SIERRA HEALTH
FOUNDATION

2024 Responsive Grants Program

Questions and Answers

Find information about the Responsive Grants Program.

FUNDING FOCUS

Q: What is the focus of the Responsive Grants Program in 2024?

A: The Responsive Grants Program focuses on projects and activities that improve health and quality of life. Sierra Health Foundation defines health broadly. Health is influenced by many factors, including socioeconomic conditions, environment, education, income and individual behavior choices – factors known as the social determinants of health. Where you live, work and play have a profound impact on health.

Sierra Health Foundation also believes in the need for health equity, which means achieving the highest possible standard of health for all people and giving special attention to the needs of those at greatest risk of poor health based on social conditions.[1] Reducing health disparities is a key factor in striving toward better health for all and reflects the Foundation's commitment to ensuring that people throughout our funding region have the opportunity to lead healthy lives.

In 2024, this program will prioritize strategies affected by the California budget deficit and that impact health and quality of life for Californians. While not limited to the following areas, based on California's May Revision Budget, there are potential and possible budget cuts in the following areas:
- Health
- Homelessness and Housing
- Economic Security
- Education
- Justice System
- Workforce and Climate Change

Q: Where can I review California's Budget?

A: California's Budget summary and details can be viewed at California's Department of Finance site.

Q: Does Sierra Health Foundation consider mental health part of its broad definition of health?

A: Yes.

Q: Does Sierra Health Foundation have specific funding priorities?

A: Sierra Health Foundation's priority is programs, projects and activities designed to improve health and quality of life, as described above. For the 2024 Responsive Grants Program, we ask applicant organizations and agencies to tell us what their community needs and concerns are, with a focus on potential budget deficits and how a grant from Sierra Health Foundation can help address them.

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[1] Braveman, Paula. "What Are Health Disparities and Health Equity? We Need to Be Clear." *Public Health Reports*. 2014 Supplement 2, Volume 129. https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3863701/

Q: Does Sierra Health Foundation have a preference of population to be served?

A: We do not have a specific population priority, only that applications be very clear about the populations served or impacted.

Q: What is the total amount of money available for this funding?

A: $400,000.

Q: What percentage of applications typically gets funded each Responsive Grants round?

A: The proportion of funded applications varies based on the amount Sierra Health Foundation has budgeted for a particular round and the number of applications received. We anticipate that this will be a competitive opportunity.

Q: Will cuts in the federal budget be prioritized?

A: The California budget deficit can also be impacted by federal budget status, so we anticipate that applicants could propose projects that are also impacted by federal budget considerations.

Q: If we are not impacted by cuts in the state budget, should we apply?

A: Please still apply. The Responsive Grants Program will prioritize those affected by California budget cuts but will still review and consider all applications that meet eligibility criteria.

WHAT SIERRA HEALTH FOUNDATION WILL FUND THROUGH THE RESPONSIVE GRANTS PROGRAM

Q: Will Sierra Health Foundation fund physical equipment?

A: Yes, an applicant can request funding for equipment, such as a freezer to facilitate the immediate delivery of safety-net services, or a vehicle that will give people access to health or social services. In your application, explain how the equipment you are requesting will address the goals of the funding opportunity.

Q: Can an applicant apply for general operating support?

A: For this funding opportunity, Sierra Health Foundation will consider funding general operating support as it relates to supporting your proposed project. Base your proposal on the work your organization does. Look at what you can measure and what difference it will make. As with any type of proposed project or activities, make the case in your application for how your proposed work will improve health and quality of life.

Q: Can these funds be used for materials related to client cost of care?

A: Yes.

Q: Is it necessary that the proposed project be new or existing?

A: Proposed projects can be either new or existing.

Q: May our organization apply for funds to support capacity building?

A: Yes.

Q: Will Sierra Health Foundation fund planning activities as part of the project?

A: Yes. If your proposed project requires funding for planning, incorporate that into your proposal.

Q: Can administrative overhead be included in the request?

A: Yes, up to 15 percent of direct costs may be requested for indirect costs.

Q: What is meant by indirect costs?

A: Indirect costs are typically costs that are not directly related to the project. Indirect costs vary for each organization but are typically costs that are used to support the organization as a whole. Indirect costs could support rent, utilities, human resources or other costs.

Q: Is the indirect cost amount part of the total amount requested for the project, or in addition? For example, if we request $10,000, is the indirect cost amount part of the $10,000 or in addition to the $10,000?

A: Indirect costs are part of the total amount requested (up to $10,000), not in addition.

