	Answer
236	Eligible Project	Please advise if a project involving Telehealth setup and support would qualify for funding via the Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program	See the answer to question #113.
237	Eligible Project	The program will target a specific population: children on Medicaid with medical and/or behavioral complexity. This will include those who are served by our agency and by other child welfare agencies, and children enrolled in the NYS Children's Health Home program who are receiving care management services from us. These children reside across the five boroughs of NYC. Is this an appropriate "core population" for these funds?	It is difficult to determine based on the information provided. Information is first needed on whether the applicant is an Eligible Applicant (II. Who May Apply) and if the project is an Eligible Project (III. Project Narrative/Work plan) under the requirements outlined in the RFA.
238	Eligible Provider	Regarding eligibility, is there any option for a community based provider of behavioral, health and social services - representing the community accessibility and health care integration goals discussed in the RFA - but not currently operating under the specific State licenses listed in the RFA? Services are offered under the auspices of OCFS and OPWD, and funded in part by Medicaid.	See Section II (Who May Apply) and Section III (Project Narrative/Work plan). There will be no deviation from the requirements outlined in the RFA.
239	Evaluation Process	Is the expectation of this funding a return of RHCF beds? To this end, would a proposal that included a return (closure) of RHCF beds be viewed more favorably?	It is not a requirement that RHCF beds be closed. The goals of the SHCFTP are to strengthen and protect the continued access to health care services in communities throughout New York State and facilitate the financial sustainability of these health care providers through mergers, consolidation and restructuring activities. It is the responsibility of the Applicant to articulate in their Plan and Project how to best accomplish these goals.
240	Evaluation Process	How does the Evaluation Criteria [section III(c) on page 7 of the RFA] fit into the overall prioritization of applications? Please confirm that an entity's application won't be ranked according to whether it complies with each of the listed criteria.	The Evaluation Criteria on page 7 of the RFA is an essential part of the application review process used to determine awards. The overall prioritization of awards, however, includes review of the technical and financial components of the applications and consideration of any information obtained from other sources.
241	Evaluation Process	If an applicant ranked "poor" and showed financial instability but was in a geographic area that was in tremendous need for home care, could the unmet need for services trump the applicant's tier ranking and enable the organization to receive an award over applicant(s) in the "good" or "acceptable" tiers?	This is a discretionary program. The goals of the SHCFTP are to strengthen and protect the continued access to health care services in communities throughout New York State and facilitate the financial sustainability of these health care providers through mergers, consolidation and restructuring activities. The strength of an application and the likelihood that it will be evaluated positively is largely dependent on the overall approach taken by the applicant to improve their long-term financial sustainability and/or protect and strengthen access to health care services in the community. Assignment to either a "Good", "Acceptable", or "Poor" tier is based on an evaluation of the technical and financial components of the applications and consideration of any information obtained by the DOH Review Team from other sources. Awards will be made first to applications ranked as "Good", then "Acceptable", then "Poor".
242	Evaluation Process	For Diagnostic and Treatment Centers that provide both behavioral health and primary care services, will the scoring criteria of the RFA reflect the fact that these essential community providers provide multiple essential health services and meet multiple community needs?	See answer to question #241.

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
243	Evaluation Process	Community based providers tend to be more focused on creating and expanding access in areas that are under-developed or under-resourced, as opposed to right sizing through restructuring/consolidating. How will projects that focus primarily on creating additional access and do not include a restructuring or consolidating component be ranked? Does “transformation” include expanding capacity and access by creating new opportunities? For example, would a new EHR system that allows a provider to increase capacity, or the opening of a new site be considered “transformation” for purposes of the RFA? Would a community-based provider who is proposing a project that is based solely or primarily with its own organization qualify for funding? Would projects that include partnerships between community based providers that bill Medicaid and non-Medicaid billing community based providers, or partnerships between several community based providers qualify for funding?	The goals of the SHCFTP are to strengthen and protect the continued access to health care services in communities throughout New York State and facilitate the financial sustainability of these health care providers through mergers, consolidation and restructuring activities. The Plan should describe plans for a merger, consolidation or significant corporate restructuring activities. The Department is using a broad interpretation of corporate restructuring for the purposes of this Grant.
244	Evaluation Process	Is it beneficial for the applicant to have any kind of working relationship with a DSRIP PPS as part of their plan (being that the applicant is not itself a DSRIP provider)? Why or why not? And how does this relate to the preference bestowed upon applicants who can demonstrate having alternate sources of funding/revenue to cover costs?	Submitted projects should align with DSRIP, but it is not a requirement of the RFA that they demonstrate a working relationship with a DSRIP PPS.
245	Evaluation Process	Will organizations that can show significant financial need receive a funding preference?	This is a discretionary program. The goals of the SHCFTP are to strengthen and protect the continued access to health care services in communities throughout New York State and facilitate the financial sustainability of these health care providers through mergers, consolidation and restructuring activities. The strength of an application and the likelihood that it will be evaluated positively is largely dependent on the overall approach taken by the applicant to improve their long-term financial sustainability and/or protect and strengthen access to health care services in the community.
246	Evaluation Process	Is there a rubric for scoring that can be made available.	No, this is a discretionary program. See the answer to question #241.
247	Financial Projections	Financial template: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We want to confirm our understanding that the financial projections are for the entire applicant organization, not just the site where the capital project is occurring.</li> <li>• Will we be required to complete similar financial projections in subsequent project years as a reporting requirement?</li> </ul>	A. Current and Previous Year financial information provided by the applicant must reconcile with the two most recent certified financial statements provided with the application. The projected years must align with what is reported in the Current and Previous year and should document the impact the proposed Project/ Plan.  B. At this time financial projections are not a reporting requirement of the contract.
248	Financial Stability	Several home care agencies have financially struggled as a result of the move to mandatory managed care due to delays in authorizations, a lack of uniform billing rate codes and timely claims payment. An inability to demonstrate three years of financial stability could seemingly negatively impact their application (RFA, Page 20, number 7). Please clarify.	The financial stability of the applicant will be evaluated in the context of how the Plan and the eligible project help ensure the long term feasibility of the organization and the continued delivery of needed health care services.
249	Financial Statements	Should we include three years of audited financial statements for both the Eligible Applicant (financially stable) as well as the Partner agency (financially struggling) that is merging with us?	The eligible Applicant is required to submit three year of audited financial statements. It is not a requirement of the RFA to submit three years of Financial Statements of the partner agency that is potentially going to merge with the Applicant. To the extent that the financial information of the proposed partner agency supports your application the financial information can be submitted or as supporting documentation to the application.
250	Financial Status	Section I – Introduction – Page 3: if an applicant is presently “financially sustainable”, but the proposed project will make it more financially sustainable, and the applicant is otherwise an Eligible Applicant, can the applicant’s Plan, if otherwise acceptable, receive funding?	Yes

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
251	Financial Sustainability Activities	<p>Page 3 states that grants are “...for the purpose of strengthening and protecting continued access to health care services in communities throughout New York State and are associated with a merger, consolidation or significant corporate restructuring activity...”</p> <p>a. Is it a firm requirement that applicants be involved in mergers, consolidations or corporate restructuring to be eligible for an award?</p> <p>b. Is it a firm requirement that Eligible Projects be directly associated with mergers, consolidations or corporate restructuring?</p> <p>c. If so, how are these terms consistent with the statement that priority will be given to CRFP applications that were not funded? Many of them were not associated with mergers or consolidations.</p> <p>d. How is “significant corporate restructuring” defined?</p>	<p>A. Yes</p> <p>B. Yes</p> <p>C. The Plan should describe plans for a merger, consolidation or significant corporate restructuring activities. Corporate restructuring activities can encompass a broad array of activities. The Plan, in as much detail as needed, should describe the steps or actions to be taken to improve the financial situation of the applicant as well as the type of merger, consolidation or corporate restructuring activities that the applicant will undergo.</p> <p>D. The Department is using a broad interpretation of Corporate restructuring for the purposes of this Grant. Corporate Restructuring for the purpose of this grant could include, but is not limited to: Rightsizing services across a region or at a specific location; Conversion of Services to better align service delivery in a region along DSRIP goals; Traditional Corporate Restructuring.</p>
252	Financial Sustainability Activities	Does the project HAVE to include a merger, consolidation or significant corporate restructuring activity or is one of those an element that if included, will be ranked higher than a project that does not include one of those?	See response to question #251.
253	Financial Sustainability Activities	Please confirm that proposed projects do not have to be associated with a merger, consolidation or significant corporate restructuring activity that is part of an overall transformation plan intended to create a financially sustainable system of care.	See response to question #251.
254	Financial Sustainability Activities	Please confirm that the funding can be used to strengthen and protect continued access to health care services but does not have to be associated with a merger, consolidation or significant corporate restructuring activity that is part of an overall transformation plan intended to create a financially sustainable system of care.	See response to question #251.
255	Financial Sustainability Activities	Can you define consolidation and corporate restructuring?	See response to question #251.
256	Financial Sustainability Activities	Can the capital project itself be the plan for financial sustainability? Such as, consolidating physical locations in order to save costs?	See response to question #251.
257	Financial Sustainability Activities	Can you provide guidance on preferred partnerships that pertain to this section of the intent below? Are partnerships between local hospitals and community based organizations that are in direct alignment with DSRIP goals considered significant relationships under this RFA?	<p>A. There is no preferred partnership in this RFA, as long as the arrangement achieve the goals of the RFA and improve the financial condition of the entities involved.</p> <p>B. Yes, a partnership between a hospital and a community based organization would be considered a relationship under this RFA.</p>
258	Financial Sustainability Activities	A. If a community organization providing Article 32 substance abuse services is developing an Article 31 Mental Health clinic and renting out space to another provider to provide primary care in an Article 28 setting, is that space rental and affiliation enough to meet the requirement for a restructuring, or does their need to be a financial integration of the two organizations? B. If it is enough, can the community organization as the landlord apply for the capital for the renovations, or does the affiliated Article 28 that will be moving in apply for it?	<p>A. The Plan should describe plans for a merger, consolidation or significant corporate restructuring activities. Corporate restructuring activities can encompass a broad array of activities. The Department is using a broad interpretation of Corporate restructuring for the purposes of this Grant.</p> <p>B. The applicant must be an eligible applicant as defined in the RFA.</p>

