

# INNOVATION FUND Q&A

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February 20, 2018

As part of our February OneCity Health Partner Webinar, we addressed all questions submitted to our support desk through February 7, 2018. [The webinar slides are available here.](#)

During the webinar, we received a number of questions as well. Below, please find responses to those questions, organized by category. The questions were edited slightly for clarity and generalized for the larger audience.

Please note, some questions asked whether OneCity Health would consider various initiatives. As noted below, OneCity Health is leaving open the types of projects that can be proposed. Applicants should keep in mind that degree of innovation is one of the selection criteria.

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## GENERAL QUESTIONS

**1. Will OneCity Health favor applications that involve NowPow as opposed to other platforms that support addressing the social determinants of health?**

OneCity Health will evaluate each application on its merits

**2. Can our application include additional organizations that are not currently PPS partners, as long as the application lead is a partner?**

Yes, the lead applicant must be a OneCity Health partner, but other collaborators do not need to be partners (though it is encouraged where possible)

**3. For organizations that are both Mental Health and Primary Health but also CBOs with programs focusing on the social determinants of health, if we collaborate with those divisions is that an acceptable collaboration**

Yes, as long as the lead partner has an MSA

**4. Do innovation fund awards need to be \$250,000 or more? Or will preference be given to applications over \$250,000?**

Minimum grant size is \$250,000 as per the application

**5. Can CBOs partner with a managed care plan to cover a health home MCO collaborate?**

Yes, as long as the CBO is a OneCity Health partner they can collaborate with an MCO

**6. If two different hospitals within NYC Health + Hospitals submit individual applications, will only one hospital within the entire PPS be awarded an application?**

We encourage NYC Health + Hospital facilities to work with the Fund for NYC Health + Hospitals to coordinate their application. Each partner (including NYC Health + Hospitals) can only be the lead applicant on one application

**7. What level of detail are you looking for when submitting your application?**

OneCity Health is looking for responses that address each of the application questions. OneCity Health is not looking for tremendous detail, but rather brief, direct answers with a 10 page limit for the entire application

## FUNDING ELIGIBILITY

**1. Are projects that are expansions of current DSRIP projects eligible for funding? Or should the projects be completely new?**

OneCity Health is leaving open the types of projects that can be proposed. Remember that degree of innovation is one of the selection criteria

**2. Can funding be used to expand an organization's existing program?**

OneCity Health is leaving open the types of projects that can be proposed. Remember that degree of innovation is one of the selection criteria

**3. Are necessary IT expenses eligible to achieve funding?**

Yes

**4. Can we include a database platform that connects to OneCity Health (like Sales Force)?**

Yes

**5. Would OneCity Health consider a patient transportation system to facilitate patients going from the lead facility to a partner organization?**

OneCity Health is leaving open the types of projects that can be proposed. Remember that degree of innovation is one of the selection criteria

**6. Will OneCity Health fund monetary incentives for client engagement?**

OneCity Health is leaving open the types of projects that can be proposed. Remember that degree of innovation is one of the selection criteria

## CAPITAL EXPENSES

As noted during the OneCity Health Partner Webinar, renovations are not eligible for Innovation Award funding. Below please find two follow-up questions.

**1. Are items like tablets, monitoring devices considered "capital" expenses and disqualified? What about a new type of software platform used for home monitoring - would that be considered disqualified as capital expense?**

I/T investments/equipment are eligible for funding. Please remember that impact within a roughly 12 month timeframe is one of the selection criteria

**2. Can equipment be included?**

Yes, equipment is eligible for funding. Please remember that impact within a roughly 12 month timeframe is one of the selection criteria

## DATA

**1. What type of data collection does OneCity Health expect in terms of health outcomes if patient level data are not accessible from NYC Health + Hospitals?**

OneCity Health expects applications to identify what impact is being targeted and an explanation of how that impact would be measured. OneCity Health encourages partners to collaborate and engage organizations/people with measurement expertise

**2. If we are a PPS member that just joined the PPS in January and do not yet have member attribution, will it be acceptable if the patient data on the project proposal contain just our organization's existing Medicaid patient population?**

Yes, that is okay

## PRIORITY OUTCOME MEASURES

[OneCity Health's priority Outcome Measures are available here.](#)

- 1. Are there specific social determinants of health OneCity Health is interested in?**  
OneCity Health is leaving open the social determinants of health that can be targeted
- 2. Should we only target one metric from OneCity Health's Priority Outcome Measure list, or are multiple preferred?**  
OneCity Health is leaving open the Outcome Measures that can be targeted. In general, while impacting more measures would be preferred, a strong application targeting one measure is likely to be more credible than a weak application targeting multiple measures
- 3. Can an applicant apply to impact Outcome Measures, even if they are not enrolled in that project?**  
Yes

## TARGET AUDIENCE

- 1. Will proposals that target the insured receive preference?**  
We are targeting both people with Medicaid coverage and the uninsured, although Medicaid recipients will likely impact metrics more based on how New York State measures PPS performance
- 2. Follow-up question: What about clients that are dual eligible? Both Medicaid and Medicare?**  
OneCity Health will consider applications for projects targeting people who are dual-eligible

## BUDGET QUESTIONS

- 1. In the budget forms in the Innovation Fund application, are other OneCity Health partners considered contracted services?**  
They could be listed as either co-applicants or contracted services, depending on the nature of the collaboration
- 2. Can indirect costs be added to the budget as a percent, or does that go under Space/Property & Utilities?**  
Indirect costs should be included either in Personnel Costs: Administrative/indirect or Space/Property & Utilities depending on the nature of the cost
- 3. Are personnel costs (e.g. NP, PA) covered under the grant - for either the lead and/or other partner?**  
Yes, personnel costs are eligible for funding
- 4. Does the Innovation Fund only provide one-time grants, or does OneCity Health expect that there may be opportunities for sustained funding in the future?**  
The Innovation Award should be considered as a one-time opportunity for purposes of the application. OneCity Health has not made a decision about future Innovation funding
- 5. Should we only provide details like personnel costs for lead agency and then add each OVERALL budget for other applying partners?**  
Yes. However, OneCity Health suggests that partners retain details of funding for other partners as backup information