



Wyoming Department of Health

Funding Opportunity Announcement

Wyoming Department of Health

Public Health Division

EMS Regionalization Pilot Project Grant
(OEMS-22-001)

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1. Overview Information

Participating Organization(s)	Wyoming Department of Health (WDH)
Components of Participating Organization(s)	WDH, Public Health Division, Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS)
Funding Opportunity Title	EMS Regionalization Pilot Project Grant
Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) Number	OEMS-22-001
Announcement Type	New
Number of Applicants	No limit on the number of applicants. Awards will be subject to the availability of funding for this project, which is \$10,000,000.
Funding Opportunity Purpose	<p>The WDH mission is to promote, protect, and enhance the health of all Wyoming residents.</p> <p>In 2022, the Wyoming Legislature appropriated \$10,000,000 of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to the WDH for efforts to regionalize Wyoming emergency medical services (EMS). The Legislation specified:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">This appropriation to the Department of Health is for the purposes of establishing emergency medical services regionalization pilot opportunities for the five (5) trauma regions across Wyoming and investigating alternative options for emergency medical services that improve access and reduce costs. Expenditure of this appropriation is conditioned upon a match of funds.</p> <p>2022 Wyo. Sess. Laws 109, 113 (ch. 50, § 2, fn. 11). As such, WDH is pleased to announce this grant opportunity for EMS providers. This document is intended to provide guidance on the application and award process and the entities that are eligible to apply for funding.</p>

Key information	<p>As described in the appropriation, this funding opportunity is for the purpose of regionalization of Wyoming's EMS system and other EMS opportunities which improve access to care and reduce overall costs. To be eligible for funding, all applications must be submitted to WDH no later than November 18, 2022. WDH determinations will be made within a reasonable amount of time after the application period closes. Applications will be reviewed and scored by an advisory committee. Awardees will be selected amongst the highest-scoring applications. The final award amounts and count of awards will be subject to the WDH Director's discretion. At all times, the WDH reserves the discretion to award zero (0) grants. All grantees approved to receive a funding award will be required to enter into a contract with the Department of Health, Public Health Division for the reimbursement of costs associated with the award.</p> <p>All grants awarded under this FOA are subject to the terms and conditions imposed upon the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) program under ARPA. Before applying, applicants are encouraged to consult the SLFRF final rule at 31 C.F.R. Part 35 (link here), as well as guidance issued by the U.S. Department of the Treasury (link here). Each applicant will be required to establish how their project qualifies as an eligible use of SLFRF funds. Additionally, all regionalization pilot project grants are conditioned on grantees providing matching funds. WDH will consider the matching funds and prioritize those projects.</p>
Posted Date	October 3, 2022
Open Date (Earliest Submission Date) Application Due Date (Last Submission Date) Advisory Committee Review	<p>October 3, 2022</p> <p>November 18, 2022</p> <p>Generally within 2 months after receipt date.</p>
Expiration Date	December 31, 2026

2. Full Text of the Announcement

A. Funding Opportunity Description

i. Purpose

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) invites applications for regionalization pilot projects that seek to promote greater access to emergency medical services and reduce costs.

Awardees will receive funding for approved projects until December 31, 2026.

ii. Background

Wyoming is a rural and frontier state with long distances between towns, which makes access to healthcare a challenge, particularly with time-sensitive conditions like stroke and trauma.. Additionally, EMS agencies in Wyoming have difficulty sustaining operations. Significant challenges EMS agencies confront are: identifying sustainable revenue streams, lack of available staffing, increasing costs of supplies, and the complexity of billing major payers.

During the 2022 Budget Session, the Wyoming State Legislature appropriated \$10,000,000 for an “EMS Regionalization Pilot” utilizing ARPA funds. *See* 2022 Wyo. Sess. Laws 109, 110 (ch. 50 § 2). More specifically, the Legislature intended this funding to be used as follows:

This appropriation to the Department of Health is for the purposes of establishing emergency medical services regionalization pilot opportunities for the five (5) trauma regions across Wyoming and investigating alternative options for emergency medical services that improve access and reduce costs. Expenditure of this appropriation is conditioned upon a match of funds.

2022 Wyo. Sess. Laws 109, 113 (ch. 50, § 2, fn. 11).

iii. Objective and Scope

The objective of this FOA is to fund regionalization pilot projects in Wyoming for EMS and, as a result, projects under this FOA must provide evidence of strategic partnerships, consolidations, or organizational changes which:

1. Improve efficiency of services and reduce of operational costs;
2. Increase access to emergency medical services for Wyoming patients; and,
3. Include letters of support or other evidence of collaboration from EMS Agencies or other stakeholders which may be affected by a regionalization plan.

In addition to the conditions imposed by the Legislature, projects under this FOA are limited by federal law. The \$10,000,000 available through the EMS Regionalization Pilot Project Grant are funded by the SLFRF Program. The U.S. Treasury has adopted a final rule controlling the use of these funds under 31 C.F.R. Part 35. Each application will need to expressly establish how the proposed project is permitted to be funded under the final rule.