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
259	Financial Sustainability Activities	Our agency (Eligible Applicant) and a smaller agency (Partner) are in the early stages of a merger. a. What do you need from merging entities to show they are merging? b. Where in the process do the merging entities need to be? c. Both agencies are registered and prequalified in the New York State Grants Gateway. We are planning to submit this proposal under the Eligible Applicant's name...is this correct?	A. No documentation of merger or corporate restructuring is required as part of the RFA.  B. The applicant does not need to actively be involved in a merger to submit an application for this award. However, the Plan must include a merger, consolidation or significant corporate restructuring.  C. Yes
260	Financial Sustainability Activities	Also, an applicant submitted an application under CRFP that referenced a merger/consolidation/affiliation, but the application was not funded. Because the application was not funded, applicant and the potential partners did not have the resources to pursue the merger/consolidation/affiliation. A) Is it possible that new partners can be identified for merger/consolidation/affiliation? B) Is there an expectation that applicants will be further along in mergers/consolidations/affiliations contemplated in a CRFP application and if so, (a) what degree of evolution or is required and (b) how should applicants document that evolution/negotiating status in the relationship?	A. Yes  B. No
261	Financial Sustainability Activities	If an applicant submits an application that is actually an unfunded CFRP proposal that included merger and consolidation components, what is the range of documentation of actions toward merger and/or consolidation that will be received favorably? Some activities may have stopped or slowed one the DSRIP capital project decisions were made.	See Response to question #259 and #260.
262	Financial Sustainability Activities	Is it required, or favored, that non-capital expenses involve merger, consolidation or significant corporate restructuring?	See response to question #251.
263	Financial Sustainability Activities	What stages of a merger and acquisition are eligible for funding? Is the due diligence stage eligible for funding? Or will funding only be available once the deal is in motion? Will integration and transition costs be eligible for funding?	All stages would be eligible for funding.
264	Financial Sustainability Activities	Is this grant only available to Health related entities that are undergoing mergers, consolidations or corporate restructuring, as the above language seems to indicate, or is it available to all entities that meet the provider organization definition in section II of the RFA? I have not seen this language in the actual RFA and was wondering what the requirements are.	Please see response to question #251.
265	Financial Sustainability Activities	It was unclear to me from the webinar presentation whether non-capital projects that included merger, acquisition or restructuring were preferred. The RFA (p. 6) seems to place capital grants as the priority.	Please see Response to question #22.
266	Financial Sustainability Activities	Are "Plans" that include a merger, acquisition or restructuring preferred, even if funds are not requested for non-capital expenses.	Yes, applications for both capital and non-capital projects require a Plan. The Plan should describe plans for a merger, consolidation or significant corporate restructuring activities. The Department is using a broad interpretation of Corporate restructuring for the purposes of this Grant.
267	Financial Sustainability Activities	You indicated on the webinar a broad definition of restructuring. Does this extend beyond financial restructuring? The central component of our plan, which is driving our need for capital funds, is a complete restructuring of our clinical care delivery to support DSRIP goals. Would this fall under your broad definition of restructuring?	Please see response to question #251.
268	Financial Sustainability Activities	Can you provide further clarification on the kind of partnership arrangements that are acceptable SHCFTP activities?	Please see response to question #251.

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
269	Financial Sustainability Projects versus Continued Access	Community based providers tend to be more focused on creating and expanding access in areas that are under-developed or under-resourced, as opposed to right sizing through restructuring/consolidating. How will projects that focus primarily on creating additional access and do not include a restructuring or consolidating component be ranked? Does "transformation" include expanding capacity and access by creating new opportunities? For example, would a new EHR system that allows a provider to increase capacity, or the opening of a new site be considered "transformation" for purposes of the RFA? Would a community-based provider who is proposing a project that is based solely or primarily with its own organization qualify for funding? Would projects that include partnerships between community based providers that bill Medicaid and non-Medicaid billing community based providers, or partnerships between several community based providers qualify for funding?	Please see response to question #243.
270	Financial Template	Financial template: Revenue and expense by service. How detailed should the breakdown of services be? For example, would a breakdown by "primary care", "behavioral health", "care coordination", etc. be sufficient, or should we further break out pediatrics primary care, ob/gyn, podiatry, etc.	Revenue streams should be broken out in areas that are specifically impacted by the Project or the Plan. Higher level reporting of revenues streams is acceptable for areas that would not be impacted by the project of the plan.
271	Funding Request	Is there a limit on how much an applicant can request under this RFA?	Please see the answer to question #12.
272	Goals	Please explicitly state the goals of the SHCFTP. (Applicants are required to discuss their strategy to meet these goals.)	The goals of the SHCFTP are to strengthen and protect the continued access to health care services in communities throughout New York State and facilitate the financial sustainability of these health care providers through mergers, consolidation and restructuring activities.
273	Incomplete Contract	Please advise whether there is any penalty, financial obligation or breach of contract should an awardee/contractor of the Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program funds is either unable to complete the application's project or determines the need to discontinue the project within one to three years after entering into the contract with the DOH.	The State reserves the right within the Master contract to pursue available legal or equitable remedies.
274	Letter of Intent	A final question pertains to the Letter of Interest. Letter of Interest and Other Feedback Would it be possible to receive feedback based on a submitted Letter of Interest? Do you anticipate a means for grant applicants to receive ongoing guidance during the grant submission process?	During the procurement process, the Department cannot provide guidance to individual applicants related to their specific application. The exception is for technical or Grants Gateway questions. These types of questions can be sent to <a href="mailto:healthcarefacilitytransformation@health.ny.gov">healthcarefacilitytransformation@health.ny.gov</a> .
275	Letters of Intent	Are Letters of Intent sufficient for demonstrating partnership arrangements for the purposes of this grant? (RFA-page 19, Section V, 3a: mention of "partnerships")	A Letter of Intent is optional and was requested as part of the RFA in order for the Department to have an estimate of the number of providers submitting applications. Letters of Support are not a requirement of the RFA and are not part of the evaluation criteria.
276	Letters of Support	Can we/should we submit letters of support for our project?	Letters of Support are not a requirement of the RFA and are not part of the evaluation criteria.
277	Letters of Support	Will letters of support from other agencies or healthcare systems be accepted with applications?	See answer to question #276.
278	Letters of Support	Can letters of support be included in the application?	See answer to question #276.
279	Letters of Support	Do applicants have the option to submit Letters of Support with the application? If so, is there any limit to the number of letters?	See answer to question #276.
280	Match Requirements	Is a match required? If no match is required, will an applicant be looked upon favorably if they demonstrate a local match contribution?	A match is not an evaluation criteria in the SHCFTP RFA. However, a match is not precluded as part of an application.
281	Match Requirements	Will applications with a match be reviewed more favorably?	See answer to question #280.
282	Match Requirements	Does a funding match have to be a portion of the Eligible (capital) Project, or can it be non-capital (such as workforce training) associated with the implementation of the Eligible Project?	See answer to question #280.
283	Match Requirements	Is a match required? If no match is required, will an applicant be looked upon favorably if they demonstrate a local match contribution?	See answer to question #280.

