

FY26 NPRCC FAQs

HRSA-26-051: National Pediatric Readiness Coordinating Center

BUDGET-RELATED QUESTIONS

What is the ceiling amount of funding that can be requested in the first year?

Applicants may request a maximum of up to \$4.2 million per year, including the first year.

What counts as a significant budget change that requires a prior approval request?

Any change to the budget that exceeds 25% of your total award amount for the grant year (September 1 – August 30) requires submission and approval of a rebudgeting prior approval request in the HRSA Electronic Handbook (EHB). If you request multiple budget adjustments during the grant year and their combined total exceeds 25% of your total award amount, you must also submit a rebudgeting prior approval request. The 25% threshold applies to the **total annual award amount**. HRSA evaluates cumulative changes across the budget year.

What is the current HHS salary cap?

Congress sets a yearly limit on how much salary a person can be paid to an individual using HHS grant funds. This limit is based on the Executive Level II rate, which is a federal pay scale that sets the maximum compensation for certain government positions. Recipients cannot use award funds to pay anyone more than the Executive Level II rate. The Executive Level II rate, effective January 2026, is \$228,000. Any salary above this rate must be adjusted to no higher than this salary cap, *before* calculating the staff member's time on the grant. The salary cap also applies to indirect costs. This means you must first reduce the individual's institutional base salary to \$228,000, then calculate the percentage of effort."

PERFORMANCE NARRATIVE QUESTIONS.

Are there any expectations around the page limit, word/character count, font size, or formatting?

Yes. There is a 70-page limit and specific application formatting requirements. These are listed on pages 16 and 17 of the NOFO. It is crucial to follow all application formatting requirements. If you exceed the page limit, pages may be removed from review, or in some

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cases, your application may be rejected entirely and deemed “nonresponsive,” meaning it will not be considered for funding.

To avoid this, always check the NOFO carefully for the following details:

- Maximum page count
- Formatting requirements (font size, margins, spacing)
- Which sections count toward the limit
- Whether appendices are allowed and what may be included in them

ATTACHMENTS QUESTIONS

Do we need to include CVs or resumes for staff that are not funded by our award?

No. You only need to provide CVs/resumes for personnel whose salaries are charged to the award, regardless of whether they are new hires or existing staff.

OTHER QUESTIONS

Can you remind us how to distinguish between all the fiscal years and how they align with our grant?

- **Federal fiscal year** = Oct 1 – Sep 30
- **Budget years** = Start on your award’s start date
- **Grant years** = Year 1, 2, 3, etc., aligned to your specific award, regardless of fiscal year.”

NOFO ERRORS AND INCONSISTENCY

What is the project period start date?

The project period start date is 09/30/2026.