

Healthy Horizons RFA

June 19, 2026

Q&A

	Submitted Question	Answer
1	<p>Please provide clarity in the RFA regarding the conflicting word count</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Page 12 table Regional knowledge and potential priority areas- 1200 words v. p. 19/20 Number 16 – 600 words Page 12 table Initial Deliverables approach 1,000 words v. page 20 Number 17 - 600 words 	<p>The following word limits will apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Budget Narrative 600 words Regional Knowledge and Potential Priority Areas: 1,200 words Initial Deliverables Approach: 1,000 words
2	<p>Can a Healthy Horizons Regional Hub applicant include a food bank or CBO as a subcontractor to support Food Is Medicine planning, CBO readiness, referral workflow design, partner engagement, and implementation support?</p>	<p>Yes. A food bank or community-based organization may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply to serve as a designated Regional Hub Organization, if it meets the eligibility requirements; Be identified as a partner in a Regional Hub application; Be added as a partner after a Regional Hub Organization is selected; and/or Receive funding as a subrecipient or contractor of a Regional Hub Organization after award. <p>Any funded role must align with the approved Regional Implementation Plan and applicable program requirements, and the organization must be selected through the approved partner or subrecipient selection process.</p>
3	<p>Should that type of role be characterized in the application as a contractor, subrecipient, partner, or primary implementation partner under the RFA?</p>	<p>The appropriate classification will depend on the organization’s proposed role. A food bank or community-based organization may apply to serve as a Regional Hub Organization if it meets the eligibility requirements, be identified as a partner in another organization’s Regional Hub application, or be added as a partner after a Regional Hub Organization is selected.</p> <p>When included in another organization’s application, the food bank or community-based organization should generally be identified as a partner and its anticipated role described. After award, the selected Regional Hub Organization may propose to fund that organization as a subrecipient or contractor if the work aligns with</p>

		<p>the approved Regional Implementation Plan and the organization is selected through the approved partner or subrecipient selection process. An organization responsible for carrying out a major approved Healthy Horizons activity may also be designated as a Primary Implementation Partner in the Regional Implementation Plan. HCA retains final authority over all funding decisions.</p>
4	<p>Are Food Is Medicine infrastructure, CBO Medicaid readiness, CHW workflow development, and benefits navigation support allowable Healthy Horizons activities when tied to care coordination, chronic disease management, rural access, or health-related social needs?</p>	<p>These activities may be allowable when they are necessary to implement an approved Healthy Horizons strategy and are directly tied to care coordination, chronic disease prevention or management, referral and follow-up workflows, or improved access to care in rural, frontier, or tribal communities.</p> <p>Examples may include developing referral and care coordination workflows between health care providers and community-based organizations, integrating community health workers or benefits navigators into approved care models, and preparing participating organizations to support documented referrals, follow-up, and coordination activities.</p> <p>Stand-alone food assistance, general organizational capacity building, or activities primarily focused on non-medical drivers of health without a direct connection to an approved Healthy Horizons care-delivery model may be better aligned with another RHT initiative. All proposed activities and costs must be included in the approved Regional Implementation Plan, must not duplicate or supplant other funding, and are subject to HCA review and final approval.</p>
5	<p>Can Healthy Horizons funds support technical assistance related to Medicaid provider enrollment, documentation, billing readiness, and reimbursement sustainability, as long as funds are not used to pay for Medicaid-reimbursable services or duplicative costs?</p>	<p>Yes. These technical assistance activities may be allowable when they are necessary to implement or sustain an approved Healthy Horizons care model, such as specialty, maternal, behavioral health, chronic disease management, care coordination, telehealth, or remote care activities.</p> <p>The technical assistance must be directly connected to the approved Regional Implementation Plan and may not be used to pay for Medicaid-reimbursable services, duplicate another funding source, or supplant existing responsibilities. Technical assistance may also be coordinated with or provided through the Center for Rural Health Sustainability and Innovation. All proposed activities and costs are subject to HCA review and final approval.</p>
6	<p>Administrative Cost Cap (Definition and Scope): For purposes of the 10% administrative cost cap, how does HCA define administrative costs versus direct programmatic costs? Is there written guidance or a cost categorization framework that applicants can reference when developing their budgets?</p>	<p>Administrative costs are costs associated with managing and overseeing the award, including general program management, financial oversight, grants or contract administration, compliance, reporting, and other administrative functions necessary to manage the Regional Hub award.</p> <p>Direct programmatic costs are costs incurred to carry out approved Healthy Horizons activities, such as regional outreach and engagement, convening partners, regional planning, care model development, implementation support, technical assistance, and monitoring of approved regional activities.</p>