Q: Are matching funds required?

A: No.

Q: May we request funds to use as match dollars?

A: Yes.

WHO CAN APPLY

Q: If our organization has received a Responsive Grant in the past, are we eligible to apply in 2024?

A: Receiving a Responsive Grant does not make your organization ineligible to apply in the 2024 funding round. However, our goal is to equitably distribute Responsive Grants funds across organizations, types of projects, populations served and geography, to the extent possible.

Q: If my agency previously has been awarded funding through The Center, are we still eligible to apply for the Responsive Grants Program funding?

A: Yes.

Q: Will Sierra Health Foundation fund start-up organizations?

A: This opportunity is open to both new and established organizations as long as they meet the eligibility requirements.

Q: Can two separate organizations that intend to partner together each submit an application?

A: Yes. However, there is no guarantee that both organizations will be funded.

Q: Can an organization apply for a grant for their own work and also co-apply with another organization for a joint project?

A: It is fine for an organization to submit an application for their own project and to partner with another organization on a joint project. Keep in mind that an application must be submitted by one eligible organization as the applicant organization.

Q: Since our organization has not received its official 501(c)(3) status yet, may we have a 501(c)(3) organization apply for the grant on our behalf?

A: Yes, a qualifying 501(c)(3) organization may apply on your behalf as a fiscal sponsor. See the Fiscal Sponsors section of this document for more information.

Q: We are a chapter of a larger organization; there is another chapter located in Sierra Health Foundation's funding region. Can each office submit an application?

A: No. Only one application per 501(c)(3) organization or public entity will be considered. If we receive more than one application from a 501(c)(3) organization or public entity, we will only consider the first application we receive. If each chapter is a separate 501(c)(3) organization or public entity, each can apply.

Q: We are a nonprofit organization with subgroups in five counties. Can each subgroup apply?

A: No. Only one application per 501(c)(3) organization or public entity will be considered. If we receive more than one application from a 501(c)(3) organization or public entity, we will only consider the first application we receive.

Q: Can different departments within a city or county government apply?

A: No. Only one application per 501(c)(3) organization or public agency will be considered. If we receive more than one application from a 501(c)(3) organization or public agency, we will only consider the first application we receive.

Q: Can different departments within a college or university apply?

A: No. Only one application per eligible applicant organization will be considered. If we receive more than one application from a 501(c)(3) organization or public agency, we will only consider the first application we receive.

Q: Can public school districts apply?

A: Yes. This opportunity is open to the public-school districts and agencies as long as they meet the eligibility requirements.

Q: Will Sierra Health Foundation fund activities proposed by an organization in the process of applying for 501(c)(3) status?

A: No. Only applicant organizations that have a 501(c)(3) determination letter by the application deadline date and have not received a revocation from the IRS are eligible to apply.

Q: I understand Sierra Health Foundation can't fund organizations with a 509(a)(3) designation. What is a 509(a)(3) organization?

A: The Pension Protection Act of 2006 states that grants from private foundations such as Sierra Health Foundation to supporting organizations, known as 509(a)(3) organizations, no longer qualify as charitable contributions. A supporting organization is a nonprofit organization that supports another nonprofit organization.

Example: XYZ Programs nonprofit organization decides to support a group of individuals that are working in an area that complements their organization's mission. This work becomes known as ABC Services and operates as a project of XYZ Programs. Over time ABC Services grows and decides to file for tax exempt status so that it may receive some grants and donations directly. It is likely that ABC Services would be classified by the IRS as a 509(a)(3) supporting organization.

If your organization is identified as a 509(a)(3) supporting organization and you believe it should not be, contact the IRS at 1-877-829-5500. The IRS will assist you in the process to have your organization's tax status reconsidered.

Q: My 501(c)(3) organization is faith-based, and our service approach includes religious language. Are we eligible to apply?

A: Sierra Health Foundation does not fund requests for activities that exclusively benefit the members of sectarian or religious organizations or if specific religious activities are required of participants.

FISCAL SPONSORS

Q: May we use a fiscal agent or fiscal sponsor to apply on our behalf?

A: Yes. The fiscal sponsor must be a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization or a public agency, and the proposed project must meet the funding opportunity criteria.

Q: Can a fiscal sponsor submit an application on behalf of more than one organization?

A: Yes. This is the one exception to the one-application-per-applicant-organization rule.

HOW TO APPLY

Q: Can each applicant organization submit more than one application per cycle?

