

Request for Proposals

Sponsoring Conference Participation in Support of Healthy Communities, Consumer Empowerment, and Veterans' Health

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. NYSHealth also maintains an area of focus on veterans' health to help meet the needs of returning veterans and their families.

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 areas of [Building Healthy Communities](#) and [Empowering Health Care Consumers](#) and its focus area on [Veterans' Health](#). 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 time and 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 is playing a leadership role in building the field of leaders and changemakers working to build healthy communities, empower health care consumers, and improve veterans' health in New York State. With this investment, NYSHealth will support these changemakers 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 these areas. By sponsoring conference attendance, we hope not only to support those already engaged in these efforts but also to encourage new actors to enter the field. We welcome applicants who will use conference attendance to help build networks, inform thinking, shape projects, raise professional awareness, set the stage for future work, or build the field as related to NYSHealth's interest in building healthy communities, empowering health care consumers, and improving veterans' health.

III. Eligibility and Project Guidelines

- Eligible applicants include health departments, community-based organizations, nonprofits, and other low-

resource organizations. Applicants must be affiliated or employed through one of those organizations. Government agencies may apply through their fiduciary agents with nonprofit (501(c)(3)) status. For-profit organizations are not eligible for funding;

- Eligible applicants do not have to be past or current grantees of NYSHealth;
- Eligible applicants must be located in New York State;
- Conferences may be at the regional, State, or national level, but conferences located outside of the United States will not be considered;
- 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 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 Conference
- Institute for Patient- and Family-Centered Care's Conference
- Planetree's International Conference on Patient-Centered Care
- The Beryl Institute's Patient Experience Conference
- Patient Experience Summit sponsored by The Cleveland Clinic
- National Women Veterans Summit
- Student Veterans of America Annual Conference
- Cohen Veterans Care Summit

IV. Review Criteria

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

- Applicant's description of how the conference subject matter, sessions, or speakers relate to NYSHealth's work in building healthy communities, empowering health care consumers, or meeting the needs of returning veterans and their families;
- Applicant's description of how conference attendance for the organization may shape current work, raise professional awareness, set the stage for future work, or build the field;
- 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 NYSHHealth 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 the application instructions in the [Grant Seekers/Open RFP section](#) of the NYSHHealth website. All applicants will be notified about the outcome of their applications within three weeks of online submission. 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 related to building healthy communities should be addressed to Senior Program Assistant Liz Ward at ward@nyshealth.org.

Programmatic questions related to empowering health care consumers should be addressed to Program Officer Amy Shefrin at shefrin@nyshealth.org.

Programmatic questions related to veterans' health should be addressed to Veterans' Health Officer Derek Coy at coy@nyshealth.org.

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