
DEADLINE for Application Submission: November 30, 2012

The Ministry of Health (the Ministry) has established an annual process for considering applications for Alternative Payments Program (APP) funding. All applications for APP funding will be reviewed and prioritized on the basis of defined funding criteria. Applications for APP funding need to be consistent with [APP Policy](#) and address the following criteria:

- (a) Provide an explanation of why the planned service delivery to patients cannot be effectively funded with FFS payments;
- (b) Identify how the planned service is aligned with and supports the health authority/agency and Government's operation priorities, strategies and plans;
- (c) Provide a clear description of the services for which funding is sought;
- (d) Identify measurable, intended outcome(s) from the planned service;
- (e) Identify the net cost savings or net cost increase associated with implementing an APP funded contract for physician services;
- (f) Explain how the planned service will improve flexibility and efficiency in the utilization of health care system resources (Lean Management Principles);
- (g) Explain how the planned service will improve access to effective and quality medical services for patients;
- (h) Identify whether the health authority currently has the capacity to provide all other necessary staff and resources to launch and operate the planned service; and
- (i) Confirm that physician compensation complies with the provincial agreements for service, sessional and salaried physicians, as negotiated by the provincial government and the BCMA.

Applications will be reviewed and evaluated by an Evaluation Committee comprised of representatives from a cross section of Ministry divisions. The Committee will determine the relative priority ranking of the applications using criteria aligned with the strategic goals of the Ministry, as described in the [Ministry of Health Service Plan](#), Government Letters of Expectations, Key Results Areas and Office of the Controller General and Office of the Auditor General requirements, as well as [APP Policy](#) and directives.

Who may apply for APP funding?

An application for APP funding must be sponsored by a British Columbia health authority or by another government agency recognized by the Ministry (e.g. Ministry of Children and Family Development; Ministry of Justice and Attorney General; etc.). Health authorities/agencies are to apply to APP for consideration of funding for the following fiscal year.

Applications will be accepted for expansion of physician services currently provided through APP, as well as for new physician services. If there are physicians currently providing the service, the health authority/agency will need to identify whether the physicians are aware of and supportive of the proposal. If the physicians are not aware or supportive, the health authority needs to explain how this will be addressed.

What are the specific dates for the 2012/13 APP Funding Application Process?

Completed applications (using the application form) are to be sent electronically to the Physician Compensation Branch at the Ministry of Health via secure file delivery (APP contracts folder)* by **November 30, 2012 at 4:00PM PST**. Please send an email to the Physician Compensation notifying Ministry staff that the application(s) was/were loaded (HLTH.PhysicianComp@gov.bc.ca).

The APP Funding Application Form can be found on the Alternative Payments Program, Physician Compensation Branch, Ministry of Health [webpage](#).

The Evaluation Committee may forward questions for clarification to applicants and request further information. The Committee will aim to inform the applicants of their decision by **January 31, 2013**.

Successful applicants will need to prepare a service agreement(s) in a manner consistent with:

- (a) the parameters endorsed by the Evaluation Committee,
- (b) the Ministry's [APP Policy](#) and Ministry directions,
- (c) the [Physician Master Agreement's Alternative Payments Subsidiary Agreement](#).

Unsuccessful applicants may request a debriefing meeting, which would be held during the months of April to May 2013.

For more information contact:

Physician Compensation Branch
Medical Services & Health Human Resources Division
Ministry of Health
E MAIL: HLTH.PhysicianComp@gov.bc.ca
PHONE: 250-952-3588

* *If you cannot access the secure file delivery site, please contact the Physician Compensation Branch at: (250)952-3588.*