		<p>The classification should be based on the purpose and function of the cost rather than the type of expense. For example, personnel or contractual costs may be administrative or programmatic depending on the work being performed. Applicants should use the definitions and budget requirements in the RFA and the Regional Hub Budget Template when categorizing costs. Proposed classifications and costs are subject to review and final approval.</p>
7	<p>Administrative Cost Cap (Application to Separate Allocations): Where a Hub Organization's award includes both a base regional allocation and a separate initiative-specific allocation such as maternal health, does the 10% administrative cost cap apply to each allocation independently, or to the combined total award?</p>	<p>The 10% administrative cost cap applies only to the Region 3 regional allocation of \$8,798,217.81.</p> <p>The separate statewide maternal health allocation of \$1,370,133.20 may be used only for direct programmatic costs associated with approved maternal health activities and is not included when calculating the administrative cost cap.</p> <p>Administrative costs must be clearly identified and appropriately allocated to the activities they support. All proposed activities and costs are subject to HCA review and final approval.</p>
8	<p>Contracted Services (Cost Classification): When a Hub Organization engages outside organizations to perform direct programmatic activities such as implementation support, facilitation, or project management tied to specific program workstreams, does HCA classify those contracted costs as direct programmatic costs or administrative costs for purposes of the cap?</p>	<p>Contracted costs are classified based on the purpose and function of the work performed, not solely because the work is provided by an outside organization.</p> <p>Contracted services that directly carry out approved Healthy Horizons activities, such as implementation support, stakeholder facilitation, care model development, technical assistance, or other activities tied to the approved Regional Implementation Plan, may be classified as direct programmatic costs.</p> <p>Contracted services primarily supporting overall award management, financial oversight, compliance, reporting, contract or subaward administration, or general program administration are administrative costs and count toward the 10% cap. If a contract includes both administrative and direct programmatic functions, the costs should be reasonably allocated between the two categories. All classifications and costs are subject to HCA review and final approval.</p>
9	<p>Personnel with Dual Functions: For personnel who perform both administrative and direct programmatic functions, does HCA require costs to be allocated between the two categories? If so, what documentation is required to support that allocation in the budget and during monitoring?</p>	<p>Yes. When personnel perform both administrative and direct programmatic functions, the associated salary and fringe costs must be reasonably allocated between the two categories based on the work performed.</p> <p>In the application budget, applicants should identify the estimated percentage of time assigned to each function and provide a brief explanation of the duties and allocation methodology. After award, Regional Hub Organizations must maintain records supporting the allocation, such as payroll records, position descriptions, work assignments, time and effort documentation, or other records that reasonably reflect the work performed.</p>

