



STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

**REQUEST FOR APPLICATION # 34305-22117
AMENDMENT # 1
FOR NURSING HOME CIVIL MONETARY PENALTY
QUALITY IMPROVEMENT (CMPQI) PROGRAM
IMPLEMENTATION FUNDING OPPORTUNITY**

DATE: **APRIL 20, 2016**

RFA # 34305-22117 IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

1. This RFA Schedule of Events updates and confirms scheduled RFA dates. Any event, time, or date containing revised or new text is highlighted.

EVENT	TIME (Central Time)	DATE (dates are state business days)
1. RFA Issued		CONFIRMED
2. Letter of Intent Teleconference	2:00 p.m.	CONFIRMED
3. "Written Questions & Comments" Deadline	2:00 p.m.	CONFIRMED
4. State Responds to "Written Questions & Comments"		April 21, 2016
5. Deadline for Applications	2:00 p.m.	May 2, 2016
6. Initial Evaluation Notice Released	2:00 p.m.	May 24, 2016
7. Estimated Effective Start Date of Contract		August 1, 2016

2. State responses to questions and comments in the table below amend and clarify this RFA.

Any restatement of RFA text in the Question/Comment column shall NOT be construed as a change in the actual wording of the RFA document.

QUESTION / COMMENT	STATE RESPONSE
1 How do I submit the Application online?	Please open the Application by clicking on the DOWNLOAD HERE button. You will fill out the application and save to your computer. You will then go back to the Funding Opportunities website http://tn.gov/health/article/funding-opportunities and click on the red button Click Here to Upload. You will complete the short form, click on the Browse button under Upload attachments, find the file and click on the file to upload and then

QUESTION / COMMENT	STATE RESPONSE
	click open. It has now attached the Application. There are two other boxes for Upload other for any other attachments.
2 Can I submit an application each quarter that the RFA is released? Will I be awarded each quarter?	Yes you may submit an application each quarter and yes there is the potential to receive an award each quarter. But the applications should be for separate projects.
3 Topic: A program to improve the quality of life by establishing training focused on resident centered care involving areas such as the implementation of raised bed wheelchair accessible gardens, Art and lifelong learning classes, and music & memory programs. (would need to partner with a university for evaluation and results measurement) Question: The topic states that we would need to partner with a university for evaluation and results measurement, could you possibly define what that means exactly? I am unsure of what results need to be evaluated. Our idea is to create a gardening program by partnering up with a gardening group and getting raised garden beds so that all of our residents could participate without limitations. Do I need to make sure the gardening group is through a university or do I actually need to contact a public health branch of a university so that they can be part of the program and help measure quality of life?	An applicant is not required to partner with a university. These grants are issued to improve the quality of life or quality of care of the residents who will benefit from them. Per page 10 of the CMS CMP application, as well as the RFA, each proposal must identify the planned methodology(ies) that will be utilized to track, measure, and evaluate the results of the receipt of the grant on the quality of life or quality of care. In the case of the program described the facility would need to identify how the tracking of improvement will occur. As an example, if it is expected that such a program would increase resident mobility then the facility would need to identify the parameters that would be used to measure that improvement, who would perform those measurements, and what data would be collected and reported measuring that improvement.
4 Would a new phone system be applicable under this Grant Contract?	A listing of items that CMP funds cannot be utilized for is contained on pages 3 and 4 of the RFA as well as in the CMS CMP application. A new telephone system is a facility administrative cost and could NOT be funded with these funds.
5 If I understood correctly, there will be opportunities for new applications quarterly. If we don't feel like we can meet the deadline for this cycle, is it safe to assume that the next quarterly deadline will be in early August for awards in November?	Correct, our intent is to issue these quarterly. The next issuance is scheduled for July 1 with a submission deadline of early August and any awards hopefully occurring in October.
6 The program announcement indicates that "the CMPQI program is funded by fines collected from nursing homes found in violation of federal certification requirements by the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services." Are we to treat the funds as federal flow-through and if so, do we use the federal salary cap when budgeting salaries?	These Civil Money Penalty (CMP) funds are NOT federal pass through funds and therefore are not treated like federal grants. CMS guidance regarding state use of CMP funds does not specify salary requirements. The salary needs to be reasonable, and based upon the actual work that is to be performed in conjunction with the project. If the salary is excessively high, the CMP request may be denied. Both the State and CMS have an obligation to assure that costs are prudent and all expenditures are for the direct benefit of residents.

3. **RFA Amendment Effective Date.** The revisions set forth herein shall be effective upon release. All other terms and conditions of this RFA not expressly amended herein shall remain in full force and effect.