B. Award Information

Funding Instrument	Monetary grant: a support mechanism providing money to an eligible entity to carry out an approved project or activity.
Award Prioritization	Awards will be prioritized to those applicants who provide evidence of all the above requirements, evidence of long term sustainability, and matching funds provided by grantees.
Award Budget	Funds may be used only for those expenses that are directly related and necessary to the project and must be expended in compliance with 31 C.F.R. Part 35.
Award Project Period	The duration of the entire award may not extend beyond December 31, 2026. All funds must be spent by December 31, 2026.

C. Eligibility Information

Any entity in good standing with the Wyoming Secretary of State's Office is eligible to apply. Additionally governmental entities engaged in emergency medical services are eligible to apply. Preference will be given to those entities who currently hold an ambulance business license or are a currently licensed Wyoming hospital.

D. Application and Submission Information

There is no application form or template. However, an application must include all of the following elements:

- i. Cover Page
 - a. Identify or name the entity submitting the application.
 - b. Provide a brief description of the regionalization project proposal in no more than three to five sentences.
 - c. Identify a point of contact for the application, including name, position/title, address, phone number, and email address.
- ii. Entity Information
 - a. Provide the entity's mission statement.
 - b. Provide a brief history of the entity.
 - c. Describe the entity's current programs and activities.
 - d. Provide the entity's IRS Employer Identification Number (EIN).

- e. Provide a Certificate of Good Standing from the Wyoming Secretary of State. For governmental entities, reasonable alternatives of a certificate of good standing will be accepted.
 - f. List the Board of Directors or other relevant leadership.
- iii. Regionalization Project Proposal
 - a. Describe the regionalization project, answering the following questions:
 - 1. How does the regionalization project consolidate or improve upon the existing EMS system?
 - 2. How does the regionalization project improve access to or expand EMS services?
 - A. Please be specific and provide as much quantitative data as possible. Applications which provide detailed pre- and post-regionalization data on ambulance operations and service call times will have a significant advantage.
 - 3. How does the regionalization project reduce costs? Again, a clear and convincing quantitative demonstration using pre- and post-regionalization projections will help your application.
 - 4. How does the regionalization project partner with other Wyoming EMS entities?
 - b. Describe how the regionalization project is eligible under the SLFRF Program. This description must include the following elements:
 - 1. An analysis of how the project is permitted under the relevant U.S. Treasury regulations, located at 31 C.F.R. Part 35.
 - 2. Pincite(s) to the specific provision under the relevant U.S. Treasury regulations, located at 31 C.F.R. Part 35, applied above (e.g. “31 C.F.R. § 35.6(b)(3)(ii)(11)(i)”).
 - c. Describe how the regionalization project is scalable.
 - d. Describe the Wyoming population(s) impacted by the regionalization project and underlying regionalization.
 - e. Describe all EMS entities, healthcare facilities, and other Wyoming entities who will be involved in or impacted by the regionalization project.
 - f. Describe any partners in the regionalization project, including the partner’s role and the relationship with them.
 - g. Identify the staff and leadership who will be involved in the regionalization project and provide their resume(s).
 - h. Provide a detailed timeline of the regionalization project that shows major milestones.
 - i. Describe the budget for the regionalization project, including funding sources, allocations, and any relevant restrictions on the use of funds – outside of the SLFRF program. Attach supporting documentation as appropriate.
 - j. Describe the plan for the financial sustainability of the regionalization project after the grant award has been exhausted.
 - k. Describe the matching funds provided by grantee for the regionalization pilot project. All projects are conditioned on a match of funds. WDH will consider and prioritize projects based on the matching funds available for each project.
 - 1. Provide the amount of matching funds grantee will provide

- for the project.
2. Provide the funding source of all matching funds.
3. Describe, in detail, how matching funds provided by grantee shall be used towards the project.

Applicants are encouraged to format their applications in a manner that reflects the enumerated elements above. For example, the application should provide the entity's IRS EIN under section or paragraph "2.D," or a reasonable alternative. This will assist the review to ensure the application is complete. Please be advised if an application is not well-organized, does not clearly address all of the enumerated elements above, or is otherwise of a lower quality, the application may receive a lower score compared to other submissions.

Each application must be submitted to the WDH via email at wdh.ems.regiongrant@wyo.gov. Applications must be submitted no later than Friday, November 18, 2022.

E. Application Review & Selection Information

Each application will be reviewed and scored by an advisory committee established by the WDH. This committee may include members outside of the WDH, including community and HHS stakeholders. The scoring of applications will be based on a rubric that accounts for how well the application satisfies the elements established under this FOA.

The WDH Director will review the highest-scoring applications and independently select awardees based upon the purpose and objectives of the SLFRF Program and Regionalization Pilot Project Grant. Since the WDH must be a responsible steward of taxpayer funds, the WDH Director reserves the right to not award any grants, in the event the WDH Director determines there are insufficient applications of merit.

F. Award Administration Information

All grants awarded under this FOA are subject to the terms and conditions imposed upon the SLFRF Program. All grants are also subject to State of Wyoming contracting and vendor management requirements.

G. Agency Contacts

Questions regarding this FOA may be submitted to wdh.ems.regiongrant@wyo.gov

H. Right to Amend or Withdraw

At all times, the WDH reserves the right to amend or withdraw this FOA. In the event the WDH substantially changes application criteria and an applicant has already submitted an application, the WDH will provide the applicant notice of the change and an opportunity to supplement the application, as necessary.