		HCA will implement reporting mechanisms through the invoicing and monitoring processes to capture administrative and direct programmatic expenditure categories. Allocations should be reviewed and adjusted when actual responsibilities differ materially from the approved budget assumptions. All personnel costs, allocation methods, and supporting documentation are subject to review and final approval.
10	Budget Clarification Process: Will HCA provide an opportunity for budget clarification or feedback prior to award execution, and if so, at what stage in the review process does that occur?	<p>HCA may request budget clarifications, supporting documentation, or revisions during the application review process. This may occur following the technical and budget reviews or during finalist clarification discussions.</p> <p>Applicants should submit a complete and reasonable budget with their initial application and should not assume they will receive an opportunity to correct or revise it during evaluation. Final budget revisions and negotiations will occur after selection during the contracting period and must be completed and approved before award execution.</p>
11	Audit and Monitoring Documentation: What documentation will HCA require during monitoring and any audit activity to support the distinction between administrative and direct programmatic expenditures?	<p>Regional Hub Organizations must maintain documentation sufficient to demonstrate that expenditures are allowable, supported, consistent with the approved budget and Regional Implementation Plan, and appropriately classified as administrative or direct programmatic costs.</p> <p>Depending on the type of expenditure, supporting documentation may include invoices, payroll and fringe records, time and effort or personnel allocation records, contracts and subaward agreements, scopes of work, deliverables, procurement records, receipts, payment records, general ledger detail, cost allocation methodologies, and documentation showing how the expenditure supported an approved activity.</p> <p>HCA will establish invoicing, reporting, and monitoring processes that separately capture administrative and direct programmatic expenditures. Additional documentation may be requested based on the nature of the cost, assessed risk, monitoring findings, or audit requirements.</p>
12	<p>We respectfully request clarification regarding word limit discrepancies between the application content table in Section III.B (page 12) and the individual question instructions in Section III.C.</p> <p>Specifically, the word limits for Questions 14 (Budget Narrative), 16 (Regional Knowledge and Potential Priority Areas), and 17 (Initial Deliverables Approach) differ between the two sections.</p>	Please refer to the response to Question 1.

	Could you please confirm the applicable word limit for each of these three questions? We want to ensure our application complies with HCA's intent.	
13	If our organization bid on the New Mexico Administrative Services Organization (ASO) RFP, are we precluded from bidding on the Healthy Horizons RFA as well?	<p>No. Submitting a proposal for the Administrative Services Organization RFP does not preclude an organization from applying for the Healthy Horizons RFA.</p> <p>Each application or proposal will be evaluated independently under the requirements of the applicable solicitation. Applicants must disclose any actual, potential, or perceived conflicts of interest. If an organization is selected for both opportunities, HCA will evaluate whether the roles create a conflict and may require appropriate mitigation, organizational separation, or other conditions before proceeding with an award.</p>
14	Does HCA require the applicant organization to maintain its headquarters within the State of New Mexico, or would a physical office location within New Mexico be sufficient to meet regional presence expectations?	<p>An applicant is not required to maintain its headquarters in New Mexico. An organization may be eligible if it is New Mexico-based or demonstrates a substantial and established operational presence within the state.</p> <p>A physical office may support this requirement, but applicants should also demonstrate sufficient in-state staffing, operations, partnerships, and capacity to perform the Regional Hub responsibilities for the region or regions proposed.</p>
15	If a physical office is acceptable, are there any minimum operational or establishment requirements regarding how long the office must have been in existence prior to application submission or award execution?	<p>No specific minimum period of operation is required. However, the applicant must demonstrate a substantial and established operational presence in New Mexico at the time of application.</p> <p>The review may consider factors such as existing in-state staffing, operations, partnerships, service history, and demonstrated capacity to perform the Regional Hub responsibilities. Establishing an office solely in anticipation of an award, without sufficient supporting operations or capacity in New Mexico, may not by itself satisfy this requirement.</p>
16	To what extent may applicants leverage subcontractors, consultants, or partner organizations to support Regional Hub administration, stakeholder engagement, planning, reporting, technical assistance, and other required activities? Please clarify any applicable approval requirements, restrictions, or expectations related to subcontracted work.	<p>Applicants may propose subcontractors, consultants, and partner organizations to support Regional Hub activities, including administration, stakeholder engagement, planning, reporting, technical assistance, and implementation support.</p> <p>The applicant must clearly describe the proposed role of each organization, how the work will be managed, and the related costs in the application and budget. The selected Regional Hub Organization will remain fully responsible for performance, compliance, financial oversight, reporting, and completion of all required deliverables and may not delegate its overall accountability as the Regional Hub Organization.</p> <p>All subcontracted or partner-funded work must align with the approved scope, budget, and Regional Implementation Plan; comply with applicable procurement, conflict-of-interest, and</p>

