

**New York State
Department of Health
AIDS Institute**
Office of the Medical Director

**Request for Applications #20629
Internal Program #23-0014**

Clinical Education Initiative (CEI)

**SFS #s: CEIA2025 (Component A)
CEIB2025 (Component B)**

**SFS Event Names: RFA #20629: Clinical Education Initiative - Comp A (Component A)
RFA #20629: Clinical Education Initiative - Comp B (Component B)**

Questions and Answers

Questions below were received by the deadline announced in the Request for Applications. New York State Department of Health is not responsible for any errors or misinterpretation of any questions received.

The responses to questions included herein are the official responses by the State to questions posted by potential bidders and are hereby incorporated into the **RFA #20629**. In the event of any conflict between the Request for Applications and these responses, the requirements or information contained in these responses will prevail.

Application Submission In the Statewide Financial System (SFS)

Question 1: I am not finding the opportunity posted on the Grants Gateway.

Answer 1: This opportunity has been posted on the Statewide Financial System (SFS) website.

New York State has transitioned grants management activities from the Grants Gateway to the Statewide Financial System (SFS). State agencies who were using the Grants Gateway have transitioned to using SFS for those grant programs and business functions they were previously performing in the Grants Gateway. Not-for-Profits (known as Vendors in SFS) now use SFS to create and submit prequalification applications and may also use SFS to support other business functions (e.g., searching for bid opportunities (known as Bid Events in SFS), responding to bid events, approving grant contracts, submitting claims), depending on the work they are doing with agencies.

On-demand training focused on using the new grants management features in SFS is available by logging in to the SFS Vendor Portal and clicking the SFS Coach icon available on the homepage.

Questions? Contact the SFS Help Desk:
helpdesk@sfs.ny.gov | 877-737-4185 toll-free | 518-457-7737.

Question 2: How do I apply in SFS?

Answer 2: Please refer to Section IV. Administrative Requirements, E. How to File an Application in the Request for Applications.

Reference materials and videos are available for Grantees applying to funding opportunities on the NYS Statewide Financial System. Please visit the Statewide Financial System website at the following web address: [SFS Public Portal Homepage](#) and click the “Search for Grant Opportunities” tile. There is also a more detailed “Statewide Financial System: Vendor User Guide” available in the documents section under Training & Guidance; For Grant Applicants located in SFS Coach. Training webinars are also provided by the Grants Management Team. Dates and times for webinar instruction can be located at the following web address: [Live Webinars | Grants Management \(ny.gov\)](#)

To submit an Application an Applicant must:

1. Log into the [Statewide Financial System Vendor Portal](#).
2. Click the Grant Management Tile. Next, Click the Bid Event Search tile.
3. Enter the applicable search criteria in the Search Criteria Fields. To locate an opportunity; search by the Grant Opportunity name (SFS Event Name) in the Search by Grant Opportunity field:
RFA #20629: Clinical Education Initiative - Comp A (for Component A)
RFA #20629: Clinical Education Initiative - Comp B (for Component B)

Additionally, you can search using the SFS #s in the Event ID field as follows:

CEIA2025 (for Component A)
CEIB2025 (for Component B)

You can filter search by Status such as “available” which filters to include only the bid events that are published and open for potential bid response.

4. Click on “Search” button to initiate the search.
5. Click on Event ID link to initiate a bid response.
6. Please review the Grantee User Manual found in SFS Coach for additional steps on how to respond to various types of Bid Events.

Question 3A: What if I try to submit my application and it is past the due date/time of the RFA?

Question 3B: Would you consider extending the application deadline to 5/29 to allow the recommended 48 hour early submission to occur during the work week without the interruption of the Memorial Day holiday weekend?

Answer 3 A-B: Please refer to Section IV. Administrative Requirements, E. How to File an Application in the Request for Applications.

Late applications will not be accepted.

Applications must be submitted online via the Statewide Financial System (SFS) by the date and time posted on the Cover Page of this Request for Applications under the heading “Key Dates”.