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
284	Match Requirements	Will evidence of matching funds be considered in the evaluation and ranking of proposals? This was a significant component of the CRFP application. It is not explicitly mentioned in the Evaluation Criteria of this RFA (III.C)	See answer to question #280.
285	MWBE Requirements	Are MWBE forms, including the Utilization Plan, required at application?	The applicant should commit to a MWBE participation goal and complete all relevant MWBE forms. It is encouraged that the applicant identify specific firms, if possible, in their utilization plan at the time of application. However, the identification of specific firms is not required to apply to this RFA.
286	MWBE Requirements	Pg 14 – The guidance states that ‘by submitting an application, a grantee agrees to complete an MWBE Utilization plan....’. Can you clarify that the forms in Attachment 4 are this plan, and that they need to be submitted with the application? If so, can you advise how to complete Pg 2 &3 of Form #1 if the applicant does not know who they will subcontract with, due to the need to put the work out to bid? The same question applies to form #4	See answer to question #285.
287	MWBE Requirements	Section IV.I – MWBE – Page 14: In its response to the RFA submitted by 9/16/16, must an applicant include on its MWBE forms the names of the MWBE-qualified firms with which it plans/reasonably expects to contract?	See answer to question #285.
288	MWBE Requirements	A further question relates to the M/WBE Policy. If we intend to apply for funds for Non-Capital Projects or Purposes, are we still required to have an M/WBE Policy? Is it necessary to submit a Board Resolution acknowledging adoption of the NY State M/WBE Policy prior to prequalification?	See answer to question #285.
289	MWBE Requirements	Do the MWBE forms and utilization plan need to be completed and submitted with the application on or before 9/16/16 or can this be done if/when an application is selected for funding? (The instructions on page 14 of the RFA discuss this as necessary for a “Grantee” but Grants Gateway shows it as a required pre-submission upload.)	See answer to question #285.
290	MWBE Requirements	Is committing to a MWBE participation goal sufficient? We are too early in our planning to identify any firms to use.	See answer to question #285.
291	Non-competitive RFA	We are a bit confused about the bold-faced paragraphs stating that funds will be awarded on a “non-competitive” basis, since there are clear evaluation criteria and a review process that is ranking the proposals as “Good”, “Acceptable” and “Poor”. How is that non-competitive? We are just a bit puzzled about the prominent inclusion of that language and wondering whether we are missing something.	Per statute, the RFA is non-competitive and awards are made at the discretion of the Commissioner of Health. Award decisions cannot be appealed. However, the Department has chosen to outline the review process it will use to make awards in order for applicants to have a better understanding of the process and the criteria used to make recommendations for awards to the Commissioner.
292	Number of Applications	It was stated during the webinar that interdependent projects could be submitted in one application, with the component projects ranked in priority order. 1. Is "interdependence" left to the applicant to define? Are there any guiding stipulations that DOH wishes to provide?	<p>If the Projects are considered interdependent to creating a financially sustainable system of care and are described as part of one Plan, they can be submitted as one application. If the Projects are not interdependent, they do not need to be submitted as one application.</p> <p>Separate applications must be submitted for non-capital projects or purposes even if they are part of the same overall transformation plan for which an application for a capital project(s) is also being submitted.</p> <p>If an Eligible Applicant submits multiple applications for funding under this RFA, the Eligible Applicant should assign a priority to each application where indicated in the application.</p>
293	Number of Applications	Can a request for non-capital expenses be submitted as a stand-alone application? Or does the non-capital request have to be attached to a capital request?	See answer to question #292.

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
294	Number of Applications	The webinar was clear (as is the RFA document itself), that non-capital projects need to be done in a separate application. What is not clear is whether multiple <u>capital</u> projects require separate applications. An example might be replacement equipment or repairs/renovations across various departments in the same facility. Please advise?	Multiple capital projects that relate to the same financial sustainability Plan for an applicant may be submitted in one application.
295	Number of Applications	Non-Capital Project Submission without Associated Capital Project. Is it possible to submit an application for a non-capital purpose alone, without an associated capital project? While we anticipate submitting applications for both capital and non-capital projects, our priority ranking would be highest for the non-capital project or purpose if deemed eligible for funding. If permissible, we may decide to submit one single application for the non-capital project alone.	See answer to question #292.
296	Number of Applications	Might the applicant choose to see all projects that it sees as falling within the scope of the Plan as interdependent and, therefore, subject to one application?	See answer to question #292.
297	Number of Applications	Is there a limit to how many ranked projects could be included in a single application?	No, there is no limit to the number of projects included in one application. The Eligible Applicants is not required to rank projects within an application. Applicants are encouraged to use good judgement when determining how many projects should be included within a single application. The inclusion of too many projects in the same application may potentially detract from the quality of the application or make it difficult to review. The Eligible Applicant should assign a priority to each application if separate applications are submitted.
298	Number of Applications	Must each non-capital project have a unique and separate application or could multiple (interdependent) non-capital projects be included in a single application and priority-ranked, as is allowable for interdependent capital projects?	If the Non-capital Projects are considered interdependent to creating a financially sustainable system of care and are described as part of one Plan, they can all be submitted as one application. The Eligible Applicant should assign a priority to each application if separate applications are submitted. The Eligible Applicant is <u>not</u> required to rank projects within an application.
299	Number of Applications	Do we have to submit separate applications for each of our locations?	No, separate applications by the same Eligible Applicant for each location is not required. If the Projects are considered interdependent to creating a financially sustainable system of care and are described as part of one Plan, they can be submitted as one capital or non-capital related application. If the projects are not interdependent, or are not related to the same Plan, they do not need to be submitted as one application.
300	Number of Applications	Can an organization submit more than 1 proposal?	Yes. Separate applications are required for capital and non-capital Projects. If the Projects are considered interdependent to creating a financially sustainable system of care and are described as part of one Plan, they can be submitted as one capital or non-capital related application. If the projects are not interdependent, or are not related to the same Plan, they do not need to be submitted as one application.
301	Number of Applications	If an organization operates in different regions of the state, should they submit separate applications in that awards are being made with a focus on geographic distribution?	No, separate applications by the same Eligible Applicant for each location is not required. If the Projects are considered interdependent to creating a financially sustainable system of care and are described as part of one Plan, they can be submitted as one capital or non-capital related application. Because the applicant is required to rank the Projects, geographic considerations in the distribution of funding can be evaluated. If the projects are not interdependent, or are not related to the same Plan, they do not need to be submitted as one application.
302	Number of Applications	Regarding page 6 of the RFA under section III B as it lists the non-capital project or purposes that may also be eligible for funding under this solicitation – can an applicant include in its application both capital and any non-capital expenses directly connected to the project? Or must the non-capital project expenses be included in a separate application?	See answer to question #298.
303	Number of Applications	Is there a limit to the number of applications that can be submitted by one applicant?	The NYS Grants Gateway will limit the number of applications per organization to 15 each.
304	Number of Applications	Can we write one grant from one organization with multiple projects and capital expenditures and put in priority order based on expenses. Please provide example.	See answer to question #298.

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
305	Number of Applications or Projects	Pg 5, Section III – Can you further elaborate on guidance to use for determining when to submit multiple capital applications vs. just one, if they all relate to the same transformational project?	If the Capital Projects are considered interdependent to creating a financially sustainable system of care and are described as part of one Plan, they can all be submitted as one application. The Eligible Applicant should assign a priority to each application if separate applications are submitted. The Eligible Applicant is <u>not</u> required to rank projects within an application.
306	Number of Awards	How many awards are anticipated?	It is not possible to estimate the number of awards in advance.
307	Organizational Capacity	Section 2, Organizational Capacity, question c This question asks the number of admissions or patient visits during the most recent 12-month cost reporting year, as our project does not currently exist and the plan is not currently implemented, admissions numbers are not available. How should this question, and others like it, be approached for projects and plans of future health care facilities?	If actual numbers are not available, then the projected number of admissions or patients visits for a 12 month period should be provided. This information should be available as part of a community needs assessment, budget and work plan.
308	Other Funding Opportunities	Our agency would like to inquire about applying for the Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program. We have previously submitted a project for the RFA-Capital Restructuring Financing Program- #1504100252. Since, that program is still a active open procurement, and we would be applying for substantially the same project, we would like to avoid duplicating our efforts. If we do apply for this new RFA, how will this affect the award outcome of the Capital Restructuring Financing Program? Does applying for the Health Care facility Transformation Program preclude our agency from receiving funding from the Capital Restructuring Financing Program? Any assistance/advice you can offer would be greatly appreciated.	Applying for SHCFTP funding will not impact the determination of an award for CRFP funding. If your organization were to become eligible for a CRFP award, however, it would not be eligible for SHCFTP funding for substantially the same project.
309	Other Funding Opportunities	I am in the process of reviewing the RFP issued under the Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program. I am aware that these funds are made available jointly through the Department of Health and DASNY. Can you clarify if these are separate from the capital project funds released by DASNY through an RFP in the beginning of this calendar year?	SHCFTP funds are separate from funding made available through other procurements. As stated in the SHCFTP RFA, applicants cannot receive funding for the same project under both this RFA and the Capital Restructuring Financing Program, Essential Health Care Provider Support Program, Kings County Health Care Transformation Program, or the Oneida County Health Care Transformation Program.
310	Other Funding Opportunities	We are an Article-28 provider in Brooklyn seeking clarification on the multiple capital project funding streams and award limitations. Per the Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program (SHCFTP) RFA, it is our understanding that individual projects will not be eligible for awards under both the SHCFTP RFA and the Kings County Health Care Transformation Program (PHL §2825-a). We are not aware of any RFA or application for the Kings County Health Care Transformation Program Section 2825-a funding nor any notices of award. If we do submit an application to SHCFTP, would the project(s) then be precluded from submitting an application to or receiving an award in the future through Section 2825-a funding?	The Kings County Health Care Transformation Program (KCHCTP) RFA has not yet been issued. There is nothing in the SHCFTP RFA to preclude an applicant from applying for funding under this RFA and the Kings County Health Care Transformation Program. However, an applicant cannot be funded under both of these RFAs for the same project.
311	Other Funding Opportunities	Re Section III (A) Eligible Projects An “Eligible Project” must include Eligible Expenses, as defined herein. Projects shall not receive an award under both this RFA and the Kings County Health Care Transformation Program (PHL §2825-a) or the Oneida County Health Care Transformation Program (PHL §2825-b). Question: 1. Has the Kings County Health Care Transformation Program RFA been issued? If not, when is this RFA scheduled to be issued? Will they have concurrent deadlines?	The Kings County Health Care Transformation Program (KCHCTP) RFA has not been issued. While the exact timeframe for release of the KCHCTP RFA cannot be provided at this time, the two RFAs will not have concurrent deadlines.



