

## Frequently Asked Questions for the 2024 Open Funding Opportunity



DELTA DENTAL OF COLORADO FOUNDATION

### What is the grant application deadline?

Applications must be submitted by 11:59 PM on February 15, 2024. Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted.

### Does our grant application have to align to both the prevention and place-based initiatives?

No. These are two separate initiatives and the grant application only needs to align with one or the other.

### Can we run our ideas past you before developing our application or if we have any additional questions?

Of course! We encourage you to contact us. You can schedule a time to speak with a grantmaking staff member by email. Also, for additional information, review our [grant guidelines](#).

### Is this the only funding opportunity that will be available this year?

There are currently [three funding opportunities](#) on our website, each with its own set of parameters. We do not anticipate any funding opportunities outside of these this year.

### How much funding can we request?

We will consider requests up to \$75,000. Every proposal is different and specific to the proposed activities and the organization's needs. We will weigh your proposed work, need, and expenses when determining an award amount.

### Can we apply for a general operating grant?

In general, we are not presently funding general operating support. As a funder with specific oral health goals, we are relying on our partnerships with grantees to learn what is working well and the challenges that impact oral health outcomes. Your data, work, and approaches will help inform our future grantmaking and priorities. We are asking you to determine your oral health goals and how you define success and measure it.

Our funding, however, is flexible, as we are not expecting you to track how you spend it line by line (exceptions exist for large ticket items such as dental chairs or subcontract providers). Therefore, if awarded a grant, you will have the flexibility to spend it on the areas of greatest need in the program/department to carry out the work you've proposed.

### How do you define a program or project budget?

All applicants are expected to submit a program/department budget under which the proposed work falls. We have provided two budget templates for you ([Open Place Based/Prevention](#) and another for [Prevention Universal Pre-Kindergarten](#)), or you are welcome to submit your own as long as it has the information listed in the template. As illustrated in the template, please include how much of the total program/department budget you are requesting from the Foundation. In the narrative, please describe how you anticipate using a grant from the Delta Dental of Colorado Foundation.

### Can organizations submit more than one application for different initiatives?

Yes, we will consider requests for different priority areas from grantees. We, however, strongly encourage you to speak to a grantmaking staff member to determine alignment with our priority areas.

### Contact us!

You can reach out to a specific team member:

#### Place-Based:

**Carla Castillo**  
(Se habla español)  
Senior Program Officer  
[ccastillo@ddpco.com](mailto:ccastillo@ddpco.com)

#### Prevention:

**Mara Holiday**  
Senior Program Officer  
[mholiday@ddpco.com](mailto:mholiday@ddpco.com)

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### Are the criteria on the website?

Yes, the detailed information is in the [grant guidelines](#), listed on the website.

### Can I ask for an application?

The DDCOF grant applications are submitted online. Applicants will be required to create an account and complete their questions online. You will be able to stop, save, and return to your account at any time. It also keeps historical information that can be helpful when applying for future grants at the foundation. Create and access your account [here](#).

### Is there a cap on administrative/in-direct overhead?

Indirect costs may not exceed 10% of total program costs. We have included a line item for indirect costs in the program budget template. Please indicate how much of the program/department budget is indirect.

### What are DDCOF's approach to and requirements for evaluation?

DDCOF is deeply committed to evaluation. We believe evaluating ourselves and understanding the successes and challenges faced by our partners provides the greatest chance to learn and identify opportunities to deepen impact. We respect that our partners have various ways of evaluating their work and have diverse levels of capacity and internal expertise. We seek to understand how you evaluate your work and the impact of your program.

As part of our application process, we ask about your intended outcomes and how you plan to measure and document results. We require annual interim reports for multi-year grants and final reports for all grants. We also request your participation in a one-day learning network hosted by DDCOF and the Colorado Health Institute.