		<p>federal requirements; and receive any required HCA approval. HCA may require review or approval of subcontractors, agreements, scopes of work, budgets, or material changes before the work begins.</p>
17	<p>Are applicants required to identify and include formal partner organizations as part of their Regional Hub Organization application, or may an applicant be considered responsive if it demonstrates the capacity to fulfill all Regional Hub responsibilities independently while developing additional partnerships through the HCA-approved planning process after award?</p>	<p>Applicants are not required to include formal partner organizations in order to be considered responsive. An applicant may apply independently if it demonstrates the capacity, staffing, governance, financial infrastructure, regional knowledge, and experience necessary to perform the Regional Hub responsibilities.</p> <p>Applicants should describe existing regional relationships and their approach to engaging providers, tribal health programs, community-based organizations, local public health entities, and other stakeholders after award. Additional partners may be identified and added through the HCA-approved planning and implementation process. Any future funded roles, scopes of work, or partner arrangements are subject to applicable selection requirements and HCA review and final approval.</p>
18	<p>What level of commitment documentation is preferred from regional partners at the application stage beyond the Partner Letter template provided in Appendix C?</p>	<p>No specific partner commitment documentation is required at the application stage. Applicants may submit the Partner Letter template in Appendix C, a letter of support, memorandum of understanding, or other documentation showing existing or proposed partner involvement.</p> <p>Any documentation submitted should describe the partner’s anticipated role, activities or contributions, coordination with the applicant, and whether the partner may seek Healthy Horizons funding through a future regional implementation process. Formal agreements are not required at the application stage.</p> <p>Additional documentation or executed agreements may be required after selection, during contracting, or through the approved regional planning and implementation process. Partner documentation submitted with the application does not constitute approval of a formal partnership, funded role, subaward, subcontract, grant, or scope of work.</p>
19	<p>Aside from the regional planning allocations provided in the solicitation, does HCA have any budget limitations, recommended funding ranges, or caps for Regional Hub administrative costs, direct programmatic costs, or total funding requests that applicants should consider when preparing their proposed budgets?</p>	<p>The total award for each Regional Hub Organization will equal the applicable amount identified in the regional allocation table. The RFA does not establish additional recommended funding ranges or category-specific caps for direct programmatic costs.</p> <p>Up to 10% of the applicable regional allocation may be used for allowable administrative costs. The remaining funds must be used for direct programmatic work to activate the HCA-approved Regional Implementation Plan.</p> <p>Applicants must submit a budget reflecting the full award amount. Applicants are not required to identify all future programmatic activities, costs, or funding recipients at the application stage. Potential priority areas discussed in the application will be used to</p>

