



## MN School-Based Health Centers RFP: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

The question-and-answer period opened May 22, 2025. Responses will be shared below based on topic. Questions have been organized by topic; they are not in order of how they were submitted.

### Grant Submission/Eligible to Apply

1. For the hours calculation for operating clinics, do all services need to be offered during all hours (i.e. the clinic will be open XX hours, but we will have more hours of mental health than we will of dental, etc.)?
  - A. No. Not all services need to be offered at once. Clinical or mental health services need to be offered to be counted as an open hour.
2. If an organization is currently operating a clinic and plans to open a new one, can they apply for both the new and emerging grant and the operational grant?
  - A. Yes, an organization can apply for both categories. A separate application is needed for each category.
3. Either the sponsoring organization or the school can apply for the operational grant?
  - A. Yes
4. Does the grant for SBHC only apply to existing SBHCs? My clinic is in the process of establishing our health center in a school, but we have not received final agreement with the school district.
  - A. No, the grant is for both new and emerging clinics in the planning stages, as well as established clinics. You do not need to have an agreement between school and healthcare provider in place to apply. When completing the application you need to indicate which category you are applying under, Category 1: New and Emerging Grant or Category 2: Operating Clinic Grant.
5. I am wondering if there is a geographic priority for this grant as I thought I had read somewhere that it was focused in the metro area.
  - A. No, there is no geographic priority for this grant and we welcome applicants from across the state to apply.
6. Can an oral health care, mental or behavioral health provider apply for the SBHC grant?
  - A. Yes, as an oral health care or mental health care organization you may apply to be the sponsor of a SBHC and apply for this funding. As a reminder however, to qualify as a SBHC according to MN Statute [Sec. 145.903 MN Statutes](#) SBHC's are required to have

comprehensive and preventative physical health care services. Oral health care and mental health care are services that can be offered at a SBHC but cannot be the only services offered to qualify for this grant funding.

Applying for Category 1: New and Emerging Clinic Grant would provide you with the funding to take the time to find and partner with another health care organization that could provide these services if your organization does not offer them.

For guidance and clarification about fiscal sponsorships of SBHC's, please contact the [MN School-Based Health Alliance](#)

7. If you are CTSS certified agency already in a school, can you qualify for this grant?
  - A. Only if you are planning to partner with a health care organization to provide comprehensive and preventative physical health care.
8. Are intermediate districts eligible to apply?
  - A. Yes
9. What specific services are expected to be provided? Immunizations? Checkups? Dental cleanings? Birth control?
  - A. The only services that are required to be provided to receive this funding is comprehensive and preventative services. All other services are up to the discretion of the provider and health care sponsoring organization.

## Eligible Expenses and Programs

1. Can this grant be used to cover stipends for mental health student interns?
  - A. Yes, Grant funds are able to pay for staff, or interns for their time working in SBHC's
2. Would remodel of a space to make it more private or to provide more space to add additional capacity be eligible?
  - A. Funds are not approved for capital improvements. Funding can be used for temporary walls for example, but not for labor, construction costs or anything permanent.
3. Can grant funds be used to lease space in an office building adjacent to our school to host school-based health center services?
  - A. Yes, the cost of leasing a space for a SBHC is allowed. Grant funds are not able to cover costs of renovating or remodeling of the space for an SBHC.
4. Would patient care funds land in allowable grant costs?
  - A. Yes. This funding is eligible to cover costs such as uncompensated or confidential care for students.

## Application

1. Are there any word or character counts on any parts of the application?
  - A. Yes, most sections have a limit of 8-10,000 words. The word limit can be seen under the dialog box in the application.
2. Are there any components of the application that require direct input or documentation from our clinic or community partners at this stage? If so, could you clarify what exactly needs to be submitted by them?
  - A. Question 3 in the Project Narrative asks you to describe your partners but there is no required information needed from collaborating partners themselves. You are welcome to include a letter of intent to collaborate from your partners, but it is not required.
3. If we are **not requesting any indirect costs** (0%), do we still need to download, complete, and submit the **Due Diligence Form** and the **Indirect Cost Questionnaire**?
  - A. Yes, you must complete both of these forms. The Due Diligence form is an important part of the award assessment and necessary for all applicants. The Indirect Cost Questionnaire is also required whether or not you are going to be using an indirect rate. You only need to answer the first two questions if you are not requesting an indirect rate.

## Grant Funding

1. If a district is not ready to apply yet for the grant, do you suspect grants may become available again in the future?
  - A. The next round of SBHC funding will begin in the spring of 2028.
2. Any risk of this funding being lost to pass through cuts from the feds and the state won't have the cash to make up the difference?
  - A. The funding for SBHCs comes from the state (not federal funding) and is written into state statute which would require a change in law for it to be removed or changed. However this does not guarantee funding going forward.
3. If awarded the grant, does the funding carry over if it's not all spent?
  - A. The funding for each year can be carried over for one year. For example if a grantee had \$20,000 that was not spent in year one, it can be carried over into the 2<sup>nd</sup> year. But if that \$20,000 was not spent in year two it would be lost.
4. If we are under 40 hours when applying for the grant but move to over 40 hours the next year does our funding increase?

## SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTER RFP FAQ'S

- A.** No. The grant amount awarded is a set amount and cannot be changed once the agreement has been signed.

Minnesota Department of Health  
School-Based Health Centers  
Street address  
PO Box 64975  
St. Paul, MN 55164-0975  
651-201-4045  
[Health.AdolescentHealth@state.mn.us](mailto:Health.AdolescentHealth@state.mn.us)  
[www.health.state.mn.us](http://www.health.state.mn.us)

*To obtain this information in a different format, call: 651-539-3020.*