A: For applicants that are not fiscal sponsors, only one application per 501(c)(3) organization or public agency will be considered. If we receive more than one application from a 501(c)(3) organization or public agency, we will only consider the first application we receive. Fiscal sponsors are exempt from this limitation.

Q: In the application, which area is the most incomplete or overlooked by applicants?

A: Two areas of the application that most often could be stronger are the description of the population to be served and the description of the project itself. We often see a lack of sufficient detail in these two areas to give the reviewers a clear and full picture of the elements of the proposed project, how it will work, who will deliver it and who, specifically, will benefit or be impacted and why.

Q: Does Sierra Health Foundation encourage collaboration?

A: We encourage collaboration if it makes sense for the success of your proposed activities.

Q: If we are engaged in partnerships to provide our proposed activities, do we need to submit letters of support?

A: No. Only submit the items listed in the Required Application Attachments on page 8 of the Application Checklist. In the online grants portal, there is only space to upload and submit the documents listed in the checklist.

Q: If we apply in collaboration with other organizations, do we need to submit the 501(c)(3) letter for all of the collaborating organizations?

A: No. We only ask for the 501(c)(3) determination letter for the applicant organization.

Q: If we apply in collaboration with other organizations, does each organization need to provide a proposal narrative?

A: No. The applicant organization would submit the application materials with one narrative. Partnerships and partner organizations should be listed and described in the narrative. Describe cooperative relationships needed for the proposed project to be successful.

Q: Can an applicant attach schematics or diagrams to help illustrate the proposed activities?

A: No. Only submit the items listed in the Required Application Attachments checklist on page 8 of the RFA. In the online grants portal, there is only space to upload and submit the documents listed in the checklist.

Q: Can we attach a bibliography of sources we've used to make the case for the issue we're addressing?

A: No. Only submit the items listed in the Required Application Attachments checklist on page 8 of the RFA. In the online grants portal, there is only space to upload and submit the documents listed in the checklist. You can cite sources parenthetically in your narrative responses.

PROJECT INFORMATION

Q: How much can we apply for?

A: The maximum amount Sierra Health Foundation will award for this opportunity is $10,000. You may apply for less than $10,000. We encourage applicants to apply for only the amount they need, up to $10,000, to support their project.

Q: Is there a particular start and end date required?

A: The project start date should be on or shortly after September 1, 2024. The end date should be no more than 12 months after the start date. Sierra Health Foundation funds should be expended on the funded activities by the end date.

Q: Is it OK to have a project start and end date that is shorter than 12 months?

A: Yes. Your start and end dates should be long enough, within 12 months, to accomplish your proposed project.

Q: What if our project is ongoing?

A: The project start and end dates requested in the application refer to when the Sierra Health Foundation-funded project activities will start and end. Please enter specific dates within a 12-month timeframe.

GEOGRAPHIC FUNDING AREAS

Q: How should applicants determine rural and urban areas?

A: 1.   Begin by looking at the map on page 4 under the Funding Opportunity and Background. Urban areas are indicated in yellow. The light purple areas are rural.

2.   If you need further clarification on your service area's rural/urban designation, visit The California Health and Human Services Medical Service Study Areas (MSSA) database, CalHHS Medical Service Study Areas. Search for your county or counties. The resulting listing will show which areas are rural, frontier or urban. Sierra Health Foundation includes frontier in the rural category.

3.   After completing steps 1 and 2 above, if you still need help, contact Sierra Health Foundation by sending an e-mail to rgp@sierrahealth.org.

Q: Will the grants be distributed to organizations across all 26 counties of Sierra Health Foundation's funding region?

A: Geographic representation across the region is one consideration in grantee selection. We are unable to support every county in the region in every funding round.

Q: Will Sierra Health Foundation fund statewide projects?

A: No. Sierra Health Foundation will fund projects that impact people living in our 26-county funding region.

Q: Will Sierra Health Foundation only award one grant per county?

A: The grants are not limited to one per county.

Q: Is there a limit to the number of grant awards per county?

A: We don't have a number limit. However, we do try to distribute Responsive Grant funds throughout our funding region. Depending on the applications received, at least 30 percent of funds go to applicants serving rural counties.

Q: Will rural applicants compete against one another for the rural-designated funding and the urban applicants compete against each other for urban funding?

A: Not necessarily. All applications are reviewed equally. In the final selection process, we will ensure a minimum of 30 percent of funds are set aside for proposed activities serving only rural areas.

Q: Our organization serves in both rural and urban areas. May we submit one application for rural and one for urban?

A: No. Only one application per 501(c)(3) organization or public agency will be considered.