		<p>assess the applicant’s understanding of regional needs and do not represent final funding decisions.</p> <p>Specific uses of direct programmatic funds will be developed through the regional implementation planning and funding proposal process and are subject to HCA review and final approval. For Region 3, the separate statewide maternal health allocation may be used only for approved direct programmatic maternal health activities and is excluded from the administrative cost cap calculation.</p>
20	<p>The solicitation document references several application requirements and certifications, including Debarment/Suspension Certification, Application Submitted by Lead Applicant, Allowable Use Certification, and Non-Supplantation Certification. However, we were unable to locate corresponding fields, checkboxes, or submission requirements within Form 1 of the Submittable portal.</p> <p>Could HCA please clarify whether these certifications are considered satisfied through submission of the application, will be collected during a later phase of the application process, or if applicants are expected to submit separate documentation for these requirements?</p>	<p>No separate documentation is required at the application stage. By submitting an application, the applicant provides the assurances and certifications listed in Appendix A of the RFA, including those related to debarment and suspension, submission by the proposed Regional Hub Organization, allowable use of funds, and non-supplantation.</p> <p>Selected applicants may be required to complete or provide additional certifications and supporting documentation during the pre-award and contracting process.</p>
21	<p>The application instructions indicate that applicants must upload an Excel budget workbook describing proposed Regional Hub administrative and direct Regional Hub programmatic costs.</p> <p>However, the application portal's attachment section lists PDF and other document formats as acceptable file types and does not appear to allow Excel file uploads. Can HCA please confirm whether applicants may submit the Regional Hub Budget in PDF format, or if an Excel workbook is required?</p>	<p>An Excel workbook is required. The Submittable portal will be updated to allow Excel file uploads for this requirement. Applicants should use the Regional Hub Budget workbook and should not convert it to PDF.</p>

22	Can HCA please confirm whether applicants are expected to propose their own project team and organizational structure to fulfill the Regional Hub responsibilities outlined in the RFA? Additionally, are there any required positions, key personnel roles, or minimum qualifications that applicants must include as part of their proposed approach?	<p>Yes. Applicants should propose the project team, staffing model, and organizational structure they believe are appropriate to perform the Regional Hub responsibilities described in the RFA.</p> <p>The RFA does not prescribe specific job titles or a minimum number of positions. Applicants should identify the personnel who will be responsible for key functions such as program leadership, regional coordination, stakeholder engagement, financial management, subaward or contract oversight, implementation support, performance monitoring, and reporting. The application should describe each proposed team member’s role, qualifications, relevant experience, and level of effort.</p> <p>Applicants must demonstrate that the proposed team has sufficient capacity and expertise to perform the scope of work for all regions included in the application. Final staffing plans and key personnel are subject to review and approval during the contracting process.</p>
23	Section V of the RFA outlines detailed evaluation factors and scoring criteria, including numerous sub-factors that will be considered during the technical review. However, the response fields provided in Form 2 appear to offer limited space for applicants to address these requirements comprehensively. Can HCA please clarify whether applicants are expected to address all evaluation criteria exclusively within the Form 2 response fields, or whether supplemental narrative attachments may be submitted to provide additional information relevant to the evaluation factors?	<p>Applicants should address the evaluation criteria within the applicable Form 2 response fields and required uploads, using the word limits and instructions provided for each section.</p> <p>Applicants may use the optional Additional Information field or optional upload to provide relevant context that is not adequately addressed elsewhere. Supplemental materials must complement, rather than replace, required responses and may not be used to circumvent established word limits.</p>
24	Can HCA please confirm whether submission of Form 1, Form 2, and any required supporting attachments identified within the application portal will satisfy all application submission requirements for this RFA, or whether any additional documents are expected outside of those specifically requested in the portal?	<p>Submission of Form 1, Form 2, and all required fields and supporting attachments identified in the Submittable application portal will satisfy the application submission requirements.</p> <p>Applicants should follow the instructions in the RFA and portal and confirm that all required information and uploads are complete before submitting. No materials should be submitted outside the Submittable portal unless HCA issues additional written instructions.</p>
25	The RFA includes detailed Scope of Work requirements, deliverables, and evaluation criteria that collectively cover a significant amount of information. Can HCA	Applicants should address the Scope of Work, implementation approach, deliverables, and evaluation criteria within the applicable Form 2 response fields and required uploads, using the word limits and instructions provided for each section.