Q#	Category	Question	Answer
312	Other Funding Opportunities	Although an applicant to both RFAs (Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program and Kings County Health Care Transformation Program) could not be funded for both, is it advisable that a Kings County-based provider refrain from applying to the Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program in favor of applying only to the Kings County Health Care Transformation Program?	See answer to question #310.
313	Other Funding Opportunities	Will there be future rounds of RFAs with similar funding in future year(s). If so, have they been identified and can you offer same to us, as this may allow entities who are not ready to submit a proposal in this round prepare and work toward future funding rounds.	The Kings County Health Care Transformation Program (PHL §2825-a) and the Oneida County Health Care Transformation Program (PHL §2825-b) are anticipated to be released before the end of 2016. It is not known at this time if additional funding programs will be available in future years.
314	Other Funding Opportunities	We are considering applying for the Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program (RFA # 1607010255 / Grants Gateway # DOH01-SHCFTP-2016). We are wondering what the major difference is between this RFA and the Nonprofit Infrastructure Capital Investment Program (grants gateway # PBC01-NICIP-2016)? Can we/should we submit applications for both?	Your organization should review both RFAs to determine your eligibility. It is always advantageous to an organization to apply for available funding for which they are eligible.
315	Other funding Opportunities	Please clarify what relationship the above-referenced RFP, NYS DOH Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program, has with the recently re-released RFA from the Dormitory Authority-2016 Nonprofit Infrastructure Capital Investment Program. Can these monies supplement one another or be combined in the realization of a single over-arching transformation plan?	See answer to question #314.
316	Partial Award	If we submit one grant with multiple projects and expenses associated with each, is there a chance that we would get a partial award on one of the projects or would we be guaranteed the full amount requested if approved?	The final amount of each Eligible Applicant's total award, regardless of the amount requested, will be determined by the Commissioner based upon: a) and evaluation of the scope of work presented; b) the degree to which the Eligible Project and overall transformation Plan meets the goals and priorities of the SHCFTP and the objectives and requirements of the RFA; c) the appropriateness of the expenses and to the Eligible Project; d) the amount necessary to achieve the goals of the Eligible applicant's overall transformation Plan; and, e) the amount necessary to achieve, to the extent practicable, a geographic distribution of funds from this Program.
317	Partial Award	Section IV.F.3 – Department of Health's Reserved Rights – Page 11: What factors will the Department of Health consider when determining if it might issue a partial award for any given project?	See answer to question #316.
318	Partial Award	It is my understanding that the State may award partial funding of the grant request. In this event, is the applicant/awardee mandated to perform the proposed scope of work in the application, or will the awardee be able to negotiate a reduced scope of work in order to meet a lower funding award?	An award that is for less than the requested amount may be due to either a specific subproject or phase of a project going unfunded. For example, the application might include a category of costs that are ineligible. Remember, you were instructed during the webinar to rank multiple projects and doing that will assist the Department in understanding those of highest priority. It may also be the case that your organization would be contacted before an award is made to determine if you could still finalize the project with less than the amount requested. Once an award is made, changes in scope are not envisioned.
319	Plan	The project we are requesting funding for represents only the first phase of a multi-phase transformation plan that will extend beyond the contract period. Should questions related to the "Plan", e.g. project timeline, work plan (including tasks, milestones, etc.) and importantly, projected cost savings reflect the larger, overall multi-phase Plan, or just the elements of the Plan specifically associated with the Eligible Project and grant period? (Section V. Paragraph 10.)	If the Project relates to a multi-phase transformation Plan, to the extent possible, the project timeline, work plan, etc., should relate to the Eligible Project for which funding is requested. If elements such as cost savings are long-range in nature and predicated on completion of the multi-phase Plan, that should be stated and estimated for the entire Plan period.
320	Plan	In regards to "the Plan" on page 3 of the RFA, what do you mean by "plan"? Does the plan have to be a written document, such as a capital budget plan for the facility?	The <u>Plan</u> details in writing the Applicant's overall approach to achieving financial sustainability and how it will strengthen and protect continued access to health care services in the Applicant's communities. A <u>Project</u> relates to the specific request for capital or non-capital funding.

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
321	Plan	Concerning the requirement to submit a "Plan" for the sustainability of the applicant and overall approach to achieving a financially viable system of care: a. How is this different than the similar DSRIP PPS goals, b. What is the expected role of the PPS(s) in the formation of the plan, c. Is the Plan focused on improving the financial and fiscal strength of the applicant, or on improving the strength of all providers in the applicant's service area, and d. How many years does the Plan need to be conducted? Is it 5 years commensurate with the SHCFTP program?	The <u>Plan</u> details in writing the Applicant's overall approach to achieving financial sustainability and how it will strengthen and protect continued access to health care services in the Applicant's communities. Per the RFA, the Plan should be consistent with DSRIP principles. An Applicant that is part of a PPS can comment on the impact that their Plan will have on their PPS, but this is not a specific requirement of the RFA. A <u>Project</u> relates to the specific request for capital or non-capital funding.
322	Plan	Would you further explain the key differences between the requested "Plan and Project Timeline" versus the "Online Workplan" referenced on page 21 of the RFA?	See answer to question #319.
323	Plan	Can a Transformation Plan be related only to the care of specific target populations in a region, e.g. Medicaid recipients and the uninsured? Can it be tied directly to DSRIP projects only as opposed to being more broadly focused?	See answer to question #321.
324	Posting of Questions and Answers	Where are the responses to questions posted?	The Department's official response to questions will be posted to the NYS Grants Gateway on August 24, 2016.
325	PPS Role	What is the expected involvement of the PPS or PPS(s) an applicant is a member of (if any) in the preparation and execution of the SHCFTP application and project?	The involvement of a PPS in the preparation of an Applicant's RFA is not a requirement of the RFA, however the involvement of the PPS is not precluded.
326	Previously Submitted Projects	In Section 1, Introduction, "priority shall be given to projects that were not funded in whole or part, in response to the RFAs for the Capital Restructuring Financing Program (RFA #1504100252) or the Essential Health Care Provider Support Program (RFA #151016080 and RFA #1510190320)" and "projects shall not receive awards under both this RFA and the Kings County Health Care Transformation Program (PHL §2825-a) or the Oneida County Health Care Transformation Program (PHL §2825-b)". Please clarify whether an applicant receiving funds from the Capital Restructuring Financing Program and/or the Essential Health Care Provider Support Program for particular projects, can also receive funding and priority from the Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program for a different project under the same applicant.	SHCFTP funds are separate from funding made available through other procurements. As stated in the SHCFTP RFA, applicants cannot receive funding for the same project under both this RFA and the Capital Restructuring Financing Program, Essential Health Care Provider Support Program, Kings County Health Care Transformation Program, or the Oneida County Health Care Transformation Program. In event that funds are not sufficient to support all applications in the lowest tier for which funding is available through the Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program RFA, the RFA outlines how the DOH will select applications from within that tier (Section V. Completing the Application, C. Review and Award Process). If applications within the tier are still largely determined to be equal based on this criteria, priority consideration will be given to projects that were not funded in whole or part in response to the CRFP or Essential RFAs.
327	Previously Submitted Projects	We submitted a multi-pronged application for CRFP funds under the name of our corporate parent as the plan involves several affiliates in our system. We expect to apply for funds through this RFP for our organization directly and the specific project related to our facility. Can we still answer "Yes" to the question: "Did your organization apply for funds through the CRFP?" even though the applicant was, technically, our parent organization?	Yes, if the Project submitted for funding under the Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program RFA is substantially the same as one previously submitted under the Capital Restructuring Financing Program or the Essential Health Care Provider Support Program, the Applicant can indicate that it is substantially the same Project that was previously submitted but indicate that it was under a different corporate parent.