Q: If our proposed activities serve rural and urban, which fund should we apply for?

A: Select the option you serve more participants in and explain more in the narrative. For example, if you serve 60% urban and 40% rural, select urban on the application and then describe further in the narrative.

Q: Our organization is located in an urban area. Is it OK to propose activities to take place in a rural area?

A: An organization located in an urban area that serves people living in rural areas can submit a proposal for activities to be implemented in a rural area. We look at where people live who will be impacted, rather than the location of the applicant organization.

Q: My organization is located outside Sierra Health Foundation's funding region but serves communities within Sierra Health Foundation's region. Are we eligible to apply?

A: Yes. We will consider funding activities that serve people living in one or more of the counties in Sierra Health Foundation's funding region, even if the applicant organization is located outside the region. Funded activities need to serve those living in Sierra Health Foundation's funding region.

Q: How accurate do we need to be when identifying what percentage of our proposed activities will impact people in which counties?

A: Use your best estimate.

Q: Our proposed project will be open to residents of all 26 counties in Sierra Health Foundation's funding region, but we don't know at this point if people from all 26 counties will participate. Do we indicate the project will serve all 26 counties?

A: Yes. This is based on what you are proposing.

Q: Are projects in the San Joaquin Valley eligible?

A: Only projects in Sierra Health Foundation's 26 county funding region are eligible. Please check the RFA on the funding region. Please note, that The Center at Sierra Health Foundation has open Funding Opportunities for the San Joaquin Valley region.

PROJECT NARRATIVE

Q: If the program we're applying for is housed in a larger nonprofit, should we describe the organization info (mission, goals, etc.) in terms of the overall agency or the specific program?

A: Please describe the overall agency and provide details on the specific program you are requesting funds for under the opportunities and activities narrative questions.

Q: How much detail should applicants provide for each application question? What are your preferred minimum and maximum pages?

A: Word limits are listed with each narrative question. The portal will not allow more than the maximum number of words. Provide enough detail that reviewers will have a clear picture of the need or opportunity, population to benefit, project details, and the organization's experience and capacity to carry out the project.

Q: In the application, what's the best way to include sources used?

A: Because of the word maximum, if you must cite in your narrative responses, please use a URL shortener and enter shortened links wherever makes sense for your response.

Q: Does the number of people to be served impact selection for funding?

A: Funding considerations are based more on what makes sense for the applicant organization, the community being served and the proposed project rather than simply on a total number.

Q: If what we propose is policy or systems change work, how do we indicate results that may not be direct?

A: Your long-term result may be realized after the end of the grant term. Indicate what you intend or hope to see change in the longer term.

Q: If the project was submitted to other funders, will that have an effect on whether or not the applicant gets the grant funding?

A: Not necessarily. It depends on the project and the situation. If, for example, you know your project will cost more than the $10,000 available through the Responsive Grants Program but don't list or talk about other sources of funding you have received or have applied for, we won't have a full picture of the project or your capacity to implement it. Generally, it's good to have multiple funders for sustainability and visibility, but not all projects require multiple funding sources. If you have no other funders for the project, address that in your narrative response.

Q: Can a grantee organization provide Sierra Health Foundation funds to other nonprofit organizations?

A: Yes, as part of a partnership to carry out the scope of the project.

Q: For a prevention-based program is it necessary to be able to show through metrics that what we are trying to prevent is occurring or will occur at a lower rate? For our project, we can show behavior modification is occurring. We are not able to track the metric for the injury we are trying to prevent, but we know it is working.

A: Include information about near-term change (the behavior modification you can show is occurring) and the results you hope to see in the long term.

Q: In reference to the Evaluation Process question, is this a general explanation of how we evaluate our work or specific to how we measure if we reached specific outcomes or not?

A: Describe how you will measure and document the activities you are proposing to reach your stated outcomes. For example, if you're proposing to hold training courses for a certain number of people, it might be appropriate to document progress by administering pre- and post-tests to evaluate the impact of the training, and to keep attendance records.

PROPOSED BUDGET

Q: Can we use our own budget form?

A: No. Use the budget form provided in the application. In the Attachments tab of the application, you will see a link to download the budget form.

Q: What does the Proposed Budget need to include?

A: The proposed budget needs to support all that you proposed to do with Sierra Health Foundation funds, as described in your narrative. Also include other funding that has been committed to the project.

Q: For Personnel, should applicants include the percentage of time each person will spend on the project?

