

Updated August 5, 2024

- 1) Our research team has not yet collaborated with the AHRQ CDS Initiative and does not have prior experience with the tools or resources. Will that make us less competitive in the application process?**
 - a. All applications will first be reviewed to see if each meets all administrative criteria. If accepted, those applications will continue to review by the study section and evaluated fairly in the areas of Significance, Investigators, Innovation, Approach and Environment. While the RFA does require use of a PCOR CDS resource/tool, there is no requirement that an applicant must have interacted with AHRQ previously, or been part of a past project.

- 2) As we have only recently had access to the NOFO, we have not yet figured out exactly who we can partner with to support local IT staff at our partner clinic locations in using AHRQ tools (e.g., the CDS Authoring Tool) to create interoperable platforms and applications for EHR integration. Do you have suggestions for how we could identify potential partners, in a relatively short time frame, who might be interested in working with us on this?**
 - a. There are multiple resources for finding potential partners. Those interested in partnering with community health centers, for example, may wish to visit HRSA's Health Center Controlled Networks webpage (<https://bphc.hrsa.gov/technical-assistance/strategic-partnerships/health-center-controlled-networks>). You may also want to look through our posted CDSiC products for any topics that are relevant to your proposed research and review the list of workgroup members as a potential resource. For example, in this CDSiC product addressing PC CDS workflows and lifeflows (here: <https://cdsic.ahrq.gov/cdsic/workflow-lifeflow>) workgroup members listed on page ii may be a resource. Additionally, CDSiC members and stakeholders listed [here](#) may also point out some additional resources.

- 3) We are mindful of keeping the project feasible given the short timeframe (2 years). Can we share with you a brief abstract or description of our preliminary aims?**
 - a. We'd welcome the opportunity to provide non-binding, informal feedback on your concept to advise on its appropriateness for this particular RFA. However, we cannot provide feedback on the quality of approach or other aspects that are the purview of AHRQ's peer review study sections. Feel free to send us a 1 pager with your aims, background and high-level approach to clinicaldecisionsupport@ahrq.hhs.gov.

- 4) Can we set up a time with you to discuss specific questions?**
 - a. Please send your questions in writing so that we can address appropriately. This also helps us ensure consistency in our answers, as we respond to many inquiries. For questions that we receive repeatedly, we plan to add to the list of FAQs that will be posted on AHRQ's [Notice of Funding Opportunities webpage](#). Please visit this page frequently for any updates. We may have already addressed your question.

- 5) If a current paid member of the CDSiC team is asked to partner with another group (unaffiliated with CDSiC) can they apply? How would this change if they have a prominent role on CDSiC for e.g., workgroup co-lead?**
- There is no restriction in participating in multiple research efforts supported by AHRQ. However, the key question is whether there is clear scientific overlap when comparing aims and project objectives. For example, if a CDSiC steering committee member is working on a new product being developed by the CDSiC in that current year (perhaps in looking at patient-clinician workflows), but wishes to submit an application to the RFA that leverages a product the CDSiC created in a prior year around artificial intelligence used to develop a patient-centered lung cancer screening tool, these activities are most likely distinct and separate and having a defined role in the CDSiC would not preclude him or her from applying.
 - Likewise, if that same person was asked to partner with another group, being listed as a Co-investigator with dedicated hours listed on the application budget would help clarify that the two efforts are separate.
- 6) Will there be another opportunity to submit to this funding announcement in the future?**
- This is a one-time funding opportunity. Please refer to all applicable deadlines.
- 7) Is there an example of U18 application for reference purposes? We found a U01, but not specifically a U18.**
- Unfortunately, we cannot provide examples of previously submitted U18 applications as they contain confidential information. All required sections should be addressed as adequately as possible.
- 8) Is there a hard cutoff date for receiving feedback on the 1-pager?**
- We will do our best to review the 1-pagers and provide feedback as quickly as possible. It depends on workload, so a general expectation is up to a few business days.
- 9) If company does not have experience in grant writing, can we hire a contractor?**
- You are welcome to hire any support you need. However, you will not be reimbursed for this cost if your proposal is awarded.
- 10) Can an applicant submit two different proposals to the same NOFO?**
- You can find this information in [Section III: Eligibility Information](#). In summary, applicant organizations may submit more than one application, provided that each application is scientifically distinct. AHRQ will not accept duplicate or highly overlapping applications under review at the same time.