



RAPID RESPONSE EMERGENCY GRANTS

Supplement to COVID-19 Request for Proposals - Fall 2020

[Link to 8/26/20 Zoom Session Recording](#)

Summary of Open Questions & Answers on Public Zoom Session August 26, 2020

- 1. Question:** Would an alternative school qualify under the “Safe Child Care Services” funding priority?

Answer: The child care category focuses primarily on settings serving very young children and children in the early/elementary school grades. With this in mind, you may also want to take a closer look at the “Basic Health & Human Needs” priority.

- 2. Question:** Is the “Other Information Section” in the online grants system limited to only 1 attachment?

Answer: Yes, we’re working hard to keep things simple for you. However, if there’s more essential information that you believe is critical for the grant reviewers to understand, you may email it to Carol Thornton (Carol@ForBetterHealthPA.org) or Gail Witwer (GWitwer@ForBetterHealthPA.org) and they can upload it into the grants system for you.

- 3. Question:** Is there any advantage to applying early, before the October 1 deadline?

Answer: All grants will be reviewed at the same time, so not really. The benefit of submitting early or later, may depend mostly on your own workload and what works best for you.

- 4. Question:** What is the pdf we upload?

Answer: The pdf is our Request for Proposal’s document, which is located on our website. Filling out the document first is the fastest, easiest way to complete the application. You can find and access our the document link here: <http://www.forbetterhealthpa.org/what-we-do/what-we-fund/> and save as a pdf file when it is ready to be uploaded.

5. Question: Is the "Beneficiary Statistics" portion of the application (seen on your online grants application) to be included and considered essential as a part of our grant application?

Answer: No, the Beneficiary Statistics section is optional. You may skip that question if you like.

6. Question: Will the reporting requirements for this funding be similar to the reporting requirements for your past round of emergency grants, last spring?

Answer: Yes, and as always, reporting will also be somewhat tailored to your individual grant goals and outcomes. You will be able to complete your grant's final report through our grants system.

7. Question: Do you have any general observations or feedback from the final reports you received on this last round? Any tips for what we need to make sure and include?

Answer: While we don't ask for beneficiary statistics, if possible, we often do like to know the zip codes where your clients are coming from. In general, our final reporting is meant to be as simple and straightforward as the proposal. Final reports will follow your grant proposal and will be pretty straightforward. For example, if your goal was to buy 500 masks or serve meals to 125 people in your community, we'll want to know the final counts on those services or purchases in your final report.

8. Question: What are the most common reasons that an emergency application is declined?

Answer: We see a few patterns.

A. **Geographic Region:** The applicant doesn't serve and focus on our foundation's very specific geographic service region;

B. **Too Few Details:** The applicant's answers to the grant application questions are too brief (just one or two sentences—or sweeping boiler plate that doesn't describe the actual project), making it difficult for reviewers understand how the program or service will work and why it's needed;

C. **Poor Fit:** The applicant tries to simply use the grant as a way to fund their "business as usual" versus making their application a specific strategy in response to our Request for Proposals and pressing COVID-19 needs.

D. **Limited Impact:** Because all grant applications will be received and reviewed at the same time, our review team of staff and volunteers will prioritize grants that stand to have the greatest overall impact in helping to address the pandemic.