



DSRIP Statewide Investments Primary Care/Behavioral Health Special Projects Program Program Overview

The Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers (MassLeague) is administering the MassHealth Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) Statewide Investment programs focused on the community-based primary care and behavioral health workforce and community health center readiness on behalf of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) Office of Medicaid (MassHealth) following a competitive procurement. The Statewide Investments funding stream is one component of MassHealth's \$1.8 billion DSRIP program authorized under the Medicaid Section 1115 Waiver and comprises eight initiatives over the five-year DSRIP program. The community-focused primary care and behavioral health workforce programs and the community health center readiness program will support the Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs), Community Partners (CPs), and Community Service Agencies (CSAs) by building and strengthening their capacity to advance the goals of MassHealth payment and care delivery restructuring.

Summary

The Primary Care/Behavioral Health Special Projects Program aims to engage and retain primary care and behavioral health providers in community settings across Massachusetts while supporting innovative on-the-ground projects that advance the ability of community-based provider organizations to succeed in an accountable care environment. The program accomplishes this goal by awarding one-year grants to community health centers (CHCs), community mental health centers (CMHCs) (inclusive of community-based mental health centers, substance use programs, psychiatric day treatment programs), and emergency service programs (ESPs), participating in MassHealth payment reform, as well as Community Service Agencies (CSA), Community Partners (CP) and their Affiliated Partners and Consortium Entities, and organizations contracted with a MassHealth approved ACO that provide In-Home Therapy (IHT) to support provider-led projects related to accountable care implementation.

The Primary Care/Behavioral Health Special Projects Program will support approximately 120 provider-led projects over the course of the program's five years. Up to \$40,000 in funding will be available for each project. Providers eligible to lead projects include primary care physicians, psychologists, psychiatrists, advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs), nurse practitioners (NPs), physician assistants (PAs), licensed certified social workers (LCSWs), licensed independent clinical social workers (LICSWs), licensed mental health counselors (LMHCs), licensed marriage and family therapists (LMFTs), and licensed alcohol and drug counselors I (LADC1s). Providers applying to this program must be employed at an eligible organization on the application due date. There is no preference for early career versus experienced providers.

The DSRIP Statewide Investments Programs are made possible by financial support from the Executive Office of Health and Human Services. It is administered by the Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers, Inc.



The Primary Care/Behavioral Health Special Projects Program grant funding will be disbursed to CHCs, CMHCs, ESPs, CSAs, CPs or their Affiliated Partners or Consortium Entities and organizations contracted with a MassHealth ACO to provide IHT at the beginning of the one-year grant period. Awardees will be selected annually via a competitive process.

Under this application, MassLeague is inviting CHCs, CMHCs, and ESPs participating in MassHealth payment reform, as well as CSAs, CPs and their Affiliated Partners and Consortium Entities, and organizations contracted with a MassHealth ACO to provide IHT to apply for these grants, which will support identified eligible providers to lead and engage in these special projects. Special projects will be aimed at advancing initiatives related to the transition to accountable care and developing provider skills and interests that will benefit organizational needs specific to value based payment models.

Application guidelines are provided within this document. **Applications are due August 3, 2022 by 5:00 PM EST.**

Eligibility

Eligible Organizations

A complete list of eligible organizations is available here: [Eligible Organizations List](#)

No additional organizations will be added to this list.

Eligible Providers

Physicians

Psychologists

Psychiatrists

Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs)

Psychiatric Clinical Nurse Specialists (PCNSs)

Nurse Practitioners (NPs)

Physicians Assistants (PAs)

Licensed Certified Social Workers (LCSWs)

Licensed Independent Clinical Social Workers (LICSWs)

Licensed Mental Health Counselors (LMHCs)

Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists (LMFTs)

Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselors I (LADC1s)

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Administrative Requirements

For the projects selected, funds will be paid directly to the organization to support the approved salary, fringe benefits, taxes, and other project expenses as detailed in the project budget. The total amount of the funds awarded by MassLeague will be distributed at the start of the project period.

To ensure each project follows the purpose stated in the original application, the awarded project leaders will be required to complete a monthly check-in with the MassLeague relevant to their progress. In addition, the funded organizations and their respective lead providers will be required to submit a formal mid-year report outlining advances towards identified milestones, any obstacles/challenges encountered, and a budget/spending report. In addition, the funded organizations and their respective lead providers will be required to submit a final report outlining milestones achieved/not achieved, project impact per specific outcome measures, and a budget report. Those organizations that do not use the funding for the approved purpose stated in their applications will be required to reimburse MassLeague the full award amount and may be subject to additional penalties.

Instructions

Applications must be received by the MassLeague by **August 3, 2022 by 5:00 PM EST**. A question and answer period will be provided by the MassLeague and questions will be answered through **July 27, 2022** at 5:00 PM EST. Questions received after this date may not be answered. Application review criteria include: relevance of the proposed project to advancing the organization's capacity to succeed in an accountable care environment; potential project impact on the organization's capacity to improve health outcomes and/or reduce total cost of care; quality of project planning and appropriateness of the proposed project; and qualifications of the proposed provider-leader. Funding decisions will be based on proposal review rankings, as well as on the need to ensure that awards are equitable across provider types and statewide geographies. Applications must be complete and submitted by the deadline in order to be reviewed.

Application Submission

Applications must be submitted by email in PDF format to StatewideInvestments@massleague.org by the application deadline. The organization's CEO/Executive Director or equivalent must sign the application and the Cover Sheet must be included for the submission to be considered complete.

Please contact StatewideInvestments@massleague.org should you have any questions.

If awarded, no aspect of the DSRIP Statewide Investments Primary Care/Behavioral Health Special Project award may duplicate funding available through MassHealth and/or other third party payers for services, DSRIP Flex Services funding, or DSRIP start-up or infrastructure funding.

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