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
328	Previously Submitted Projects	<p>Would you please clarify the submission requirements for previously unfunded proposals for the Essential Health Care Provider Support Program (RFA #151016080 and RFA #1510190320)? On page 3 of the RFA it states, that applicants must complete their application in accordance with the purpose and requirements of this Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program RFA. On page 18 of the RFA, we must note if the project that was submitted is substantially the same as the project submitted under this SHCFTP RFA. This appears to be somewhat contradictory. If we would like to be eligible for the priority, are we permitted to edit the original proposal? Are we allowed to adjust the budget? Thank you.</p> <p>Also, the RFA number from the last Essential Provider grant is RFA# 1510160807; is this the same RFA as the one referred to in the SHCFTP RFA #151016080? Thank you.</p>	<p>To be given priority consideration, Projects submitted for funding under the Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program (SHCFTP) RFA should substantially be the same as one previously submitted under the Capital Restructuring Financing Program or the Essential Health Care Provider Support Program. The Project relates to the specific request for capital and non-capital funding. Applicants need to note that SHCFTP RFA application has some different requirements than the previous RFAs. For example, the SHCFTP RFA requires the Applicant to describe their Plan to achieve financial sustainability and ensure continued access to care, which was not a requirement as part of the Capital Restructuring Financing Program. Whereas the Project may be substantially the same, the Applicant must complete their application in accordance with the purpose and requirements of this RFA. Two Essential Health Care Provider Support Program RFAs were issued - RFA #151016080 and RFA # 1510190320.</p>
329	Previously Submitted Projects	<p>Could the new SHCFTP application or applications be submitted for a CRFP project or projects be augmented in light of and in keeping with the overarching Plan that will be provided as context? If yes, are there any limits to how much and in what way(s) the CRFP project could be augmented? For instance, would additional, related capital expenditures that greatly exceed the original CRFP request be eligible, given that they would strengthen the viability of the project and the overall success of the contextual Plan?</p>	<p>To be given priority consideration, Projects submitted for funding under the Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program (SHCFTP) RFA should substantially be the same as one previously submitted under the Capital Restructuring Financing Program or the Essential Health Care Provider Support Program. However, if the Applicant identifies that changes are needed to the previous submission in order to strengthen the viability of the Project and the overall success of the contextual Plan, they should do so. The strength of an application and the likelihood that it will be evaluated positively is largely dependent on the overall approach taken by the applicant to improve their long-term financial sustainability and protect and strengthen continued access to health care services in the community. In event that funds are not sufficient to support all applications in the lowest tier for which funding is available, the RFA outlines how the DOH will select applications from within that tier (Section V. Completing the Application, C. Review and Award Process). If applications within the tier are still largely determined to be equal based on this criteria, priority consideration will be given to projects that were not funded in whole or part in response to the CRFP or Essential RFAs.</p>
330	Previously Submitted Projects	<p>Section I – Introduction – Page 3: With respect to projects that were not funded under the CRFP or Essential rounds, if an applicant proposes to re-submit such a project under this RFA, may it alter the project at all? If so, what alterations would be acceptable? As an example, we have a client that submitted two CRFP projects that were not approved. It appears that combining the two projects into a single project would be a better solution in keeping with the tenets of DSRIP and principles of this RFA. Would combining two disapproved CRFP projects into a single project, while still maintaining the basic elements of both projects, still qualify for priority treatment as a disapproved CRFP project?</p>	<p>See answer to question #329.</p>
331	Previously Submitted Projects	<p>Section I – Introduction – Page 3: With respect to projects that were not funded under the CRFP or Essential rounds, if an applicant proposes to re-submit such a project under this RFA, may it include an additional multi-million dollar component that was not included in the previously submitted CRFP or Essential application, and seek grant funds for this additional amount?</p>	<p>See answer to question #329.</p>

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
332	Previously Submitted Projects	If an applicant made a previous submission that was not awarded, can they resubmit for this offering?	Yes. To be given priority consideration, Projects submitted for funding under the Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program (SHCFTP) RFA should substantially be the same as one previously submitted under the Capital Restructuring Financing Program or the Essential Health Care Provider Support Program. However, if the Applicant identifies that changes are needed to the previous submission in order to strengthen the viability of the Project and the overall success of the contextual Plan, they should do so. The strength of an application and the likelihood that it will be evaluated positively is largely dependent on the overall approach taken by the applicant to improve their long-term financial sustainability and protect and strengthen continued access to health care services in the community.
333	Previously Submitted Projects	It is stated that “if applications within the lowest tier eligible for funding are determined to be largely equal based on the criteria used in making grant award determinations, priority consideration will be given to projects that were not funded in whole or part under the CRFP or the EHCPSP” and further stated that, in that case, “The project(s) submitted under this RFA need to be substantially the same as the project(s) submitted under CRFP or the EHCPSP.” If an unfunded CRFP project was part of a multi-phased HIT implementation, would later phases of the same overall HIT be considered substantially the same?	Yes. If the Applicant proceeded with their Project that was not funded through CRFP, they may apply for the later phases of the same project and it would be considered substantially the same.
334	Previously Submitted Projects	CRFP applications were related to DSRIP, not to mergers/consolidation/restructuring. Therefore, how can a project be “substantially the same” as a CRFP application and still meet the requirement that it be associated with a merger/consolidation/restructuring?	The <u>Plan</u> details in writing the Applicant’s overall approach to achieving financial sustainability and how it will strengthen and protect continued access to health care services in the Applicant’s communities. Per the RFA, the Plan should be consistent with DSRIP principles. A <u>Project</u> relates to the specific request for capital or non-capital funding.
335	Previously Submitted Projects	Kindly inform whether previously funded NYSDOH CRFP projects from a healthcare institution who is interested in submitting an application for new, non-CRFP project(s) will be considered for this round of non-competitive funding.	Yes. Providers that received an award through CRFP may submit an application of funding under the Statewide Health care Facility Transformation Program (SHCFTP) RFA for a Project that was not previously funded.
336	Previously Submitted Projects	Can the State define what is meant by a SHCFTP submission for an unfunded CRFP project not “substantively” changed from the CRFP submission? We would like to strengthen our CRFP project plans for a SHCFTP submission, including potentially expanding the project scope. What is allowable under the SHCFTP grant?	To be given priority consideration, Projects submitted for funding under the Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program (SHCFTP) RFA should substantially be the same as one previously submitted under the Capital Restructuring Financing Program or the Essential Health Care Provider Support Program. However, if the Applicant identifies that changes are needed to the previous submission in order to strengthen the viability of the Project and the overall success of the contextual Plan, they should do so. The strength of an application and the likelihood that it will be evaluated positively is largely dependent on the overall approach taken by the applicant to improve their long-term financial sustainability and protect and strengthen continued access to health care services in the community.
337	Previously Submitted Projects	If a CRFP project scored relatively well, is the expectation that the identical project be included in the RFA for the Statewide Health Facility Transformation RFA? Circumstances may have changed and require some amendments in scope or size of the proposed project to accommodate market adjustments.	See answer to question #329.
338	Previously Submitted Projects	RE: RFA Section 1, which states: In determining awards, priority shall be given to projects that were not funded in whole or part, in response to the RFAs for the Capital Restructuring Financing Program (RFA #1504100252) or the Essential Health Care Provider Support Program (RFA #151016080 and RFA #1510190320). However, applicants must complete their application in accordance with the purpose and requirements of this Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program RFA. Must a separate SHCFTP application be submitted for each CRFP project?	If the Projects are considered interdependent to creating a financially sustainable system of care and are described as part of one Plan, they can be submitted as one application. If the Projects are not interdependent, they do not need to be submitted as one application. Separate applications must be submitted for non-capital projects or purposes even if they are part of the same overall transformation plan for which an application for a capital project(s) is also being submitted. If an Eligible Applicant submits multiple applications for funding under this RFA, the Eligible Applicant should assign a priority to each application where indicated in the application.

