



8/12/25 RFA

**STATE OF TENNESSEE  
HEALTH FACILITIES COMMISSION**

**REQUEST FOR APPLICATION**

**FOR**

**NURSING HOME CIVIL MONEY PENALTY (CMP) PROGRAM  
FUNDING OPPORTUNITY**

**RFA # 31607-26008**



## **REQUEST FOR APPLICATION**

### **STATE OF TENNESSEE**

### **HEALTH FACILITIES COMMISSION**

#### **I. INTRODUCTION:**

A Civil Money Penalty (CMP) is a monetary penalty the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) may impose against nursing homes that do not meet federal health and safety standards. A portion of CMPs collected from nursing homes are returned to the states in which CMPs are imposed. Through the Nursing Home CMP Program, Tennessee CMP funds are reinvested to support activities that benefit nursing home residents and that protect or improve their quality of care or quality of life.

#### **II. APPLICATIONS:**

The purpose for this Request for Applications (RFA) is for Tennessee Nursing Home CMP Program to solicit the submission of CMP proposals from qualified applicants for the use of CMP Funds to benefit individuals residing in nursing facilities in Tennessee. This funding is intended to support initiatives that improve the quality of life and quality of care of residents living in Tennessee nursing homes.

Eligible applicants include but are not limited to licensed and Medicaid-certified nursing facilities, healthcare systems, state agencies, for-profit or non-profit organizations, provider associations, and universities.

For this funding cycle, successful applicants should submit applications related to training to improve quality of care or activities to improve quality of life.

##### **Training to Improve Quality of Care**

- Training topics include, but are not limited to:
  - Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia,
  - Wound Care,
  - Patient Safety,
  - Trauma Centered Care,
  - Pain Management,
  - Cultural Sensitivity,
  - Culture Change
  - Person-Centered Care
  - Safe Medication Management
  - Oral Health
  - Non-Pharmaceutical Solutions
  - Falls Education



- **Maximum Project Funding Per Nursing Home Per Year -\$5,000, (max of \$15,000 for a three-year project).**

#### Activities to Improve Quality of Life

- CMP funds can be used for projects to foster social interaction, movement, and minimize loneliness. Projects include, but are not limited to:
  - Horticulture/Gardening
  - Music Therapy
  - Animal Therapy Including Robotic Pets
  - Activities and games fostering movement and function- This may include activities (e.g., Tai Chi), group games (e.g., bingo with movement components), or technology-assisted games (e.g., Nintendo Wii movement games).
  - Reading and Memory Interventions
  - Crafting
- **Maximum Project Funding Per Nursing Home Per Year for each topic -\$5,000, (max of \$15,000 for a three-year project)**

#### Resident or Family Councils

- CMP funds may be used for projects by not-for-profit resident advocacy organizations that: Assist in the development of new independent family councils;
- Assist resident and family councils in effective advocacy on their family member's behalf;
- Develop materials and training sessions for resident and family councils on state implementation of new federal or state legislation.
- **Maximum project funding per nursing home-\$5,000 (one-time funding)**

#### Consumer Information

- CMP funds may be used to develop and disseminate information that is directly useful to nursing home residents and their families in becoming knowledgeable about their rights, nursing home care processes, and other information useful to a resident.
  - For example, developing educational materials (e.g., flyers, brochures, booklets, web-based materials, etc.) to promote awareness of the unnecessary use of psychotropic medications, facility requirements or residents' rights related to discharge, advance care planning, etc.
- **Maximum project funding per nursing home-\$5,000 (one-time funding)**

To respond to this Request for Application, please complete the CMS Civil Monetary Penalty Grant Application (Attachment 1), RFA competitive requirements, and grant budget (Attachment 3). See also IRS Form W9 and State of Tennessee, Department of Finance and Administration ACH (Automated Clearing House) Credits and Instructions for completion.

**Attachment 3** is the Grant Budget. This section shall contain all information relating to cost, based on a line-item budget. Complete the Grant Budget form and the attached Line-item Details form. A description of how dollars will be used must be provided for each line item completed, as applicable for the Budget form.



Note: Please use the Department of Finance and Administration – Policy 03 Schedule A, (please refer to pages 11-16 of that policy) for your use in determining which expense category an item should be listed in your grant budget. This policy can be found on the internet at the address listed below:

[https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/finance/documents/fa\\_policies/policy3.pdf](https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/finance/documents/fa_policies/policy3.pdf)

An applicant can submit only one proposal per Request For Application (RFA) opportunity. The project period for each grant may not extend beyond 36 months. Health Facilities Commission (HFC) reserves the right to issue subsequent requests for applications for CMP funds at any time during or after this application process. Applicants must demonstrate evidence of financial stability, utilize evidence-based practices, and show measurable results in their project.

If the organization applying for a CMP project is not a nursing home, letters of support from all participating nursing homes are required to be submitted with the application. The commitment letter must display the project title, time frame, the nursing home's CMS certification number (CCN), and the signature of an individual authorized to commit the nursing home.

