



Harvard Pilgrim
HealthCare

2019 Quality Grants Program

Open to all Contracted Providers, Provider Groups, and Hospitals in Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, and New Hampshire



2019 Quality Grants Program Description

Dear Applicant,

Harvard Pilgrim Health Care is pleased to be celebrating its nineteenth year providing grants to its contracted providers who want to improve patient care. Since its inception, our Quality Grant program has funded over 290 projects, totaling more than \$20 million in support to improve care delivery and reduce costs.

This year we have revised the application hoping to provide clean, clear directives with abbreviated examples of clinically pertinent topics that may guide your research. On our website you will find this overview, topic examples, and the application at www.harvardpilgrim.org/QualityGrants

On behalf of all of us at Harvard Pilgrim Health Care and all of our members, thank you for all that you do to promote excellent, integrated, quality care. We deeply appreciate it.

Yours,



Michael Sherman, MD
Chief Medical Officer, Network Medical Management
Harvard Pilgrim Health Care

Overview

The Quality Grants Program is one aspect of Harvard Pilgrims Health Care's (HPHC's) mission to improve the quality and value of health care for the people and communities we serve.

For 2019, the program continues to focus on supporting clinical practice transformations, cross-discipline integration, effective care transitions, impacting the opioid crisis and appropriate use of emergency department (ED) visits and reducing readmissions.

We also invite applicants to explore alternative methods of chronic pain management, behavioral health integration, and use of social determinates of health for removing barriers to healthcare. Any innovative pilot programs or projects reflecting your practice's passion for health care quality are also welcomed.

Please note: the maximum awarded amount for each individual grant is \$100,000.

Proposal Requirements

- Clear description of how the proposed project will improve overall health, quality of care, and patient experience in the targeted population
- Proposals are not limited to HPHC members but must be relevant to HPHC members in the LCU or practice that is executing the initiative
- Specific measurable metrics. Proposals without any evaluative metrics are likely not to be funded
- Submitted by an HPHC contracted primary care and/or specialty care physicians/physician group. Hospitals working in conjunction with community providers are also eligible to apply for a grant

Project Description Requirements

- Opportunity statement: the proposal must clearly state an indicated clinical quality need and the measurable steps to meet the need
- Project champion: list of appropriate team members and evidence of stakeholder/leadership support
- Milestones: include progress projections, contingency plans and a detailed plan of ways to sustain improvements beyond the grant year
- Standardized performance measures: baseline data, intervention and post-project outcomes
- Budget: must be consistent with project and explain how funding will be used to achieve and sustain project success

The application is available at www.harvardpilgrim.org/QualityGrants.
Completed applications are **due by February 15, 2019 at 5 PM** and are to be submitted to HPHC_NMM@harvardpilgrim.org Late applications cannot be considered.

Quality Grant Program Evaluation, Funding, and Oversight

Evaluation Process:

All applications are reviewed by Harvard Pilgrim's Network Medical Management and Health Services teams. This internal peer review is conducted by Harvard Pilgrim's Clinical Leadership team.

Major emphasis is placed on robust metrics and project sustainability beyond the initial funding cycle.

Funding Decision:

The appropriate level of funding is determined by the Harvard Pilgrim Clinical Leadership team. Funding determination takes the following factors into consideration:

- Project Scope & Sustainability
- Potential impact to Harvard Pilgrim Membership
- Amount requested as documented in the application

Project Oversight:

Detailed and timely milestone reports will drive the release of quarterly project funding. Milestone updates must include clear metric progress and a description of incurred expenses.

A final report of your project is requested at the end of year one and year two.

- Year one should include a detailed account of the budget and measures of success and lessons learned.
- Year two should address continued project progress, challenges, and any ongoing measures of success.

We encourage potential applicants to contact Network Medical Management staff with project ideas and questions. Please contact us at HPHC_NMM@HarvardPilgrim.org