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
339	Priority Consideration	I understand priority is being given to those projects that were submitted previously through CRFP and/or the Essential grant fund, my question is how are the new projects scored. Are they scored after the priority projects are identified and ranked, or are they considered only if there is funding available after the priority projects are funded?	The strength of an application and the likelihood that it will be evaluated positively is largely dependent on the overall approach taken by the applicant to improve their long-term financial sustainability and protect and strengthen continued access to health care services in the community. In event that funds are not sufficient to support all applications in the lowest tier for which funding is available, the RFA outlines how the DOH will select applications from within that tier (Section V. Completing the Application, C. Review and Award Process). If applications within the tier are still largely determined to be equal based on this criteria, priority consideration will be given to projects that were not funded in whole or part in response to the CRFP or Essential RFAs.
340	Priority Consideration	Page 3 states that Priority will be given to projects not funded in whole or part, in response to three previous RFA's. If an applicant did not apply to any of these RFA's, is it worthwhile to apply here? i.e. How much of a priority is given to those who previously applied?	The intent of the Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program RFA is to fund as many eligible applications as possible. The strength of an application and the likelihood that it will be evaluated positively is largely dependent on the overall approach taken by the applicant to improve their long-term financial sustainability and protect and strengthen continued access to health care services in the community. In event that funds are not sufficient to support all applications in the lowest tier for which funding is available, the RFA outlines how the DOH will select applications from within that tier (Section V. Completing the Application, C. Review and Award Process). If applications within the tier are still largely determined to be equal based on this criteria, priority consideration will be given to projects that were not funded in whole or part in response to the CRFP or Essential RFAs.
341	Priority Consideration	Pg 24 – The RFP implies that community-based providers will be given priority through the first \$30 million. Can you clarify how a hospital will be reviewed if the system and transformational project includes hospital owned primary care providers, mental health clinics, while also addressing avoidable ED utilization?	If an Article 28 hospital submits an application on behalf of its hospital-owned community-based providers, the providers will not be considered community-based providers for the purposes of this RFA.
342	Priority Consideration	Section I – Introduction – Page 3: In the opening paragraph, it is noted that the funds will be “...for the purpose of strengthening and protecting continued access to health care services in communities throughout New York State and are associated with a merger, consolidation or significant corporate restructuring activity that is part of an overall transformation plan...” (underline added). If a project does not include a merger, consolidation or significant corporate restructuring activity, is it ineligible to be funded under this RFA? If a project does not include a merger, consolidation or significant corporate restructuring activity, will it be unlikely to secure a grade of “Good”, regardless of how well the remainder of the project matches the RFA criteria? Will any preference be given to projects that include a merger, consolidation or significant corporate restructuring activity relative to projects that do not? If so, how will that preference be expressed in grading?	The quality of the Eligible Project will be judged based on how well it contributes to the Plan to enable the Eligible Applicant to achieve financial sustainability and strengthen and protect continued access to health care services in the community. As indicated in the SHCFTP RFA, creation of a financially sustainable system of care should be associated with a merger, consolidation or significant restructuring activity. Restructuring activities encompass a broad array of approaches.
343	Priority Consideration	Section I – Introduction – Page 3: In determining awards, how will the State prioritize projects that were not funded under the CRFP or Essential rounds? What is the mechanism for assigning that priority? If there are RFA responses totaling \$30 million in community-based projects that were not funded under CRFP and Essential, and \$165 million of other community-based or non-community based projects not funded under CRFP or Essential, would any project that was not proposed under CRFP or Essential have a chance to secure any of the \$195 million? Does this mean that prior applicants of CRFP/Essential who were not awarded those grant funds have priority over applicants of CRFP/Essential who were awarded grant funds, or does it mean that prior applicants of CRFP/Essential who were not awarded those grant funds have priority over organizations that did not apply for CRFP/Essential, or are both statements accurate?	In event that funds are not sufficient to support all applications in the lowest tier for which funding is available, the RFA outlines how the DOH will select applications from within that tier (Section V. Completing the Application, C. Review and Award Process). If applications within the tier are still largely determined to be equal based on this criteria, priority consideration will be given to projects that were not funded in whole or part in response to the CRFP or Essential RFAs.

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
344	Priority Consideration	Will preference be given to high scoring CREF applicants that did not receive funding?	See answer to question #340.
345	Priority Consideration	Can you explain in more detail the priority that proposals that were submitted to, but not funded by, the CRFP RFA receive in the SHCFTP RFA?	See answer to question #340.
346	Priority Consideration	Page 3 states that Priority will be given to projects not funded in whole or part, in response to three previous RFA's. If an applicant did not apply to any of these RFA's, is it worthwhile to apply here? i.e. How much of a priority is given to those who previously applied?	See answer to question #340.
347	Question and Answer Period	We strongly request that there be an additional round of question and answers. Due to the quick turnaround time between when the RFA was released and when the questions are due (and agencies' experiences with staff taking vacations), many providers have not had adequate time to review the RFA and develop questions. In addition, we expect the answers to the first round of questions will raise additional questions for providers.	The Department held an Applicant Webinar on August 8th to provide guidance to potential applicants and answered numerous questions that had been submitted by potential applicants as part of the Webinar. The date to submit additional questions was COB August 10th to allow time for applicants to submit additional questions. The Department has published responses to more than 350 questions submitted by potential applications. There are no plans to offer an additional Question and Answer period.
348	Question and Answers	Will there be an additional round of question and answers, in addition to the August 10th round? Due to the quick turnaround between when the RFA was released and when the questions are due, many smaller providers with less experience responding to capital RFAs may not yet have identified all of their questions. In addition, it is very likely that the answers to the first round of questions will raise additional questions for providers. We strongly recommend a second round of Q/A after the first is completed.	See answer to question #347.
349	Reporting Requirements	Reporting: Will there be reporting requirements in addition to those listed on page 13, #3 of the RFA.	Traditionally, reporting requirements pertain to progress along a project work plan. The contract may also require performance measures and milestones related to the organization's goals and what it wants to accomplish with these funds, such as annual audited financial statements, reports showing targeted increase or decrease in particular areas of service, etc.
350	Review Prior Grant Applications	Can we access and review prior grant submittals that were successful, as well as their score sheets.	No, as standard operating procedure for state procurements, the DOH does not publicly post grant applications or evaluation documents. These documents may be available under the FOIL process.
351	Subcontracts	What is meant by subcontracting components of the scope of work? We plan to hire a construction manager who will subcontract work to other contractors. Is this considered an Eligible Applicant subcontracting components of the scope of work?	Your organization is the eligible applicant based on the eligibility criteria in the RFA. If you engage a construction manager (CM) and the CM sub-contracts to other contractors, then your organization is considered to be subcontracting components of your scope of work. Please note that any subcontractor receiving \$100,000 or more must register and complete a questionnaire in the State Comptroller's Vendor Responsibility database.
352	Subcontracts	Page 6 states that eligible applicants are expected to identify the subcontracting entities in the application. What if the county procurement policy does not allow for this prior to award? Or if there is not sufficient time to bid subcontracts prior to application?	If there are impediments to specifically identifying by name those subcontractors which be involved in the project execution, the applicant should note "To Be Determined" and, to the best of its ability, describe the type of work to be performed and the type of subcontractor (for example, an affiliate, a private business or an organization licensed or certified by another State agency).
353	Supporting Materials	Can other supporting materials be included in the application?	It is unclear what is meant by supporting materials. Any additional materials that the applicant determines to be relevant to their application that were not requested as part of the RFA can be uploaded to Grants Gateway as space permits. Additional documents may be uploaded to the "Grantee Document Folder" in your application Forms Menu. Please label uploaded documents clearly.

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
354	Technical - Application Access	Our organization has logged onto Grants Gateway as Grantee but only have a "View the Opportunity" button. We do not have the "Apply For Grant Opportunity" button. We used 2 different Grantee accounts, neither has the "Apply for Grant Opportunity" button.	<p>The announcement and PDF of the RFA document are located in the NYSGrants Gateway at: <a href="https://grantsgateway.ny.gov/intelligrants_NYSSGG/module/nysgg/goportal.aspx?NavItem1=4&amp;ngoid=5000607">https://grantsgateway.ny.gov/intelligrants_NYSSGG/module/nysgg/goportal.aspx?NavItem1=4&amp;ngoid=5000607</a></p> <p>In order to access attachments and apply for the grant opportunity, a user must first be registered and logged into the Grants Gateway as a Grantee, Grantee Contract Signatory, or Grantee System Administrator. Once logged in, the user should click on the "View Available Opportunities" button available on their home screen and search for the Grant Opportunity by name. On the Opportunity Funding Profile page, click on "Apply for Grant Opportunity" to begin the application. If you are having difficulty, we recommend consulting the Grantee Quick Start Guide for applications: <a href="http://grantsreform.ny.gov/sites/default/files/grantee_quick_start_guide.pdf">http://grantsreform.ny.gov/sites/default/files/grantee_quick_start_guide.pdf</a></p> <p>Attachments 1 through 5 (including Attachment 1: Letter of Interest Template) are located in the Pre-Submission Uploads section of the Grant Opportunity in the Grants Gateway. Pre-Submission Uploads can be accessed by navigating through the "Forms" menu of your online application.</p>
355	Technical - Application Access	Our organization is unable to apply. The only option available is to "View the Opportunity." Please advise.	See answer to Question #354.
356	Technical - Application Access	We are trying to complete a Letter of Intent for the Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program Grant however, the button on the bottom left side of the grant page simply states "View Grant Opportunity" and does not give us access to neither apply for the Grant or access Attachment 1 which would be the Letter of Intent. Any Assistance you could send our way would be most gratefully appreciated.	See answer to Question #354.
357	Technical - Application Access	Our organization is interested in submitting a letter of intent for the Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program. We do not see an active button on the grant's opportunity page to "Apply for Grant Opportunity." Please advise as to when this button will be added allowing us to do so.	See answer to Question #354.
358	Technical - Application Access	I am trying to locate the site where I can get the application and instructions for RFA #1607010255. Would you please direct me to the correct site?	See answer to Question #354.
359	Technical - Application Access	We are attempting to find the On Line Application and Letter of Interest for the Statewide Healthcare Transformation Program but have been unable to locate it on the Grants Gateway. Could you please help in locating this document.	See answer to Question #354.
360	Technical - Application Access	I am attempting to access the application for the Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program by following the directions on page 9 of the RFA. I am able to complete steps 1 - 4, but clicking on the name of the Grant Opportunity in the grid brings me to a page that outlines the opportunity and I am not finding a button at the bottom left of the page marked, "APPLY FOR GRANT OPPORTUNITY."	See answer to Question #354.
361	Technical - Application Access	We are currently registered for Webinar. I wanted to be able to print out an application in order to start to complete the application. Is it possible to get a copy?	See answer to Question #354.
362	Technical - Application Access	Is there a way to access more information about the actual SHCFTP grant application and the documentation required?	See answer to Question #354.
363	Technical - Application Access	How can I access the application for the above grant?	See answer to Question #354.
364	Technical - Application Access	I am a licensed home care agency who would like to apply for the grant due in September. Is there any attachments that I can take a look at that includes what the grant is complied of? I.e: attachments of the table of contents that we are going to be filling out?	<p>See answer to Question #354.</p> <p>In addition, application questions are located on page 18 of the RFA.</p>

