



## WALLA WALLA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH

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[https://www.co.walla-walla.wa.us/government/health\\_department/index.php](https://www.co.walla-walla.wa.us/government/health_department/index.php)

### Frequently Asked Questions Rural Health Equity Grant

*For accessibility questions or accommodations,  
please contact: [health@co.walla-walla.wa.us](mailto:health@co.walla-walla.wa.us) or call us at (509) 524-2650.*

#### **Does the applicant need to be a nonprofit or government agency to be eligible?**

*No. However, applicants must have a Tax ID or State Vendor number, and awardees will need to submit a copy of their W9.*

#### **Can multiple organizations collaborate on a project?**

*Yes. However, only one organization is fiscally responsible, submits the application, and handles all documentation.*

#### **What are examples of projects related to COVID-19 health equity impacts?**

*Projects should support COVID-19 prevention, mitigation and/or recovery for high-risk or underserved populations, including people living in rural areas, racial and ethnic minority groups and other disadvantaged populations.*

*Please note, this is not a complete list of possible projects.*

- *Increasing awareness and education on COVID-19 prevention, testing and vaccination for rural populations
  - *Increasing testing in rural areas*
  - *Increasing contact tracing and follow-up*
  - *Improving emergency preparedness and response capacity in rural communities**
- *Rural Paramedicine for COVID-19 testing and vaccination. This approach can build community capacity to reach underserved groups such as home bound residents and other adults 65+ years.*
- *Increasing behavioral health access in rural communities.*
- *Increasing supports and services for rural residents with long-haul COVID-19 symptoms.*
- *Design improvements to address rural residents who already face barriers to care exacerbated by COVID-19 such as transportation issues, childcare needs to make healthcare visits, limited access to relevant specialists, or being uninsured or under-insured, lack of technology to participate in telehealth interactions from home.*
- *Recovery from the COVID-19 impacts on healthcare, behavioral health, and public health workforce.*

- *Recovery from the COVID-19 impacts on key community assets integral to the health of the community.*
- *Youth strategies, such as structured activities or opportunities meant to assist recovery from the social isolation, depression and anxiety suffered during the pandemic.*
- *Health promotion programs to address common risk factors for COVID-19, such as heart disease or obesity.*
- *Community resilience projects to reduce social isolation and strengthen community bonds.*
- *Outreach and engagement around deferred health care.*

**What are examples of projects that increase behavioral health access in rural communities?**

*Activities could include, outreach campaigns aiming to increase awareness of existing services, or to destigmatize care, coordinating existing or new services, or training opportunities for current providers (on trauma informed care, for instance, or other emerging best practices). Additional projects could include translation of written resources, pay for local translators or on-demand translation resources, or to pay for staff at a partner organization to expand linkage to behavioral health care services (a CHW, or other staff coordinator, for instance).*

**How much total funding is available to distribute?**

*\$300,000*

**What are the minimum and maximum amounts awarded for this grant?**

*Minimum: \$30,000*

*Maximum: \$150,000*

**What expenses are not allowable?**

*Unallowable expenses include, but may not be limited to, clinical care (outside of wraparound services and COVID-19 testing), furniture and most equipment more than \$5,000, purchase of COVID-19 vaccine, food and beverages, cash incentives, research, political or legislative campaigns, and needle exchanges.*

**Are retroactive expenses allowable?**

*No. Costs incurred before the contract signing date are not allowed.*

**Are COVID-19 vaccination incentives allowable?**

*Yes. Funding can be spent on incentives in the form of generic gift cards, store vouchers, fare cards for transportation, and/or gas cards. Incentives are allowable for any dose.*

**Can hard copy applications be submitted?**

*Yes. If you are unable to complete the application online, please call the main office and at (509) 524-2650 and ask for Sam.*

**Can one organization complete the application for multiple projects?**

*Yes. One organization can apply for multiple projects. Each project needs to be a separate application. However, only one project per organization will be awarded.*

**How are applications being reviewed?**

*After closing, all applications will be initially reviewed by the Department of Community Health and WA State Dept of Health to ensure project expenses are allowable. Then, eligible applications will be reviewed by members of Running Waters that have signed the Evaluators' Conflict of Interest and Confidentiality Statement. Members will use a scoring rubric.*

**What kind of project updates will be required?**

*Monthly billing reports and a quarterly performance report.*