	<p>please clarify whether applicants are expected to address these requirements solely through the responses provided in Form 2, or whether supplemental narrative attachments may be submitted to more fully address the Scope of Work, implementation approach, and evaluation factors? If supplemental materials are permitted, please specify the preferred submission method.</p>	<p>Applicants may use the optional Additional Information field or optional upload to provide relevant context that is not adequately addressed elsewhere. Supplemental materials must complement, rather than replace, required responses and may not be used to circumvent established word limits.</p> <p>Any supplemental materials should be submitted through the applicable optional upload field in the Submittable application portal. Materials submitted outside the portal will not be accepted.</p>
26	<p>Can HCA please confirm whether a single applicant organization may be selected to serve as the Regional Hub Organization for multiple Healthy Horizons regions? If so, should applicants provide separate responses, budgets, and implementation approaches for each region, or may a consolidated statewide approach be submitted?</p>	<p>Yes. A single applicant may propose to serve and may be selected for multiple Healthy Horizons regions.</p> <p>Applicants should submit one application identifying all regions proposed. The application may use a consolidated organizational and operational approach where appropriate, but it must clearly address the distinct needs, partnerships, staffing, implementation approach, and capacity for each proposed region.</p> <p>Applicants should also provide sufficient region-specific budget detail to show how proposed Regional Hub administrative and direct programmatic costs will be allocated across the regions. A general statewide approach without adequate region-specific information may not demonstrate the applicant's ability to serve each proposed region.</p>
27	<p>The application portal includes a section for Partner Letters. Can HCA please clarify whether inclusion of partner organizations is mandatory for application eligibility and evaluation purposes, or whether applicants may apply independently and develop regional partnerships after award through the HCA-approved planning process?</p>	<p>Partner organizations and Partner Letters are not required for application eligibility. An applicant may apply independently if it demonstrates the capacity, staffing, governance, financial infrastructure, regional knowledge, and experience necessary to perform the Regional Hub responsibilities.</p> <p>Applicants should describe existing regional relationships and their approach to developing and maintaining the Regional Hub Network. Additional partners may be identified and added after award through the HCA-approved planning and implementation process. Any future funded roles or partner arrangements are subject to applicable selection requirements and HCA review and final approval.</p>
28	<p>Evaluation Factor 5 references conflict-of-interest protections related to partner identification, selection, and funding recommendations. Can HCA please clarify whether applicants are expected to submit a formal conflict-of-interest policy or related documentation as part of the application, or whether such</p>	<p>Applicants are not required to submit a formal conflict-of-interest policy as part of the application. Applicants should describe the conflict-of-interest protections they propose to use when identifying, evaluating, selecting, and recommending partners or funding.</p> <p>After award, Regional Hub Organizations will be required to establish and follow an HCA-approved conflict-of-interest and partner selection process before finalizing funding recommendations or selecting funded partners.</p>

	requirements will be addressed following award?	
29	Can HCA please clarify whether applicants are required to submit organizational references as part of the application? If references are required, please specify the minimum number of references expected and whether references must be from projects involving rural, healthcare, or similar regional coordination initiatives, or if other comparable engagements would be acceptable.	<p>Organizational references are not required as part of the Healthy Horizons application. Applicants should demonstrate relevant organizational experience and capacity through the applicable Form 2 responses and permitted supporting materials.</p> <p>Applicants may submit optional Partner Letters to document existing or proposed regional relationships and anticipated partner roles. Partner Letters are not organizational references and are not required for application eligibility.</p> <p>HCA may request additional information or documentation during application review or the pre-award process.</p>
30	The RFA identifies the Center for Rural Health Sustainability and Innovation (CRHSI) as an HCA-designated statewide partner that will provide technical assistance and shared support to Regional Hub Organizations. May an organization that is part of a team providing statewide RHT Program / CRHSI technical assistance also participate — as a non-lead partner or subcontractor — in a Regional Hub Organization application? If so, how would HCA prefer any such relationship to be disclosed under the Form 1 conflict-of-interest disclosure, and would such participation affect an applicant's eligibility or evaluation?	<p>Yes. Participation in statewide RHT Program or CRHSI technical assistance does not automatically preclude an organization from participating as a non-lead partner or subcontractor in a Regional Hub Organization application.</p> <p>The applicant should disclose the organization's current or anticipated statewide RHT or CRHSI role in the Form 1 conflict-of-interest disclosure and describe any actual, potential, or perceived conflict, including how the parties propose to separate responsibilities, information, personnel, and decision-making where appropriate.</p> <p>The relationship will not automatically affect application eligibility or scoring. HCA will review the disclosed circumstances and may require additional information, mitigation measures, organizational separation, limitations on particular activities, or other conditions before award or participation. An organization may not use nonpublic information obtained through another RHT role to obtain an unfair competitive advantage. HCA retains final authority to determine whether a conflict can be adequately mitigated.</p>
31	May a single organization serve as a non-lead partner or subcontractor on more than one Regional Hub Organization application?	<p>Yes. A single organization may participate as a non-lead partner or proposed subcontractor on more than one Regional Hub Organization application.</p> <p>The organization's proposed role should be clearly described in each application, including any differences in scope, geography, staffing, or responsibilities. Applicants should also disclose any actual, potential, or perceived conflicts of interest and demonstrate that the organization has sufficient capacity to fulfill all proposed commitments.</p> <p>Participation in multiple applications does not guarantee approval of any future funded role. Any subcontract, subaward, or partner funding arrangement remains subject to the approved Regional Implementation Plan, applicable selection requirements, and HCA review and final approval.</p>