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
365	Technical - Application Access	The instructions say to click on the link APPLY FOR GRANT OPPORTUNITY at the bottom left side of the grant announcement page. I am on the page, but the only link is VIEW GRANT OPPORTUNITY, which is a PDF document. Am I missing something, or am I in the wrong spot? Thanks.	See answer to Question #354.
366	Technical - Application Access	As we are trying to apply for our grant because we do not have a "Apply for Opportunity" button. We logged in under the Grantee System Administrator, but we do not have an option for "Apply for opportunity," we only have an option to "View Grant Opportunity" (see pic).	See answer to Question #354.
367	Technical - Application Access	I am trying to begin an application on the grants gateway, after login looking at the bottom right side of the page to register for the grant I am not finding the necessary "apply for grant opportunity", has that become available as of yet?	See answer to Question #354.
368	Technical - Application Access	I am logged into gateway but don't see a way to access the application form just the PDF of RF. I also can't find a helpline number. Please let me know the gateway helpline and also the link to the application itself.	See answer to Question #354. Grants Gateway tech support is available from the Agate Software Help Desk at 1-800-820-1890. The Grants Reform Team can be reached at 518-474-5595 regarding application completion. Other questions can be directed to the primary contact information noted on the cover of the RFA.
369	Technical - Attachments	Please advise re: the location of Attachments 1-5.	See answer to Question #354.
370	Technical - Attachments	I have accessed the Grant Gateway and have the role of Grantee. I have found the specific Grant Opportunity (Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program RFA # 1607010255). I can access the PDF document but cannot access the attachments. Page 25 says that they are located/included in the Pre-Submission Upload section of the Grants Gateway online application. I cannot figure out how to access that section. Can you tell me where to find it?	See answer to Question #354.
371	Technical - Attachments	We are interested in seeing attachments 1-5 of the Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program Grant which are not provided in the RFA, and I am unable to find those on the Grants Gateway portal (as noted in the documentation). Can you please provide those attachments or direct me?	See answer to Question #354.
372	Technical - Budget	How is the Excel Projected Financial Information from of a single application to reflect multiple, interdependent, priority-ranked projects? Or, rather, how are they to be presented in the form?	The budget narrative and excel form should reflect the financial implication of each project that is described in the application. In addition as support for the Plan (encompassing all of the interdependent projects) the applicant should complete the excel documents showing the financial implication of the fully executed Plan as part of the backup documentation.
373	Technical - Budget	How are the budgets for each of the interdependent, priority-ranked projects that are included in a single application to be presented in the Grants Gateway?	See answer to question #372.
374	Technical - Budget	Section 6, Project Budget, Attachment 3 The budget requests previous and current year totals for expenses, operating costs, etc. As the Applicant's project and plan do not currently exist, should these fields be left blank?	The Previous and Current year information should reconcile to the submitted Financial Statements. This information should be prior to the implementation of the project and will form a base line that will be used to evaluate the projected information.
375	Technical - Financial Statements	7a: Asks, "Submit a copy of the prior three year's annual audited financial statements. All documents must be scanned and uploaded as a single PDF file." These pdf files may be large. Is it acceptable to submit Year 1, 2 and 3 as separate PDF files, or do you require all three years of financial statements in one PDF?	Only one PDF upload is allowed for Question 7a. If a combined PDF file of all three years' financial statements is too large to be uploaded, applicants may upload multiple additional files into the "Grantee Document Folder" in the Forms Menu of the online application. Please label any uploaded files clearly.



Q#	Category	Question	Answer
376	Technical - Format	What format should be used to draft "The Plan" referenced on page 3 and 19 of the RFA? For instance, a form of an organizational strategic plan written in a MS Word document or PowerPoint document that outlines strategic goals, initiatives, etc. that will help the applicant achieve the overall strategy to meet Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program goals?	It is expected that applicants will thoroughly describe "the Plan" in the Program-Specific Questions in the online application in Grants Gateway. Specifically, questions 3a, 3b, 3c, 3cii, 3ciii, 3civ, and 3cv allow for narrative responses related to "the Plan." If an applicant would like to submit additional documentation to further describe "the Plan", such as an organization strategic plan, PowerPoint document, etc. such documentation may be uploaded into the "Grantee Document Folder" in the Forms Menu of the online application. Please label any uploaded files clearly.
377	Technical - Format	What is the page limit and other format specifications (font size, double spacing, etc.) for "The Plan"?	Please follow the character limits provided by the response fields in your online application. For program specific questions where uploads are permitted, please use good judgement and keep your answers concise.
378	Technical - Grantee Document Folder	Under File Folders section, then Grantee Document Folder, after the space to provide a description of the file, applicants are asked to check off document approved. What does that mean? What approval are you looking for?	The "Document Approved" check box is not intended to be used by the applicant. Please enter a description, browse to your document to be uploaded, enter comments (if applicable) and click the "Save" button in the blue toolbar to complete your upload.
379	Technical - Grants Gateway Pre-Qualification	As we are not prequalified, we plan to send the New York Grants Gateway Registration Form for Administrator this coming Monday, and, upon receiving a Grants Gateway username and password, expect to apply for prequalification next week. Would you be able to provide an estimated timeframe as to how long the prequalification process might take? Would there be a way to streamline the prequalification process so that we would be eligible to apply for the SHCFTP grant before the deadline in September?	The timeline for pre-qualification varies by organization and can take multiple business days. Organizations interested in applying for the Grant Opportunity should take steps to become pre-qualified as soon as possible, but an organization does NOT need to be prequalified in order to begin an application. <u>The organization must be pre-qualified, if not exempt, on the date/time the application is due.</u> If you require assistance with prequalification, it is permitted to contact <a href="mailto:healthcarefacilitytransformation@health.ny.gov">healthcarefacilitytransformation@health.ny.gov</a> and request expedited processing. Your request will be forwarded to appropriate parties.
380	Technical - Grants Gateway Registration	A week ago I mailed the documents requested for the assignment of the username and password needed to access the grant application portal. I have not received the log in information yet either via email or mail. I am concerned that the time is running close to the application submission deadline and I need to be able to access the portal. Please email me my username and password at your earliest convenience.	The Department of Health does not process Grants Gateway registrations. Please contact the Grants Reform Team at <a href="mailto:grantsgateway@its.ny.gov">grantsgateway@its.ny.gov</a> or <a href="mailto:grantsreform@its.ny.gov">grantsreform@its.ny.gov</a> regarding your inquiry.
381	Technical - Grants Gateway Registration	I watched the replay of the webinar SHCFTP Applicant Webinar and it indicated that in order to access the templates, the user had to be registered and logged-in. Is there a separate registration for those assisting health care providers? Or is this like the Certificate of Need website where each healthcare provider granted access in a case-by-case process?	A Grantee Delegated Administrator at an organization can issue a Grants Gateway account to anyone they choose, whether the individual is within their organization or outside. Consultants assisting health care providers with the review and submission of an application should request that the organization they are working with issue them appropriate Grants Gateway access.
382	Technical - Grants Gateway Roles	Can you kindly explain the different roles concerning: - Grantee Contract Signatory - Grantee Payment Signatory and - Grantee System Administrator We have an account and have someone who can maintain user roles. Just need some clarification on what the roles are because we are in the process of assigning more staff so that we can submit a grant application and obtain pertinent information as it becomes available.	Please see RFA Section IV. "Administrative Requirements, E. How to File an Application". Page 10 of the RFA illustrates how the grantee Grants Gateway user roles are used. In addition, information about the various Grants Gateway roles can be found in the Grantee User Guide on the Grants Reform website at <a href="http://grantsreform.ny.gov/sites/default/files/nys-grants-gateway-vendor-user-guide-V2031615.pdf">http://grantsreform.ny.gov/sites/default/files/nys-grants-gateway-vendor-user-guide-V2031615.pdf</a> .
383	Technical - Grants Gateway Roles	I have a question as to where I can locate the Attachment to begin work on this grant – I am currently assigned the role as Grantee Delegated Administrator – do I have change my designation in order to see the attachments to this RFA, or can I hold more than one role?	See answers to question #354 and #382.  As a Grantee Delegated Administrator, you cannot work on an application. You may use your Grantee Delegated Administrator account to issue additional accounts with the needed roles.
384	Technical - Letter of Interest	On the Letter of Interest Template, please clarify who from an organization can be an "Authorized Individual."	The authorized individual can be a person who is authorized to submit applications or sign contracts on behalf of your organization.
385	Technical - Letter of Interest	Where can I find the template for the letter of intent for Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program	See answer to Question #354.

