

Guidelines for the Submission of Applications to Establish Regional Healthcare Innovation Partnerships



BOARD *of* REGENTS
STATE OF LOUISIANA

[Applications Due: March 14, 2023, 5:00 p.m. Central Time](#)

Request for Applications to Establish Regional Healthcare Innovation Partnerships

A. Purpose of Application

The Louisiana Board of Regents is seeking entities to establish regional healthcare innovation partnerships throughout Louisiana to increase the number of healthcare graduates in each identified regional labor market (see Addendum 1).

B. Program Administrator and Questions About this Request for Applications (RFA)

Specific questions shall be submitted via email to the Board of Regents Assistant Commissioner for Strategic Planning and Student Success, Mellynn Baker, at Mellynn.Baker@laregents.edu with the subject line “Regional Healthcare Innovation Partnerships RFA Inquiry.” The deadline for receipt of written inquiries is 4:30 p.m. Central on January 17, 2023. All written inquiries and responses will be uploaded to <https://www.laregents.edu/health-works-commission/>. No inquiries will be accepted after the deadline date to ensure all interested parties receive the same information.

C. Eligibility

An institution of higher education must be identified as the lead application entity and must partner with additional higher education institutions, regional healthcare providers and/or regional not-for-profit organizations.

Applications will be evaluated by an impartial Review and Selection Committee, chosen by the Board of Regents, comprised of individuals who are not associated with an institution that has submitted a Regional Healthcare Innovation Partnerships application.

The Review and Selection Committee, subject to oversight by the Assistant Commissioner for Strategic Planning and Student Success, will retain total discretion in the selection of each Regional Healthcare Innovation Partnership application and may consider, but not be limited to weighing, the following elements:

- **Measurable Goals:** Degree to which clear and measurable healthcare program completion goals are established, with strategies designed to accomplish each established goal (undergraduate or graduate program completers). Successful applications will reference current supply and demand data to support each established goal.
- **Regional Partnership:** Degree to which the application clearly demonstrates collaboration between academic programs and one or more healthcare providers and/or regional not-for-profits to leverage public and private funds for the purpose of increasing the workforce pipeline to fulfill the healthcare workforce needs of the region.
- **Commitment:** Degree to which the application demonstrates the creation of a sustainable regional healthcare innovation partnership that will result in increased healthcare graduates in the region aligned with local needs. If a previously established partnership, the application must demonstrate how funds will expand existing partnership efforts.
- **Creativity and Innovation:** Degree to which the application provides a workable solution to increase the number of healthcare graduates in the region.
- **Expertise of the Implementation Team:** Degree to which clear expertise related to regional healthcare graduates and regional healthcare provider needs is displayed.

Selected applicants are authorized to utilize allocated funds for initiatives including (**but not limited to**):

- Tuition Waivers for Students
- Hiring of Additional Faculty
- Additional Student Supports
- Preceptor Incentives

Disallowed Budget Items: Funding cannot be spent on the construction, maintenance, repair, or improvement of structures. Submitting entities should also note that the scope of the program does not permit: (1) construction of facilities; (2) routine renovation or upgrading of facilities; (3) purchase of standard motorized vehicles such as cars, trucks, vans, boats, etc.; or (4) purchase of standard office furniture or routine office equipment (e.g., desktop computers and peripherals, copiers, desks, chairs, etc.). (see Addendum 3 H.E.R.O Fund). Indirect costs may not be budgeted to state funds, but may be included in submitting entity support, if applicable.

The Committee may also choose to reject all applications if none appropriately addresses the need.

D. Submission Requirements

The lead postsecondary institution submitting an application must respond no later than March 14, 2023 by uploading the requested information to the following link: <https://form.jotform.com/223027973400147> No other forms of application will be accepted. References to additional sources of information as web links are permitted in the proposal.

The application shall contain a detailed description of the Regional Healthcare Innovation Partnership. The partnership can either be a newly formed regional partnership or the enhancement/expansion of an existing partnership. The description shall include, but need not be limited to, the following:

1. Name

- Provide the name of the lead postsecondary institution. Identify the additional partnership applicants, including, but not limited to, healthcare providers and/or regional nonprofit organizations.

2. Primary Contact Information

- Provide the name and contact information of the lead postsecondary institution point of contact for the application.

3. Louisiana Healthcare Workforce Expansion Structure and Cost

- Include a detailed description of the proposed program. Provide the anticipated cost to implement the program and resources needed in order to sustain efforts.
- The application must include a narrative/justification detailing the costs of and rationales for each expense budgeted. The provision of matching support by the submitting entity is optional and may include, but not be limited to, necessities for basic operation: office space, administrative fees, support staff, furniture, office equipment and supplies, etc.
- Demonstrate how this program will align with the goal of expanding the number of healthcare graduates in the region and state of Louisiana.
- Describe how this application aligns with the recommendations of the Health Works Commission (see Addendum 2), with a particular focus on building regional partnerships to expand healthcare workforce capacity.

4. Delivery of Program

- Identify the primary modality (in-person, online, hybrid) of the program.

5. Mission and Goals

- Identify how this partnership will further enhance the mission and goals of the lead postsecondary institution and contributing applicants.

6. Regional Healthcare Partnership Experience

- Describe existing healthcare initiatives and experience deemed relevant to the current application.

7. Reporting and Communication

- The program will be required to provide regular updates to both the Board of Regents and the Health Works Commission related to this program. Information will include, but will not be limited to, the number of students supported, marketing and communication efforts to achieve regional/statewide impacts, and funding allocated to date. The Board of Regents and the Health Works Commission may provide oversight and feedback as needed.

8. Additional Information

- Provide any additional data or materials the submitting entity would like the Review and Selection Committee to consider as they evaluate the application.

Interested entities may be required to participate in preliminary discussions with representatives from the Health Works Commission and/or Regents Staff to fully explore the requirements and expectations of the proposed program.

E. Application Requirements and Format

All narrative sections of the application should be presented in a single PDF document with pages numbered, 1-inch margins at the top, bottom, and each side. In addition, the font should be no smaller than 12 point. The application should be no more than 20 pages. Forms must be completed, and applications submitted in the [online portal](#) by the deadline provided.

F. Application Review Process

Applications will be evaluated by an impartial Review and Selection Committee, selected by the Board of Regents, comprised of individuals who are not associated with an institution that has submitted a Regional Healthcare Innovation Partnerships application.

The following schedule for submission, assessment, and approval of funding will apply for FY 2022-23:

November 17, 2022	RFA issued
January 17, 2022, 4:30 p.m. Central	Deadline for submission of questions about the RFA
March 14, 2023, 5:00 p.m. Central	Application submission deadline
March 14-28, 2023	Applications reviewed by the Review and Selection Committee
April 3, 2023	Selection of application announced via email to all applicants

Addendum 1: Regional Labor Markets



Source: https://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI_LaborForceDiversity_RLMA.asp

Addendum 2: Health Works Commission Report

<https://www.laregents.edu/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/2021-Health-Works-Commission-Report.pdf>

Addendum 3: H.E.R.O Fund Legislation

<https://legis.la.gov/legis/ViewDocument.aspx?d=1232842>