A: Yes. Provide the full-time equivalent (FTE) in the FTE column on the Proposed Project Budget form. For example, if a staff member will spend 25 percent of their time on the project, enter .25 on the FTE line in the Proposed Budget Form.

Q: Does FTE need to match the program budget? For example, if we are asking for .20 FTE of the executive director for a project, do we list the full salary or .20 FTE of the salary?

A: List the salary amount consistent with .20 FTE.

Q: If our organization is applying as a fiscal sponsor of another organization, do we need to list staff details and FTE?

A: Yes. List details of the staff of the fiscally sponsored organization and staff of the fiscal sponsor organization working on the project and funded through the budget

Q: **If we have staff in place and will be adding capacity to an existing program, how would we capture that portion of staff time on the budget form?**

A: Explain staffing and proposed expansion of program capacity in the Proposal Narrative. Also, list project staff in the Personnel section. Include the FTE in the FTE column and the salary amount being requested from Sierra Health Foundation in the *Requested from Sierra Health Foundation* column and the total salary amount for the proposed project in the *Total Project Budget* column.

Q: **Is there a cap on the amount of requested funds that can be used for salaries?**

A: No. Be sure the amount requested for salaries makes sense for the proposed project.

Q: **If the majority of the grant funds will support one person's salary, does that disqualify it as funding an individual?**

A: No. Be sure to explain that person's role in achieving what you propose to do. Your budget should fit the proposed project.

Q: **Is there a particular formula we should use to calculate payroll taxes?**

A: Use the formula your organization uses.

Q: **What is the allowable percentage of indirect costs?**

A: Up to 15 percent of direct costs may be requested for indirect costs.

Q: **Could you explain more how the indirect costs are calculated?**

A: Indirect costs are calculated by taking up to the allowable percentage of direct costs (all other line items) and then adding them to the total request. If an applicant is requesting $8,500 in direct costs, then the maximum indirect cost would be $1,275, making the requested total amount $9,775.

Q: **The budget form automatically adds 15% to the budget total for "indirect costs" - if indirect costs do not apply to our project, can we eliminate that line?**

A: Yes. If indirect costs are not needed for your Proposed Budget, applicants should be able tostipe override auto-calculated indirect costs. Please represent that indirect costs are not needed by entering $0.00 in those sections.

Q: Where should capital equipment go on the Proposed Budget form?

A: Include capital equipment costs on a line under Miscellaneous.

Q: Are gift fees an allowable expense?

A: No. Gift fees are not an allowable expense if it is outside of the indirect expenses.

Q: Are fiscal sponsor fees an allowable expense?

A: Yes. Fiscal sponsorship fees are an allowable expense and should be listed in the Proposed Budget form under *Miscellaneous*.

Q: Are fundraising event fees an allowable expense?

A: Convening and event costs are an allowable expense.

Q: Are cost allocation rates acceptable for personnel costs?

A: Staff time should reflect actual time on the project.

Q: Are stipends for community members/client volunteers an allowable expense?

A: Yes, stipends for community members and volunteers are an allowable expense.

Q: Can the other sources of funding be in-kind?

A: Yes. Explain secured in-kind resources in the Budget Narrative. In the Proposed Budget form, list other financial resources secured in the *Other Funding Committed to Project* column.

Q: Should staff time that will be covered by the applicant organization's internal funds be included in the *Other Funding Committed to Project* column of the Proposed Budget form?

A: Yes.

Q: Should the value of volunteer time be included in the proposed budget?

A: No. In the Proposal Narrative, describe how your organization utilizes volunteers.

Q: If a proposed project is part of a larger project but additional funding has not been secured, how will the proposal be considered?

A: You can propose the project, but if the success of your project is contingent upon other funding, your proposal will be more competitive if the other funding is in place. Explain in your narrative the status of other funding requested and what it would mean for your project if all needed funds can't be secured.

Q: If the request is for expansion and improvement of an existing program, should the project budget include current project funding or just expansion efforts?

A: In the project budget, include only the funds for the expansion of the program. Explain in the Proposal Narrative that the request is to expand/improve an existing program.

Q: Should we indicate other pending funding in the *Other Funding Committed to Project* column?

A: No. Provide this information in the Project Narrative.

Q: Should the *Requested from Sierra Health Foundation* and the *Other Funding Committed* columns equal the *Total Project Budget* column?

A: Not necessarily. The *Total Project Budget* should reflect the total budget of the project. Only include other funding committed to the project in the *Other Funding* column. If all of the other funding required for the project has not been committed, the *Requested Funds* and the *Other Funding Committed* columns will not add up to the total project budget.