32	Sections III.C.12 (page 16) and IV.C (page 26) reference 'Appendix H' for the detailed regional allocation methodology, but the Table of Contents and page 40 list this as 'Appendix F' (with no Appendix H included in the document). Could you please confirm if Appendix F and Appendix H are intended to be the same document?	Yes. References to Appendix H are incorrect. The detailed Regional Allocation Methodology is included as Appendix F. Applicants should treat Appendix F as the controlling appendix for the regional allocation methodology.
33	For the 'Regional Knowledge and Potential Priority Areas' text response, the Form 2 table lists a 1,200-word limit (page 12), while Section III.C.16 (page 19) notes a 600-word limit. Which word limit will the Submittable portal enforce for this section?	Please refer to the response to Question 1.
34	Section I.C (page 4) states Region 3 may use 'funds designated by HCA' for the Year One maternal health priority, while Section IV.C (page 27) explicitly separates the maternal health funding (\$1,370,133.20) from the Region 3 base allocation (\$8,798,217.81). Can you clarify if Region 3 applicants must submit one unified budget workbook or two separate budgets for these distinct funding lines?	Region 3 applicants must submit one Regional Hub Budget workbook that clearly distinguishes the Region 3 regional allocation from the separate statewide maternal health allocation. Please refer to the response to Question 7 for information regarding application of the administrative cost cap.
35	Section III.C.12 (page 16) indicates we can use our own budget categories in the Excel upload. Section IV.H.11 (page 31) states we must use HCA-approved templates. Will applications be penalized or marked down in the 'Budget Reasonableness' evaluation tier if we utilize our own organizational budget categories instead of the exact format (and exact budget categories) shown in Appendix B?	<p>No. Applicants may use either the proposed categories in Appendix B or their own organizational budget categories and will not be penalized solely for using a different format.</p> <p>Regardless of the categories used, the budget must clearly identify administrative and direct programmatic costs, provide sufficient detail and justification, and allow the proposed costs to be evaluated for reasonableness, allowability, allocation, and alignment with the application.</p> <p>After selection, HCA may require the applicant to revise or translate the budget into an HCA-approved template during the contracting process.</p>
36	If a community-based organization, embedded in New Mexico, intends to apply as a single entity to fill the Regional Hub role, if awarded, is the Hub entity strictly prohibited from allocating a	<p>No. A Regional Hub Organization is not categorically prohibited from proposing that its own internal programs carry out approved Healthy Horizons activities.</p> <p>Regional Implementation Plans must be developed based on community data, identified regional needs, and stakeholder input.</p>

