



Delta Dental Community Care Foundation

California Senior Oral Health Coalition 2022

Frequently Asked Questions

For assistance anytime during the process, contact us at SignatureProgram@delta.org.

Application Process Questions

In 2021, the Delta Dental Community Care Foundation announced a \$5 million, five-year commitment per community to help drive transformation in oral health for older adults in communities selected across the country. How do I apply for these funds?

The Senior Oral Health Coalition Program is the initiative previously announced. Our first, inaugural coalition in our nation's capital, Washington DC, is already thriving and making change, our next coalition will be selected in a community in California. To learn more, please consult the [RFP](#) and other materials. If you have question, please contact the Foundation team at SignatureProgram@delta.org. Please note that this program, application process, and requirements are very different from the Delta Dental Community Care Foundation's legacy and other programs. **Please read carefully.**

How do I apply for a grant from the Delta Dental Community Care Foundation?

The Delta Dental Community Care Foundation has a myriad of grant programs that follow their own respective timelines and application procedures. This RFP is only in support of our Senior Oral Health Coalition Program – the materials provided and processes described only apply to this program. For information detailing our Access to Care, Oral Health Education and Research, Local Love Community Grants Program, Delta Dental Endowed Scholarships for Opportunity, or any other program please visit our [website](#) or email us directly at foundation@delta.org

Is there a specific time period when the Delta Dental Community Care Foundation accepts applications for funding?

Different grant programs offered by Delta Dental have different timelines, requirements, and application processes. These FAQs, supporting materials, and application process are solely in support of our Senior Oral Health Coalition Program. For information about applying for the California Senior Oral Health Coalition Program and process, please consult the [RFP](#), webinars, and other materials provided or contact us at SignatureProgram@delta.org. The RFP deadline for the Senior Oral Health Coalition in California is December 2nd, 2022.

Eligibility Questions

Who is eligible to apply for this program?

Eligible organizations are those that are recognized by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service as tax-exempt and designated a public charity under Section 501(c)(3) of the IRS (Internal Revenue Service) Code. Eligible organizations include, but are not limited to, health and human service agencies (including dental clinics and FQHCs), colleges and universities and civic and advocacy groups that provide services in California. Delta Dental Community Care Foundation may also engage government agencies as partners. Nonprofit organizations (NPOs) that may not be eligible include those without 501(c)(3) status and religious or political groups, unless the grant is specified for a community outreach program (e.g., a religious-affiliated health care facility or food bank). In addition, the organization must share the Foundation's values

and align with its mission. All potential organizations require vetting to ensure that the organization serves a charitable purpose, and the Delta Dental Community Care Foundation grant will be used to further that charitable purpose.

Do I have to be an existing or past Delta Dental Community Care Foundation partner to apply for this program?

No. Any eligible organization providing oral health or related services to the people of California is eligible.

My organization delivers services that span more than one of your focus areas and has or is participating in other programs, such as Access to Care. Can I apply for this RFP if I currently have a grant from the Delta Dental Community Care Foundation?

Yes. This program is independent of our other grantmaking efforts.

My organization is working outside of the United States, how can I apply for funding for that work?

Philanthropic funding for organizations and programs outside of the United States is not available.

Proposal Criteria Questions

My organization believes that we can best meet the needs of our community and the RFP by submitting alone as a single unit. Can we go it alone?

No. This effort is about building coalitions, safety nets, and focusing on the beneficiaries. We believe that community problems require community solutions, and it will take a community of practice to break the persistent and pernicious lack of access to quality, affordable oral healthcare for seniors. This is a public health crisis, and we believe collective action is required.

Is there a target area or population we should aim to serve that would give the proposal an advantage for being selected?

The only mandatory service criteria is the focus on addressing the senior oral health crisis. Your proposal should include an outline and description on how and why your organization aims to serve this population and how it makes an impact on your community. No one population will give a proposal an advantage over another proposal, but you do want to demonstrate and share your understanding of health disparities in your community among the target older adult population and how you plan to address barriers.

The first coalition had two partners - is there a target number of coalition partners? Or is it whatever works best for our community?

There is no target number of coalition partners. The coalition must be comprised of at least two partners, but there is not a maximum number. Partnerships should be made up of eligible organizations who will work cohesively through close, consistent collaboration to achieve shared goals through the duration of this five-year program. The coalition ought to be built to achieve your goals, reach your target audience, and transform access for seniors. That is the north star in this program.

Are capital costs allowed within the budget?

While not specifically prohibited, capital costs will need to be mission critical and directly connected to achieving the goals of this program. If your organization feels it is necessary, please include a detailed explanation as to why.

Are there specific dental services the Foundation wants to see or certain levels of care? Similarly, what about a specific number of senior patients served?

No, there is no specific level of care or number of patients the Foundation hopes to see within a proposal, or program. Your organizations understand the needs of your communities – your proposal should focus on how you aim to address and change the senior oral health crisis in your community based on the specific needs of the community.

What measures are favorable in one's proposal?

Establishing measures of success, metrics, and KPIs will be a part of the coalition process you, with your collaborators, will make these decisions. Ideal metrics will demonstrate the transformation made at both system and patient levels. Number of dental encounters, patients, and procedures will be helpful information but may not show the shift and permanence of the work that is being sought. No “right” recipe, just food for thought.

How much baseline data do you expect us to have in the RFP versus baseline data that we begin to collect after the coalition is funded?

It is always helpful to highlight your aptitude and existing capabilities in data collection, measurement, and insight but we also do not expect you to have all of the answers. The larger measurement and data methodology will be created by the coalition in the outlined process.

Award Questions

How many grant awards will be made? How will the money be spent, what will be our share, if selected?

The Delta Dental Community Care Foundation will be selecting one coalition proposal and is pledging \$5 million dollars split over five years for this CA-based coalition program. Members of the coalition will collectively make all decisions with support from Foundation staff. We believe community problems require community solutions and thus we are empowering the selected coalition to make their own decisions about investments, interventions, priorities, and budgets. In short, if selected you in concert with your partners will make these decisions and deliver on your plans.

Will there be any funding available during the planning period prior to April for small but important partners who we want to participate?

The Foundation does not plan on releasing any funds prior to the submission and approval of the program budget for the coalition. Budget due date and initial award period is currently planned for mid-April 2023.

I have submitted an application – when can I expect to receive an update on its status?

Building coalitions, soliciting community solutions, and creating collective action is not an overnight process. The review process will be quick but in recognition of the above and the amount of work and responsibility nonprofits are already saddled with, we have created a fairly long submission window. This is with you our partners or potential partners in mind but may result in a wait if you are an early submitter. Rest assured you will receive a confirmation of receipt and

periodic updates when they are available or substantive. We will communicate to all submitters regardless of outcome and should you have questions please never hesitate to reach out to us at SignatureProgram@delta.org. Please remember, submission for this program is different than in other and past grant processes, please review RFP documents.

Will this grant opportunity be offered again in the future?

The Delta Dental Community Care Foundation is building coalitions in different communities across the nation. There will likely be another coalition, but the location and RFP process is not yet established or designed. No information is available at this time about future coalitions.

Additional Questions

I am locked out of my SmartSimple account, can you please reset my password?

Please remember, this application process IS NOT through our GMIS partner SmartSimple and is different than other grant programs, such as Access to Care, that you may have participated in with Delta Dental in the past. SmartSimple will not be used for the Senior Oral Health Coalition application process.