### What do you mean by patient assistance funds?

We define patient assistance funds as direct compensation for dental care to individuals by Delta Dental of Colorado Foundation. We will consider supporting programs and processes that organizations have in place to help individuals access, pay for, and/or navigate access to care. In other words, we won't cut a check for an individual person to get dental care, but we will consider supporting programs that help people get care. We will only consider funding this kind of expense as part of a larger request and when this is an option of last resort (for example, if a low-income client is not eligible for any other kinds of support, such as Medicaid or another funding option).

### We would like to apply, but we are not located in the San Luis Valley or East Metro Denver. We've received funding from you in the past. Are we eligible to apply?

Funding for the Prevention/Early Childhood is a funding area that is open to organizations and programs across Colorado. The Place-Based Access to Care funding is currently focused on the two communities below. Organizations and programs operating in one or both of these regions are welcome to apply. While your organization does not need to be based within either of these regions, your work does need to tangibly serve the people living within these regions.

**San Luis Valley:** Organizations serving people living in the six-county region of the San Luis Valley. Counties include Alamosa, Conejos, Costilla, Mineral, Rio Grande, and Saguache.

**East Denver metro:** Organizations serving people living in the neighborhoods of Montbello, Green Valley Ranch, Swansea, Elyria, Globeville, and/or Northwest Aurora (generally: North Aurora, Hoffman Heights/Jewell Heights, and Fitzsimmons neighborhoods).

### Will these grants fund existing dental health programs? For example, if we are already providing dental health services, but need additional funds to supplement or expand services, would we be eligible?

It depends on your program location and demographic served. Theoretically yes, this would be eligible, as long as it is in line with the goal and focus population of one of the initiatives.

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### **How sophisticated of financials are you looking for?**

It's not about sophistication, it's about core information. If you are unsure about what we are asking for, please reach out to one of our grantmaking staff members to discuss your question. Click [here](#) for information on nonprofit financials by the National Council of Nonprofits.

### **Would you consider the purchase of a mobile unit to either provide transportation or actual services within the unit?**

No, the purchase of a mobile unit is not something we would consider within this RFP cycle. However, we would consider the cost of equipment or the salary of staff operating the mobile unit.

## **For current grantees**

### **I am a current grantee, and our grant period is ending in 2023. Our report is due later this year. Do we need to submit our report early to apply for this opportunity?**

No, this does not affect your eligibility to apply. You may submit your report within the timeline of your grant agreement. The program officer may have questions about the progress of your current grant.

### **I am a current grantee or have previously applied, how do I know if I already have an existing account?**

Please email [grants@ddpco.com](mailto:grants@ddpco.com)

## **Will you consider funding...**

### **Salary support such as a dental hygienist or dental assistant?**

Yes, we will consider salary support, but we encourage grantees to include a plan that describes how this position will be sustained. We would look to Medicaid funding, HRSA funding, or other blended and braided types of funding to provide the bulk of this FTE's salary cost.

### **Water filling stations?**

No, we will not fund water-filling stations at this time.

### **Public policy work?**

While we will not fund lobbying efforts as part of this grant opportunity, we will consider funding policy activities that focus on improving oral health access, care, or systems change. We encourage you to call us to discuss your proposal idea.

### **Individual schools (or does it need to be an application from the District)?**

Yes, individual schools or districts can apply.

### **The purchase of a vehicle to either provide transportation or actual services within the vehicle?**

No, the purchase of a vehicle is not something we would consider since we will not fund capital costs as part of this fund. However, we invite you to learn more about our [Mission-Related Investments](#). Also, we will consider applications that address transportation challenges, but not vehicles themselves.

### **Building construction, renovations, and capital projects?**

No, we will not consider building construction, renovations, dental equipment, or support for capital projects. If you seek funding for capital costs and expenditure, please explore our [Mission-Related Investments](#). However, we will consider funding the purchase of supplies needed to outfit a room or for portable services, but not the construction or renovation of building of an office or room.

### **Former Colorado Medical-Dental Integration Project (CO MDI) clinics?**

Waves I and II CO MDI clinics are eligible to apply for funding if the proposed work falls under our current funding priorities as listed in our grant guidelines. We encourage you to call us to discuss your proposal.