	<p>portion of the future implementation spoke funds to its own internal direct-service divisions?</p> <p>If internal programs are eligible to receive subaward spoke funding to address regional gaps, what specific firewall or governance structures will HCA require to mitigate internal conflicts of interest during the regional review process?</p>	<p>Any proposed role for the Hub Organization’s internal programs must be included in the Regional Implementation Plan and will be reviewed and vetted by HCA. HCA retains final approval authority over all implementation plans, funded activities, budgets, and funding decisions.</p>
37	<p>Section III.C.9 outlines that the Administrative Services Organization (ASO) supports contract and payment processing across RHT programs. If a downstream regional partner or subrecipient fails an audit, mismanages funds, or falls into non-compliance, does the primary financial liability and obligation for fund repayment rest entirely on the single lead applicant entity, or does the ASO absorb financial risk associated with payment infrastructure and subrecipient fiscal monitoring?</p>	<p>The selected Regional Hub Organization is responsible for overseeing its subrecipients, contractors, grantees, and funded partners and for ensuring compliance with applicable program, financial, and reporting requirements.</p> <p>The Administrative Services Organization will support contract administration, payment processing, documentation, financial reporting, and monitoring activities, but it does not absorb the financial risk associated with a Regional Hub Organization’s downstream funding arrangements.</p> <p>If costs are determined to be unallowable, unsupported, or noncompliant, HCA may withhold, disallow, or recover funds and require corrective action. The specific responsibility for repayment or other remedies will be determined based on the applicable award and subaward agreements, the nature of the finding, and the circumstances of the noncompliance.</p>
38	<p>Do applicants need to identify subrecipients, partners, contractors, etc as part of their application? (Page 9 of the RFA says they must, but this is contradicted elsewhere in the document)</p>	<p>Applicants are not required to identify final subrecipients, grantees, or funded implementation partners as part of the application. Those organizations may be identified after award through the regional planning, partner selection, and implementation process.</p> <p>If an applicant proposes to use a specific contractor, consultant, subcontractor, or partner to perform Regional Hub responsibilities included in the application scope or budget, the applicant should identify that organization, describe its anticipated role, and include the related costs in the proposed budget.</p> <p>Applicants may also identify existing or proposed regional partners, but formal partners and Partner Letters are not required for application eligibility. Any future funded role is subject to the approved Regional Implementation Plan, applicable selection requirements, and HCA review and final approval.</p>
39	<p>How will the HCA manage conflict of interest between Regional Hub Organizations and subrecipients?</p>	<p>Regional Hub Organizations will be required to use an HCA-approved conflict-of-interest and partner selection process. This will include disclosure of actual, potential, or perceived conflicts; recusal from related review and decision-making; use of objective</p>

		<p>and documented selection criteria; and maintenance of records supporting funding recommendations.</p> <p>Regional Implementation Plans and proposed funding decisions must be based on community data, identified regional needs, and stakeholder input. HCA will review and approve the plans, selection processes, and proposed funded activities and retains final authority over subrecipient funding decisions.</p>
40	<p>This question is specifically whether the 10% administrative cost cap applies to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The total award requested by the applicant for Regional Hub activities (for example, if an applicant requests a \$500,000 award, administrative costs would be limited to \$50,000), or • The region's full planning allocation identified by HCA, regardless of the amount the applicant proposes to budget. 	<p>The 10% administrative cost cap applies to the Regional Hub Organization's full regional allocation identified in the regional allocation table.</p> <p>For example, if the applicable regional allocation is \$8 million, total administrative costs may not exceed \$800,000 over the award period.</p> <p>The remaining regional allocation must be used for direct programmatic work to activate the HCA-approved Regional Implementation Plan. For Region 3, the separate statewide maternal health allocation may be used only for approved direct programmatic maternal health activities and is excluded from the administrative cost cap calculation. All proposed uses of funds remain subject to HCA review and final approval.</p>