



NC DHHS Notice of Funding Availability

DHHS Division/Office issuing this notice: Division of Public Health / Chronic Disease and Injury Section / Cancer Prevention and Control Branch

Date of this notice: 08/02/2021

RFA Title: A-382R North Carolina Partnerships to Increase Colorectal Cancer Screening (NC PICCS)

Purpose- The purpose of this Request for Applications (RFA) is to solicit applications to contract with the NC Cancer Prevention and Control Branch (the Branch) to implement evidence-based colorectal cancer (CRC) screening interventions to eligible patients aged 50 to 75 at average risk for colorectal cancer resulting in improved screening rates. The successful applicants will work with the North Carolina Partnerships to Increase Colorectal Cancer Screening (NC PICCS) team consisting of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, the American Cancer Society, and the Branch.

Description- This program is funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as the NC Partnerships to Increase Colorectal Cancer Screening (NC PICCS) and is a collaboration between the NC Cancer Prevention and Control Branch (the Branch), the American Cancer Society (ACS) and the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center (UNC).

The purpose of this program is to implement Evidence-Based Interventions (EBIs) to increase CRC screening rates and improve the quality of screening and follow-up testing at four selected clinics from two Federally Qualified Health Systems (FQHCs) with the support of partnerships between the Branch, ACS, and UNC.

Applicant Eligibility:

1. The applicant must be an FQHC that will designate two primary care clinic locations that are capable of performing evidence-based CRC screenings by Fecal Immunochemical Test (FIT) or Fecal Occult Blood Test (FOBT), either by Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) regulations on site or through a licensed reference lab.
2. Applicants must have a CRC screening rate of less than 60%.
3. Applicants must have the ability to extract clinic-level data from their EMR. Applicants must have the ability to identify their patient population aged 50 – 75 at average risk for CRC who have not completed an appropriate CRC screening.
4. Applicants must have or be willing to build a referral resource for positive screening exams and follow-up diagnostic services.
5. Applicants must build systems of care with community networks, identify CRC screening champions, and establish referral sources for low cost or donated services for follow-up colonoscopies and cancer treatment if needed.

6. Applicants must demonstrate the ability to document in patient records; provide data from the EMR to the NC PICCS team.
7. Applicants must track FIT/FOBT tests given out, tests returned and results, case management and follow-up of abnormal CRC screening tests, including navigation to and through a follow-up colonoscopy, tracking of colonoscopy results, and to treatment, if indicated.
8. Applicants must designate a representative to serve as the primary liaison with the NC PICCS team. Applicants must have a team of at least three persons to implement EBIs as described in *The Community Guide*, conduct quality improvement activities, implement improved patient navigation systems and improve the quality of CRC screening data and reporting mechanisms.
9. Applicants must have or must currently be engaged with the ACS Colorectal Cancer Quality Improvement Learning Collaborative.
10. Applicants must be able to devote time and effort to implement evidence-based interventions, participate in quality improvement activities, develop patient navigation systems, and identify community resources for colonoscopy for FIT+ patients.
11. Applicants must participate in monthly hour-long Collaborative meetings and monthly hour-long NC PICCS Team meetings.
12. Applicants must be able to participate in qualitative and quantitative evaluations of the program as required by the CDC.
13. Local Health Departments are **not** eligible for this pool of funding.

How to Apply: The RFA will be posted on the Branch's website <https://bcccp.ncdhhs.gov/> on 08/02/2021 and may be sent to prospective organizations via email.

Deadline for Submission: Send applications to tavonyia.thompson@dhhs.nc.gov as one consolidated PDF file including all required attachments and original signature on signed Application Face Sheet. All applications must be received by **September 8, 2021, by 5 PM** as listed on the cover sheet of this RFA. The subject line must include the RFA number and the applicant organization name. Original signatures are required.

How to Obtain Further Information: Direct all inquiries concerning this RFA to: Tavonyia Thompson, BCCCP Operations Manager at email: Tavonyia.thompson@dhhs.nc.gov