

Request for Proposals

Sponsoring Conference Participation in Support of Healthy Communities

Deadline:

Applications accepted on a rolling basis.

Applicants must submit an online proposal. The online application and instructions are posted in the [Grant](#)

[Seekers/Open RFPs section](#) of the NYSHealth website. Completed applications will be accepted on a rolling basis.

I. About the Foundation

The New York State Health Foundation (NYSHealth) has a broad mission to improve the health of New York State residents, especially the most vulnerable. To achieve meaningful impact, the Foundation makes grants, informs health care policy and practice, and spreads effective programs that work to improve New York's health system. Most of the Foundation's grantmaking is focused on two priority areas: building healthy communities and empowering health care consumers.

II. Background

In a State as large as New York, a steady stream of smart, innovative work is coming from NYSHealth grantees and non-grantees alike that is relevant to NYSHealth's priority area of [Building Healthy Communities](#). These organizations should be elevating their work and informing key stakeholders at regional, statewide, and national conferences, meetings, and other convenings. Yet, because of a lack of resources, they often are unable to do so. Valuable lessons learned do not get disseminated. Abstracts do not get written. Conferences go unattended.

As the only statewide health foundation in New York, NYSHealth can play a leadership role in addressing this need by helping organizations across the State raise their profiles and replicate their work to build healthy communities. With this investment, NYSHealth will support changemakers in this field in making the most of professional opportunities from which they can learn, grow, share, and advance their work. Through this Request for Proposals (RFP), NYSHealth will sponsor community-based organizations, health departments, and other low-resource organizations to attend and present at local, State, and national conferences related to building healthy communities. Preference will be given to organizations working at the community level to make the healthy choice the easy choice for communities through projects that increase access to and consumption of affordable healthy foods and improve roads, trails, sidewalks, parks, and open spaces in support of active living.

Finally, NYSHealth sees this RFP as a good opportunity for the Foundation to increase its awareness of innovative work to create healthy communities that otherwise may have gone unrecognized.

III. Eligibility and Project Guidelines

- Eligible applicants include health departments, community-based organizations, and other low-resource organizations, or their fiduciary agents with nonprofit (501[c] [3]) status;
- NYSHealth will accept applications on a rolling basis. Scholarships of up to \$2,000 per person will be available for up to 2 attendees at each organization (a maximum of \$4,000). Scholarship funding will be used to cover the costs of registration fees, travel and lodging, and incidentals for attendees while at the conference. Indirect costs, such as overhead expenses, will not be considered; and
- Applicants will be eligible for a one-time, nonrenewable award in this area. Funding from this award may not be used to cover conference or other related travel expenses that are already being supported through another funding source.

Examples of conferences that would be considered include:

- American Public Health Association Annual Meeting and Expo
- New York State Association for Rural Health Conference
- Association for Community Health Improvement Conference

IV. Review Criteria

NYSHealth will award funds to the most appropriate applications, with priority given to organizations that have a proven track record of relevant programming in areas aligned with the goals of NYSHealth's [Building Healthy Communities](#) priority area.

NYSHealth will consider the following factors in selecting proposals most qualified to receive funding:

- Applicants must demonstrate how the work of their organizations relates to NYSHealth's priority area of building healthy communities;
- Applicants must demonstrate how attending a specific conference will support and help disseminate their work in and contribute to the sharing of knowledge for building healthy communities;
- Proposals must include the conference agenda, sessions, and speakers, as well as a detailed description of the conference's relevance to the organization's work;
- If applicable, applications should include any conference-related abstracts that have been submitted by the organization to the conference sponsor; and
- Applicants must demonstrate why the specific conference is cost-prohibitive to their organizations and why NYSHealth funding is needed.

V. Application Process

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis. Applicants must complete and submit an online application, which is available along with application instructions in the [Grant Seekers/Open RFP section](#) of the NYSHealth website. All applicants will be notified about the outcome of their applications within three weeks of online sub-

mission. Funds are not retroactive and will not be awarded for past conferences or events attended. Funds for approved applications will be distributed only when a conference registration opens and not before.

Grantees of these scholarships will be required to submit a one-page final report detailing their participation in and lessons learned from the conference, expected no later than one week after the conference.

Programmatic questions should be addressed to Program Officer Bronwyn Starr at starr@nyshealth.org.

Technical questions regarding the application submission process should be e-mailed to grantsmanagement@nyshealth.org.