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
386	Technical - Letter of Interest	I am not able to see the Letter of Interest for Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program grant. I have logged on to Grant Gateway, but cannot find Attachment 1: Letter of Interest Template. Please guide me in finding it on the Grant Gateway.	See answer to Question #354.
387	Technical - Letter of Interest	I understand the Letter of Interest is not required to submit an application, but would it still be in our best interest to submit an LOI? Would we receive feedback on the LOI if we did submit it? Is there a template for the LOI, including details about a page limit?	See answer to Question #354. Submitting a letter of interest is optional. Applicants who submit a letter of interest will receive prompt notification of any updates or modifications to the RFA and responses to written questions. No feedback will be provided on submitted letters of interest.
388	Technical - Letter of Interest	In Grants Gateway I am not able to access the letter of interest form or other attachments. Is this under applications or contracts. Would you please provide me with step by step instructions to get to the letter of interest and other attachments for this rfa?	See answer to Question #354.
389	Technical - Letter of Interest	How come I am unable to access to letter of interest for the grant opportunity rfa # 1607010255 ?	See answer to Question #354.
390	Technical - Letter of Interest	I would like to submit a letter of interest, but am unable to find the attachment to fill out. Can you please send me that form, or direct me to the correct place?	See answer to Question #354.
391	Technical - Letter of Interest	Where can I find the form Letter of Intent to be submitted in connection with an application under the above RFA? Where should it be filed?	See answer to Question #354.  The completed Letter of Interest should be uploaded in the Pre-Submission Uploads section of Grants Gateway and emailed to <a href="mailto:healthcarefacilitytransformation@health.ny.gov">healthcarefacilitytransformation@health.ny.gov</a> .
392	Technical - Letter of Interest	Please send directions on how to access the 'attachment 1' Letter of Interest Template. I do not see a 'start application' or 'apply' button on the grant description page.	See answer to Question #354.
393	Technical - Letter of Interest	We tried to upload the Letter of Interest this morning in the Pre Submission Documents section of the application, we were able to upload the file but when we clicked on Save, we are receiving an Error Message saying that we are missing Attachments 2, 3, 4, and 5 and it does not look like it saved the Letter of Interest.	It is very likely that your Letter of Interest was submitted successfully. The error message you see is a reminder that other documents will need to be uploaded in the Pre-Submission Uploads section before your application can be submitted. The deadline for those documents is September 16th. When all documents marked as required are successfully uploaded, the error should go away. Clicking the "Check Global Errors" button in your blue toolbar will help you locate and fix errors.
394	Technical - Multiple Projects	Are Grants Gateway forms and questions tailored to allow for the presentation of multiple, interdependent, priority-ranked projects?	Yes. The Program Specific Questions provide narrative text boxes that applicants may use to describe one or more projects. Applicants should respond to each program specific question to the best of their ability within the response option character limit available. Should an applicant need more space to describe multiple projects within a single application, additional documentation may be uploaded into the "Grantee Document Folder" in the Forms Menu of the online application. Please label any uploaded files clearly.
395	Technical - Pre-submission Uploads	The pre-submissions uploads- when are they due?	Pre-submission uploads are due, along with all other application components, on Friday, September 16.
396	Technical - Program Specific Questions	Can you please confirm that the "program specific questions" should be completed within the provided Grants Gateway application form fields only? (Rather than being uploaded as a narrative document.) Section V of the RFP ("Completing the Application") indicates what information is needed but does not explicitly state how they should be submit. All of the topics addressed in section V appear in the "program specific questions" form which leads us to believe this is the proper way to meet the requirements of Section V.  In the past however we have uploaded proposal documents to answer these type of questions, and we want to be sure that we will be meeting the application requirements by answering the "program specific questions" within Grants Gateway rather than uploading a narrative document.	Yes. Program Specific Questions should be completed using the narrative text boxes provided. No additional uploads are required, except when a program specific question is accompanied by a request for uploaded supporting documentation marked with a red asterisk.

Q#	Category	Question	Answer
397	Technical - Response Limits	Is there a page limit/word count for the budget narrative in 6bi? It appears as if it is a separate file upload in Grant Gateway	No, there is no page limit or maximum word count for the budget narrative response to Question 6bi. Please use good judgement and keep your justification concise. A single PDF file may be uploaded.
398	Technical - Response Limits	We'd like to confirm that the count in the Grant Gateway is 'characters with spaces' ?	Yes, the response option limit provided below each text box includes characters with spaces.
399	Technical - Response Limits	In responding to questions in Grants Gateway, are character limits associated with the individual questions inclusive of spaces?	See answer to Question #398.
400	Technical - Response Limits	2c looks limited in the # of characters, yet for a hospital system this question could be answered many ways – Is there an opportunity to expand this field so that qualifying information/detail can be shared about the # provided?	If an applicant would like to submit qualifying information about the number provided in the response to Question 2c., additional details may be provided in a single PDF file and uploaded into "Grantee Document Folder" in the Forms Menu of the online application.
401	Technical - Response Limits	For the actual grant proposal, I understand that we are to follow the guidelines listed in the RFA, particularly the information listed under Heading V—Completing the Application. Is there a page limit requirement for the application as a whole?	The application questions outlined in RFA Section V. "Completing the Application", page 18, can be found in Grants Gateway under "Program-Specific Questions." The text boxes provided for responses to the Program-Specific Questions have a character limit, specified immediately below the text box.
402	Technical - Response Limits	Can graphic elements (tables, charts, maps, etc) be placed in the main text of the responses under the grant gateway. If not where should that material be included?	Graphic elements may not be placed in the narrative text boxes for the Program Specific Questions in Grants Gateway. If an applicant would like to submit additional documentation such as tables, charts, graphs, and maps to support the narrative response, such documentation may be uploaded in a PDF document into the "Grantee Document Folder" in the Forms Menu of the online application. Please clearly label any uploaded files.
403	Technical - Supporting Documents	Under the Project Description section, questions 5ai and 5aai request Uploads, can you please provide some clarification of what the State looking for (i.e., scans of the source documents for the narrative description)?	Uploads are optional for Community Need questions 5ai and 5aai. Should an applicant wish to provide additional documentation to support narrative responses to 5ai and 5aai, uploads are allowed but not required. Such documentation may include, but is not limited to, community needs assessments, tables, charts, graphs, and other reports that support the narrative response.
404	Technical - Work Plan	In the Workplan detail, there is a place for a file "upload" after each Performance Measure. What sort of file is supposed to be uploaded?	Uploads for Performance Measures are allowed, but not required by this grant opportunity. The composition of your grantee defined workplan is at your discretion.
405	Technical - Work Plan	Under the Work Plan Grantee Defined section, then Objectives/Tasks/Performance Measure Name and Narrative, there is a spot to upload a document. What upload (what file) should be uploaded here? What kind of information are you looking for here?	See answer to Question #404.
406	Technical - Work Plan	Is a Sample Work Plan available? If not, can you provide some information about how detailed it should be?	No sample work plan is available. The composition of your grantee defined workplan is at your discretion.
407	Technical-Work Plan	How detailed should the work plan be? An example of an objective, task and performance measures would be very helpful.	See answer to question #406.
408	Value Based Payments	Section 6, Project Budget, Attachment 3 The Applicant does not have a Value Based Payment arrangement, nor do other providers in New York State, however the budget asks that revenue assumptions include "impacts of value based payment arrangements". How should this question be addressed with no previous data to work from?	If an applicant's sustainability Plan involves entering into value-based payment arrangements in the future, the budget should describe the assumptions used to project the impact of these arrangements on the applicant's revenues and expenses to the best of the applicant's ability, and the basis for these assumptions (research from other markets etc.), even if the applicant has no prior experience with value-based contracts.
409	Vendor Responsibility Requirements	Are Vendor Responsibility Attestations required from municipal applicants?	No, municipal applicants are exempt from Vendor Responsibility Attestations.