

GOLD COAST HEALTH PLAN EQUIPMENT GRANT PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Gold Coast Health Plan (“GCHP”) is proud to announce the launch of its Equipment Grant Program (“Grant Program”). The Grant Program strives to support Federally Qualified Health Centers (“FQHC”) and Rural Health Clinics (“RHC”) in GCHP’s provider network to:

- Increase capacity within specific service areas and improve direct patient care;
- Improve practice efficiencies and/or improved member experience; and
- Improve member health outcomes.

Purpose

GCHP provides funding to support the purchase of equipment that will expand the FQHC’s / RHC’s capacity to serve the growing Medi-Cal population in Ventura County and impact direct patient care. Equipment funded through this program will result in additional Medi-Cal members served, improved practice efficiencies and/or improved member experience, and improved member health outcomes.

Eligible Applicants

To be considered for the Grant Program funding, applicants must meet the following minimum eligibility program-specific requirements:

- The applicant entity must be an FQHC / RHC that serves a medically underserved population or an RHC in a Health Professional Shortage Area (“HPSA”);
- The applicant entity must be located in Ventura County and directly contracted with GCHP;
- The applicant entity must be a Medi-Cal certified provider and have a track record of contractual compliance and financial stability; and
- If funded, the applicant entity must agree to use the equipment for the benefit of Medi-Cal patients for a minimum of two years.

There are no guarantees that applicants will be awarded funding. Even though a project may qualify and the organization may meet the eligibility requirements, decisions regarding the awarding of the funds and the amount awarded are at the sole discretion of the Ventura County Medi-Cal Managed Care Commission (VCMCC). Decisions are final, and no appeals from Grant Program applicants will be considered.

Eligible Equipment

While there are no limitations as to who may be served by the equipment, GCHP will consider grant applications for funding to support the purchase of new equipment that expands the capacity to serve Medi-Cal members by increasing the number of Medi-Cal members served, promoting practice efficiencies, and/or improving the member experience. The equipment should be reasonably expected to contribute meaningfully to the FQHC’s / RHC’s ability to maintain or increase the available, or enhance the quality of, services provided to a medically underserved population served by the FQHC / RHC.

The equipment must be medical or clinical in nature. Examples of eligible equipment that may be funded through the Grant Program include Point-of-Care testing devices (e.g., Lead Screening, hemoglobin, HbA1c), lifts, platform scales, hi-low exam tables, vaccine refrigerators, and exam room equipment for clinic expansions. GCHP reserves the right to determine eligible equipment.

GCHP will not fund the following:

- Replacements of existing equipment that would not result in an increase in the number of members served or services performed.
- Disposable supplies.
- Equipment reimbursed through the authorization process.
- Equipment that does not directly impact patient / client care unless it would result in quantifiable practice efficiencies.
- Equipment used for administrative purposes only.

Please note that if an applicant FQHC / RHC is receiving funding from other vendors or donors for comparable items or equipment, GCHP may decline to award and/or provide duplicative funding.

Funding Terms and Award Amounts

GCHP awards grants to subsidize equipment purchases. Grant Program requests may include more than one piece of equipment; however, the total funding request may not exceed \$50,000 per application. Applicants are required to submit quote(s) for equipment purchase(s) with their application.

Grant Program awards will be based on the eligible applicant's justification for request and supporting quotation. Applicants that are approved for funding by GCHP will be reimbursed for the equipment purchase after providing the final purchase verification to GCHP and executing an Equipment Grant Agreement with GCHP. The final grant payment will depend on verification of actual expenses, but will not exceed approved amount as set forth in the Equipment Grant Agreement.

Equipment purchased prior to receipt and signature of the Equipment Grant Agreement is not eligible for the Grant Program funding.

Application Process

For detailed instructions on how to apply, visit the Grants section of the GCHP's website, www.goldcoasthealthplan.org, for information on deadlines, instructions, and online application forms.