

Regional Healthcare Innovation Partnership Application Questions

As of December 20, 2022

1. **How much is the funding amount per region?** Presently, the total amount in the H.E.R.O Fund for this program is \$1.5 million. The final determinations of the amount per region will be based on the number of applications received. The contracts between the selected applicants and the Board of Regents cannot exceed \$249,999 per 12-month period.
2. **Is a partnership required?** Yes. The application requires the higher education institution to identify the partnering applicants, including, but not limited to, healthcare providers and/or regional nonprofit organizations, collaborating with the purpose of increasing the workforce pipeline to fulfill the healthcare workforce needs of the region.
3. **Is the funding upfront or reimbursable?** The payment term will be cost reimbursement in accordance with the budgets included in the contracts between the Board of Regents and the selected applicants. Selected applicants will be required to submit a quarterly invoice, activity report, expenditure report and appropriate supporting documentation for reimbursement.
4. **Is there a specific timeline (period of performance) for proposed projects (start and end date)?** The period of performance can begin as soon as the contract between the Board of Regents and a selected applicant is executed. Though the specific end dates is dependent upon each individual application, all projects must conclude by 2026 per the H.E.R.O Fund legislation.
5. **Are MOUs from the proposed partners required within the application or should this wait until it is determined if application is approved?** MOUs are not required as a component of the application, but the application must clearly demonstrate meaningful and committed collaboration between academic programs and one or more healthcare providers and/or regional not-for-profits in order to obtain the goals of the funding program.
6. **Is the funding available for non-credit healthcare training as well?** Per the RFA, successful applications will reference current supply and demand data to support each established goal. Therefore, if the need exists in the region for a non-credit healthcare program, then it can be included in the application.
7. **Will there be partial awards or is it 100% or zero in regard to funding decisions?** This is dependent upon the number of applications received. This round of competition may result in partial funding for one or more selected projects, dependent upon the total applications received.

8. **Is nursing and allied health equipment permissible?** Simulation equipment may be an allowable expense if it is a necessary and related to instruction specifically supporting the healthcare program identified in the application. If so, such funding would not be considered capital outlay.

Page 3 of the RFA lists disallowed budget items, which include the construction, maintenance, repair, or improvement of structures. Submitting entities should also note that the scope of the program does not permit: routine renovation or upgrading of facilities; purchase of standard motorized vehicles such as cars, trucks, vans, boats, etc.; or 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 charged to state funds, but may be included as submitting entity support, if applicable.

9. **Does the funding permit a coordinator type position?** Yes. The application should include any budget requests for salaries/fringe, additional compensation, etc.
10. **Are there any match requirements?** Institutional match is not required, but the application should demonstrate how a sustainable regional partnership will be created, and what financial or resource support will be needed to maintain the work.
11. **Will there be a call for application on an annual basis in the future?** This will be dependent upon the number of applications received this year and whether additional funds are allocated to the H.E.R.O Fund by the Louisiana Legislature. We hope that future Requests for Applications (RFAs) will be released but cannot guarantee it.