

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Public Health

Section/Branch: Women, Infant, and Community Wellness Section/Infant and Community Health Branch

RFA Questions and Answers

RFA # A418, RFA Title: Healthy Beginnings
Addendum Number: 1

If applicable, Bidder's Conference(s) Date(s): October 22, 2025
Questions Received Until (date): October 31, 2025
Summary of Questions and Answers Release Date: November 6, 2025

Questions and Answers *(list all questions and answers in numerical order)*

1. Question: Mecklenburg County is on Table 2's Disparity Ratio Table, but not on Table 1's Infant Mortality Need Score Table. Are we still eligible to apply for the Healthy Beginnings grant?

Answer: Yes, public or private nonprofit agencies from ALL counties in North Carolina are eligible to apply to receive funding to implement the HB program.

2. Question: Who should the Community Advisory Board (CAB) member address their letter of commitment to?

Answer: The letters of commitment should be addressed to your agency.

3. Question: Do you have PDF examples of the biannual program reports that must be submitted and the letter of commitment?

Answer: There are no PDF examples of the biannual program reports or letters of commitment. The biannual program reports are completed online through Survey Monkey. The letters of commitment are included in Attachment A of the application.

4. Question: Can an existing community team meeting, like our Community Health Advisory Team meeting, be utilized for the CAB as long as we ensure all requirements of the CAB are included?

Answer: Yes, an existing advisory group can serve as the CAB as long as the requirements are met.

5. Question: Will points be taken off if a full-time position is vacant.

Answer: No, points will not be taken off if a position is vacant. If staff are not in place, you will describe how you will recruit for this position in the Agency Ability section 4 of the application.

6. Question: Do we just click on the link on the website to complete the budget worksheet?

Answer: You click on the link for the budget worksheet on the Women, Infant, and Community Wellness Section's website and download the form to your computer to complete and include in your application.

7. Question: How will the demonstration need score be added to the application score?

Answer: For agencies located in a top-ranking county for minority infant mortality rates or infant mortality disparity ratios, the score listed in tables 1 and 2 (pages 5-6 in the RFA document) will be added to the application score established by an objective review committee. For example, if an application was submitted by an agency located in Bertie County, then a need score of 5 would be added to their score.

8. Question: If another county in our region would apply for this funding as well, could the other health department use some of their funding to subcontract with us to have our program coordinator provide program services for them as well.

Answer: No, this would not meet program requirements. The Healthy Beginnings program requirements include hiring a minimum of 1.0 full-time equivalent program staff person. This requirement is for each funded program site to provide program services within their county.

9. Question: Under needs assessment, one of the instructions is to provide state and county level data for minority populations. Is there a certain number of minority populations that need to be included?

Answer: No, there is not a certain number of minority populations required to be included in the state and county level data provided in the needs assessment section. The data can reflect the minority populations you propose to serve in your program.

10. Question: Regarding the performance metrics, if a metric is not met, meaning 1 out of 10 metrics is not met, how does this look from the funding standpoint? Do we completely lose 100% of the funding or is it a given amount reduced?

Answer: For agencies that are awarded funding, the continuation of funding during the three-year grant period is not solely based upon meeting the program performance outcome measures. Compliance with all contract deliverables is taken into account when making any funding decisions.

11. Question: For agencies that are already implementing the Healthy Beginnings program, are we required to request the same funding amount that we currently receive, or may we propose any amount within the Year 1 budget range specified in the RFA?

Answer: No, your proposed year-one budget total can be between the range of \$86,390 and \$103,670. Please keep in mind the budget range totals decrease in years two and three as stated on page 7 in the RFA A418 document.

12. Question: Chatham County is not listed on the table for infant mortality need score nor the disparity ratio need score, does this mean we are ineligible to apply?

Answer: No, public or private nonprofit agencies from ALL counties in North Carolina are eligible to apply to receive funding to implement the HB program.

13. Question: A new requirement under program performance outcome measures states that at least 50% of pregnant program participants shall be enrolled in the first trimester. How will this affect those who might get the grant and come into June 1, 2026 with a full caseload already that might not meet that requirement?

Answer: For agencies that are already receiving grant funding, this performance outcome measure would apply to program participants enrolled beginning June 1, 2026, and not apply to program participants that are already enrolled.

14. Question: Are we allowed to use data resources outside of the ones listed on Page 60 of the RFA?

Answer: Yes, please provide the sources for all data cited in the application.