Project approval will be based on available funding. All awarded CMP funds must be spent in furtherance of the proposed program and may not be utilized for activities not approved by the State and CMS.

Funds issued through the CMP Program may not be utilized for the following uses:

- For non-nursing home residents;
- For capital improvements to a nursing home, or to build or redesign a nursing home;
- For nursing home services or supplies that are already the responsibility of the nursing home (e.g. linen, food, staffing costs, medical equipment, resident transportation, resident beds, or telemedicine services);
- For refreshments;
- For incentives (e.g., for attending training or completing a survey—this includes items such as payments or gift cards);
- For Palliative Care Services;
- For complex technology; and
- For research projects.

### **III. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:**

The following is the anticipated schedule for awarding grants for the Nursing Home CMP Program Funding Opportunity. The State reserves the right to adjust the schedule as it deems necessary.



EVENT	Time (Central Time)	Date (All dates are state business days)
1. RFA Issued		August 12, 2025
2. Pre-proposal webinar	1:00 p.m.	August 14, 2025
3. Written “Questions & Comments” Deadline	1:00 p.m.	August 19, 2025
4. State Response to Written “Questions & Comments”		August 22, 2025
5. Deadline for Applications	2:00 p.m.	September 11, 2025
7. Evaluation Notice Released		November 3, 2025
8. Estimated effective Start Date of Contract		January 1, 2025

#### IV. SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS:

##### Pre-proposal Tele-Conference:

A Pre-Proposal Teleconference will be held at the time and date detailed in the Schedule of Events to answer questions concerning the funding opportunity. The information for the Pre-Proposal Teleconference is below. Any applicant desiring to submit an application in response to this RFA is encouraged to have at least one (1) representative on the teleconference; however, attendance is not mandatory.

Meeting Name: CMP Pre-proposal

Meeting ID: 250 975 099 638 3

Meeting passcode: 49UT2GF6

Meeting Link: [Microsoft TEAM Meeting: CMP Pre-proposal](#)

##### Questions and Answers:

All questions concerning this RFA must be submitted to [https://stateofkentucky-cvlyz.formstack.com/forms/cmp\\_teleconference\\_questions](https://stateofkentucky-cvlyz.formstack.com/forms/cmp_teleconference_questions) in writing, on or before the deadline for Written Questions and Comments as detailed above in the Schedule of Events.



**Deadlines stated above are critical.** If documents are submitted late, they will be deemed to be late and cannot be accepted. The clock-in time will be determined by the time of the online submission. No other clock or watch will have any bearing on the time of application receipt.

Each applicant shall assume the risk of the method of dispatching any communication or application to the State. The State assumes no responsibility for delays or delivery failures resulting from the method of dispatch.

## **V. Submission of Applications:**

Please submit the completed application with all attachments by online submission via the CMP Proposal Submission link no later than the deadline specified in Section III, Schedule of Events in the form and detail specified in this RFA.

CMP Proposal Submission Link:

[https://stateoftennessee-cvlyz.formstack.com/forms/cmp\\_application\\_submission](https://stateoftennessee-cvlyz.formstack.com/forms/cmp_application_submission)

Any application that is incomplete or contains significant inconsistencies or inaccuracies shall be rejected. Both the State and CMS reserve the right to waive minor variances or reject any or all applications. The State and CMS reserve the right to request clarifications from all applicants.

## **VI. Application Evaluation:**

Successful applications will be subject to a four-tiered application evaluation process.

**Tier One (1): (Pass/Fail)** Applications submitted no later than the deadline specified in Section III, Schedule of Events in the form and detail specified in this RFA will move forward to evaluation (tier 2). If an application is submitted after the deadline, the application will fail and not move forward for evaluation.

**Tier Two (2): Application Scoring** Application scoring will be completed by the evaluation committee for review.

**Tier Three (3): State Survey Agency (SSA) Determination:** Proposal will be reviewed by Health Facilities Commission and the Nursing Home CMP Program. Proposals that are approved in tier 2 will be submitted to CMS for review and final approval or denial. Applicants will receive a notification detailing which organizations will have their proposal forwarded to CMS.

**Tier Four (4): CMS Decision:** CMS will review proposals and determine final approval or denial. The Nursing Home CMP Program will notify applicants of CMS's final decision. If CMS denies an application, there is no appeal process.

## **VII. SAMPLE TERMS AND CONDITIONS:**

Following the State's evaluation, grant contracts will be prepared as shown in the Sample Grant Contract.



It is imperative that each applicant review the entire Sample Contract with their legal counsel prior to submitting an application for a HFC Nursing Home CMP Program grant award and notify the State in advance if it cannot accept any terms or conditions. The HFC Nursing Home CMP Reinvestment Program grant award asks you to list any terms or conditions that your organization cannot accept. Taking any exceptions to State contract language may result in the application being deemed non-responsive and rejected. The grant contract is also subject to approval by the State Central Procurement Office; to the extent that a modification is required due to state policy, prospective grantees will be notified. Any later requests for contract changes will not be considered.