Q: For 12 months of a longer project, should we include just the budget for the 12 months that would be covered by the grant?

A: In the *Requested Funds* column, just list what you are requesting from Sierra Health Foundation. Then, in the *Other Funding Committed to Project* column, include funds available for the full project period.

Q: Should we include in the Other Funding Committed column other funding that supports the proposed program in geographic areas outside of Sierra Health Foundation's funding region?

A: No. Use the Proposed Budget Form for the project that will take place within Sierra Health Foundation's funding region. Include the portion of other funding that will be used for the project activities within the funding region. Include information about the larger project and the funding committed to it in the Proposal Narrative.

Q: If needed, can the project budget be modified after a grant is awarded?

A: Grantees may request a budget modification using a form we would provide to you.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Q: Are applicants required to submit an audited financial statement?

A: No. We require a statement of financial activity showing revenue and expenses for your organization's most recent full fiscal year. We prefer to receive your most recent 990s and audited financial statements. If you have neither, please submit alternative statements such as a balance statement and income sheet that show your most recent 12-month financial activity.

Q: Because ours is a very small organization, we are not required to file a Form 990 with the IRS. Do we need to submit a statement of financial activity with our application?

A: Yes. Please submit a statement of financial activity showing revenue and expenses for a full year.

Q: Is there a specific 12-month time period the statement of financial activity should cover, e.g., January through December or July through June?

A: The statement of financial activity should cover your organization's fiscal year.

Q: Does a county office of education need to submit a statement of financial activity?

A: Please submit a financial statement for the relevant department.

Q: Our organization received its 501(c)(3) status less than a year ago; may we submit a statement of financial activity that covers less than a year?

A: Submit a financial statement that covers your time of operation, up to one year.

Q: Will the statement of financial activity be taken into consideration when selecting organizations for funding?

A: Yes, the financial report is one piece of information that describes your organization.

Q: **If our organization is meeting its expenses but doesn't have much of a balance after that, will that reflect negatively on our proposal?**

A: No.

SUBMITTING THE APPLICATION

Q: **May we submit our application by physical delivery, e.g., U.S. Mail or personal delivery?**

A: No. Only applications submitted via the online grants portal will be accepted.

Q: **What if we aren't able to submit our application through the online grants portal?**

A: Send an e-mail to rgp@sierrahealth.org with the subject line "Responsive Grants Program Application Online Help."

Q: **If our 501(c)(3) determination letter is not in electronic form, should we send it via physical delivery?**

A: No. Submit all required documents via the online grants portal. If your 501(c)(3) letter is not in electronic format, scan it and upload the resulting pdf file on the portal.

Q: **May we get help with file formats such as Microsoft Word, Excel or PDF?**

A: If you need help with file formats, send an e-mail to rgp@sierrahealth.org with the subject line: "Responsive Grants Program Application Online Help". We strongly encourage you to request help before the deadline so we can assist you before applications are due. We may not be able to respond to requests for help on the deadline date.

Q: **If we submit an application early and realize we need to correct some information in the application, may we resubmit a revised application?**

A: No. Only submit your application once. While we encourage early applications, we ask that you not submit your application until you are confident it is complete and accurate.

Q: **May we submit letters of support or a memorandum of understanding with our application?**

A: No. Only submit the items listed in the Required Application Attachments on page 8 of the Application Checklist. In the online grants portal, there is only space to upload and submit the documents listed in the checklist.

Q: Is there a way to receive a copy of the application after it has been submitted in the Online Grants Portal?

A: Yes.   After submitting the application, applicants should automatically receive a copy for their records.

PROPOSAL REVIEW

Q: What is the proposal review process?

A: A review team reviews the proposals based on the criteria listed in the grant materials.

Q: Is it possible to be awarded less than we requested?

A: Yes.

Q: If our application is denied, is there a process to receive feedback on the application?

A: Sierra Health Foundation staff will provide feedback for a short time after the funding round. Send a request to schedule a feedback call to rgp@sierrahealth.org.

AFTER A GRANT IS AWARDED

Q: How will the grant be paid?

A: The grant will be paid in full at the beginning of the grant period.

Q: Can the funded organization keep interest earned on the grant dollars?

A: Yes.

Q: What reporting is required of the grantee?

A: Awardees will be required to submit narrative and financial reports 30 days following the end of the funding period, reporting on activities and outcomes included in the proposal.

Report forms may vary and potentially include videos or photos, utilizing other materials, or verbal reporting