

**North Carolina Farmworker Health Program,
Office of Rural Health, NC Department of Health and Human Services**

Application Guidance for NC Farmworker Health Program Funding for 2022-2025

DHHS Division/Office issuing this notice: Office of Rural Health

Date of this notice: November 5, 2021

Deadline to receive applications: January 12, 2022

Working title of the funding program: NC Farmworker Health Program

Purpose:

The North Carolina Farmworker Health Program (NCFHP) is anticipating the receipt of federal funds to increase access to primary, preventive, and behavioral health services for migrant and seasonal farmworkers and their families in North Carolina. NCFHP funding is meant to supplement existing resources in communities and reduce barriers to care so that farmworkers and their family members have equitable access to comprehensive and continuous health care services. NCFHP supports the development of sustainable services for farmworkers by encouraging local partnerships and collaborations to facilitate the inclusion of farmworkers in services that are available for the general community.

Application Tracks:

There are four tracks associated with this funding opportunity. Track I applicants do not need to apply for Tracks II, III, or IV to request funds for their enabling, behavioral health, and/or dental services. Tracks II-IV are specifically for applicants proposing to support services at multiple or all NCFHP Service Delivery Sites.

Track I. Farmworker health service delivery site: Applicants may submit through this track proposals to provide a comprehensive package of healthcare services to farmworkers and their families either directly or through formal referral arrangements.

- **Funding focus:** Funds may be used for enabling, medical, dental, and behavioral health services for farmworkers and their families when these services are not otherwise available or if the existing services are not sufficient to respond to the demand. Because of the numerous barriers to care that farmworkers experience, NCFHP strongly supports the provision of quality enabling services including outreach, health education, and case management.
- **Funding preferences:** Preference will be given to applicants based on the criteria listed below.
 - Demonstrates a need for increased health care services for migrant and seasonal farmworkers in their community
 - Demonstrates capacity to effectively address barriers to care for farmworkers and provide quality services
 - Demonstrates capacity to provide or link farmworkers to primary, dental, and behavioral health services and to respond to additional needs
 - Demonstrates capacity to effectively carry out COVID-19 prevention and response efforts

- Proposes an efficient strategy that utilizes local resources and collaborates with other partners to respond to health care gaps that farmworkers face in their community
- Proposes a plan to incorporate farmworker feedback into their service delivery approach or quality improvement efforts
- Can meet NCFHP requirements and expectations outlined in the application

Track II. Enabling services support and health workforce development: Applicants may submit through this track proposals to work in partnership with NCFHP Service Delivery Sites to supplement enabling services and support career development for bilingual health professionals

- **Funding focus:** NCFHP Service Delivery Sites often have a need for temporary enabling staff during the peak growing season. Funds may be used to support recruitment, training, placement, and supervision of temporary enabling staff at service delivery sites. Funds may also support farmworker engagement and needs assessment activities to help inform NCFHP’s program development and quality improvement initiatives.
- **Funding preferences:** Preference will be given to applicants based on the criteria listed below.
 - Demonstrates the ability to increase the capacity of NCFHP Service Delivery Sites to provide enabling services to farmworkers in NCFHP’s service area.
 - Demonstrates experience with administering a temporary enabling staff program or internship
 - Demonstrates the ability to support career development for bilingual health professionals
 - Proposes an effective strategy to recruit people with lived experience as farmworkers or from farmworker families for temporary enabling staff opportunities
 - Proposes an effective strategy to collect and utilize feedback from participants (temporary enabling staff and NCFHP Service Delivery Sites) to improve the quality of the program
 - Proposes an effective strategy to engage farmworkers and solicit feedback
 - Demonstrates the ability to foster strong partnerships with NCFHP Service Delivery Sites
 - Can meet NCFHP requirements and expectations outlined in the application

Track III. Behavioral health services support: Applicants may submit through this track proposals to work in partnership with NCFHP Service Delivery Sites to facilitate access to behavioral health services.

- **Funding focus:** Culturally and linguistically relevant behavioral health services at NCFHP Service Delivery Sites may not be available or sufficient to respond to the demand. Funding is available to support the expansion of mental health and/or substance use disorder services for farmworkers and their families. Applicants may request funds to pay a percentage of a behavioral health provider’s time or on a fee-for-service basis per encounter. In addition to licensed and credentialed providers, certain non-licensed professionals such as peer support specialists, who meet NCFHP requirements, may be supported for substance use disorder services.

- **Funding preferences:** Preference will be given to applicants based on the criteria listed below.
 - Demonstrates the ability to provide behavioral health services in-person or via telehealth for farmworkers within NCFHP's service delivery area in collaboration with NCFHP Service Delivery Sites
 - Demonstrates capacity to provide behavioral health services at times that are accessible to farmworkers, including evening and/or weekend hours
 - Demonstrates the ability to provide quality services that are patient focused and linguistically and culturally relevant for NC's farmworker population
 - Demonstrates a plan to utilize patient feedback to evaluate patient satisfaction and quality of behavioral health services provided
 - Demonstrates the ability to foster strong partnerships with NCFHP Service Delivery Sites
 - Can meet NCFHP requirements and expectations outlined in the application.

Track IV. Dental services support: Applicants may submit through this track proposals to supplement dental services at NCFHP-funded service delivery sites.

