

## **FY 2026 PMHCA NOFO Frequently Asked Questions**

### **1. Who is eligible to apply for PMHCA funding?**

Eligible applicants include states, political subdivisions of states, tribal governments, and tribal organizations, as authorized by statute. Applicants must provide documentation demonstrating eligibility with their application.

### **2. Are universities eligible to apply?**

Universities are not specifically listed as eligible applicants in the NOFO. However, a university may be eligible if it can demonstrate that it meets one of the eligible entity categories identified in the NOFO, such as being a public entity affiliated with a state government (i.e., state university system under the state Department of Higher Education), a bona fide agent of the state, or otherwise established in state law as a political subdivision of the state.

Applicants should include supporting documentation demonstrating eligibility and describe their eligibility in the Project Narrative.

### **3. May an organization submit more than one application?**

No. An applicant may submit only one application. If multiple applications are submitted, HRSA will consider only the last on time submission.


### **4. Is there a matching requirement?**

Yes. PMHCA requires a 20 percent non-federal match each year of the five year project period. The match may be provided through cash and/or in-kind contributions. Federal funds, including Medicaid and CHIP payments, may not be used to satisfy the match requirement.

### **5. Must applicants already operate a PMHCA program to apply?**

No. Applicants may propose a new PMHCA program or expand, enhance, or strengthen an existing program. The NOFO includes separate narrative instructions for applicants with and without prior PMHCA experience.

### **6. Is statewide coverage required?**

No. Applicants may propose a statewide *or* regional approach.  By the end of the project period, recipients are expected to either achieve statewide or regional coverage or document existing coverage.

### **7. Can PMHCA programs operate across state lines?**

Yes. The NOFO allows programs to serve neighboring states, jurisdictions, regions, or tribal areas, particularly where PMHCA services are unavailable or limited. Applicants should clearly describe these arrangements in the application.

**8. Is a partnership with the State Title V program required?**

Applicants are expected to coordinate with the State Maternal and Child Health (Title V) Program. If the Title V agency is not the applicant organization, a letter of support from the State Title V Program must be included with the application.

**9. Does PMHCA provide direct behavioral health services to children and youth?**

PMHCA is primarily designed to support pediatric primary care providers through teleconsultation, training, and care coordination. Applicants proposing direct behavioral health services should clearly explain how those services support the PMHCA model and program sustainability.

**10. Is there a requirement to focus on rural areas or areas experiencing health professional shortages?**

Applicants should describe how their project will address the needs of rural areas and areas experiencing health professional shortages. However, the NOFO does not include funding preference points, priority points, or special consideration for applicants serving these areas.

**11. What disciplines should be included on the PMHCA team?**

The PMHCA team should include:

- At least one child and adolescent psychiatrist;
- At least one licensed mental health professional; and
- At least one care coordinator.

Additional specialists may be included based on program needs.

**12. Is an advisory committee required?**

Yes. Recipients are expected to establish or maintain an advisory committee that includes expertise in pediatric health, behavioral health, tribal health (if applicable), child and youth advocacy, and family perspectives. The committee should meet at least twice annually.

**13. Is a resource and referral database required?**

Yes. Applicants should describe plans to develop or enhance a resource and referral database that includes community services, telehealth options, and other supports available to children, youth, and families.

**14. Is sustainability planning required?**

Yes. Applicants are expected to begin sustainability planning in Year 1 and strengthen the plan throughout the five-year project period to support continuation of key program elements after federal funding ends.

**15. Where can applicants find information about the PMHCA technical assistance webinar?**

You can find the PMHCA NOFO webpage [here](#). Please note that while the announcement number referenced in the NOFO webinar section may contain an error, the webinar link itself is correct.