- **Funding focus:** Dental services at NCFHP Service Delivery Sites may not be available or sufficient to respond to the demand. Funding is available to support the expansion of dental services for farmworkers and their families. Applicants may request funds on a fee-for-service basis per encounter.
- **Funding preferences:** Preference will be given to applicants based on the criteria listed below.
 - Demonstrates the ability to provide basic and restorative dental services for farmworkers and their families within NCFHP's service delivery area in collaboration with NCFHP's Farmworker Health Service Delivery Sites
 - Can meet NCFHP requirements and expectations outlined in the application.

COVID-19 One-Time Funding

American Rescue Plan Act funding is available for Track I and II applicants for COVID-19 related expenses including staff, supplies, and small equipment for April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023. If requesting funds for COVID-19 related services, please fill in the COVID-19 budget tab. **Do not include COVID-19 staff or other COVID-19 related expenses in the Summary or Personnel tabs of the Budget Template.**

Proposed Project Period/Contract Term:

The project period will be a minimum of one year: April 1, 2022, to March 31, 2023. Strong proposals may be approved for a project period of up to 3 years: April 1, 2022, through March 31, 2025.

For multi-year projects, funding beyond the first year is subject to the availability of federal funds for the NC Farmworker Health Program in subsequent fiscal years and satisfactory recipient performance. The initial contract will be for the first year only: April 1, 2022, to March 31, 2023. A Project Status Report and budget will be required for Years 2 and 3 for continued funding in the 3-year period.

Applicants only awarded a 1-year project period will be required to submit a full application for continued services in Year 2 that will be reviewed by NCFHP staff and governing board for approval.

Funding Availability:

Awards will depend on the availability of funds.

Eligible Applicants:

- Free and charitable clinics
- Health departments
- Hospitals
- Rural health centers
- Federally qualified health centers (FQHCs) [When proposed services do not duplicate services supported directly by HRSA]
- Non-profit community-based organizations

Service Area:

Applicants’ principal service areas must fall within the following target counties as defined by the scope of project in NCFHP’s federal award:

Alamance	Halifax	Person
Alexander	Harnett	Randolph
Alleghany	Haywood	Robeson
Ashe	Hoke	Rockingham
Bladen	Jackson	Sampson
Buncombe	Johnston	Stokes
Burke	Lee	Surry
Caswell	Lincoln	Swain
Chatham	Macon	Transylvania
Cleveland	McDowell	Vance
Columbus	Mitchell	Wake
Cumberland	Montgomery	Warren
Duplin	Moore	Wayne
Edgecombe	Nash	Wilkes
Franklin	New Hanover	Yadkin
Gaston	Northampton	Yancey
Granville	Orange	
Guilford	Pender	

Deadline and Instructions for Submission:

Submissions are due by 11:59pm on **January 12, 2022**. Application documents should be completed using the Word and Excel templates available on our [website](#). Finalized application materials should be submitted via this [online form](#).

Technical Assistance Webinar:

A technical assistance webinar will be held on **December 2, 2021**, from 2-3:30pm. Advanced registration is required. Please click [here](#) to register. A recording of the webinar will be available on our [website](#).

Application Checklist:

All applicants must submit the following to be considered for funding.

Track I. Farmworker health service delivery site	Track II. Enabling services support and health workforce development	Track III. Behavioral health services support	Track IV. Dental services support
<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Completed proposal narrative✓ Completed budget✓ Signed assurances page✓ Goal tables✓ Proof of sufficient vehicle insurance if staff personal vehicles used for transporting patients	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Completed proposal narrative✓ Completed budget✓ Signed assurances page	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Completed proposal narrative✓ Completed budget✓ Signed assurances page	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Completed proposal narrative✓ Completed budget✓ Signed assurances page

For questions about the grant application, please contact Kate Furgurson at kate.furgurson@dhhs.nc.gov.

For questions specific to behavioral health services, please contact Zoë Cummings at zoe.cummings@dhhs.nc.gov.

For credentialing and privileging or clinical CQI questions, please contact Dr. Modjulie Moore at modjulie.moore@dhhs.nc.gov.

For budget questions, please contact Tara Tyson at tara.tyson@dhhs.nc.gov.

Grant Assurances:

As a recipient of HRSA’s health center funding, NCFHP must abide by HRSA’s Health Center Program requirements, some of which are also expected of NCFHP grantees. As a program within the Office of Rural Health, NCFHP grantees must also abide by associated state requirements and expectations including connection to NC HealthConnex. To meet the state’s mandate, a provider is “connected” when its clinical and demographic information are being sent to NC HealthConnex at least twice daily.” For further information, please see the HIEA website: <https://hiea.nc.gov>

All applicants must abide by the Farmworker Health Grant Assurances included with the funding application.

Budget Guidance:

Applicants are required to use the NCFHP Budget Template for 2022-2023 corresponding to the appropriate Track (I, II, III or IV) provided on our [website](#) and should complete the personnel, summary, and budget justification tabs. Track I and II applicants seeking continued COVID-19 support for COVID related activities, should also complete the COVID-19 tab.

Additional information about the budget and budget limitations can be found in the budget guidance tab of the budget templates for all tracks.