Once the Application is complete, a prospective Applicant is **strongly encouraged** to submit their Application at least 48 hours prior to the Application’s due date and time specified on the Cover Page of this Request for Applications. This will allow sufficient opportunity for the Applicant to obtain assistance and take corrective action should there be a technical issue with the submission process. **Failure to leave adequate time to address issues identified during this process may jeopardize an Applicant’s ability to submit their Application.** Waiting until the last several days to complete

your Application online can be risky, as you may have technical questions or issues that will take time to resolve. Beginning the process of applying as soon as possible will produce the best results.

We do not anticipate any reason that the due date would be extended at this time.

Question 4: How do I determine if my agency is pre-qualified?

Answer 4: Please refer to Section IV. Administrative Requirements, N. Vendor Prequalification for Not-for-Profits in the Request for Applications.

An Application cannot be submitted/received from a not-for-profit Applicant that:

- (a) has not Registered in the New York State Statewide Financial System; or
- (b) has not Prequalified in the Statewide Financial System by the Application's due date specified on the Cover Page of this Request for Applications.

All potential Applicants are strongly encouraged to begin Statewide Financial System Registration and Prequalification process as soon as possible in order to participate in this opportunity.

Question 5: Can an agency apply if they are not prequalified?

Answer 5: Applicants *must* be prequalified in SFS (if not exempt) by the date and time applications are due.

Please refer to Section IV. Administrative Requirements, N. Vendor Prequalification for Not-for-Profits in the Request for Applications.

An Application cannot be submitted/received from a not-for-profit Applicant that:

- (a) has not Registered in the New York State Statewide Financial System; or
- (b) has not Prequalified in the Statewide Financial System by the Application's due date specified on the Cover Page of this Request for Applications.

The updated Prequalification Application and New York State Prequalification Manual for Grantees can be found on the Grants Management website at:
<https://grantsmanagement.ny.gov/get-prequalified>.

Question 6: What does the asterisk * mean in the SFS on-line application?

Answer 6: The asterisk* alerts applicants that a response is mandatory. Applicants will not be allowed to submit their application without completing all mandatory questions and uploading all mandatory attachments.

Application Format

Question 7A: Are there page/ character limits in SFS?

Question 7B: Are spaces and/or paragraph breaks included in the 2000 character count for entries into the SFS system?

Question 7C: Does the character limit per section include spaces? Does the character limit for “each response” apply to full sections (i.e., Program Abstract, Community and Agency Description, etc.) or individual Program Specific Question (PSQ) responses (i.e., PSQ 1a)?

Answer 7 A-C: All text responses to bid factor questions are limited to 2,000 characters. Spaces and/or paragraph breaks are included in the 2,000 character count. The character count applies to each individual Bid Factor/Program Specific Question (PSQ) response.

Any additional comments provided outside of an Applicant’s response to bid factor questions will not be included in your agency’s final application and will not be reviewed by the New York State Department of Health AIDS Institute.

Please note: Attachments are limited in size.

Applicants should use numbers, letters, and underscores when naming their uploaded files. There cannot be any special characters in the uploaded file name. **Also, be aware of the restriction on file size (20 MB) when uploading documents.** Applicants should ensure that any attachments uploaded with their application are not “protected” or “pass-worded” documents.

Please refer to Section IV. Administrative Requirements, E. How to File an Application in the Request for Applications for additional information.

Question 8: Can we write our application in Word and cut and paste it into the application form in SFS?

Answer 8: Yes, it is recommended to prepare your application in Word and cut and paste it into the online SFS system. It is important to make sure the correct text is entered for the intended question. If a response is not pasted into the text box for the intended answer, it may impact the reviewer’s scoring of that response.

It is also important to remember to save your application data frequently as you enter it into the Statewide Financial System (SFS) as the system “times out” after a period of inactivity.

Question 9: What do I enter for the Work Plan Project Summary in SFS?

Answer 9: Please review the instructions given in the RFA for the Work Plan section (Section V. Completing the Application, A. Application Format/Content, 6. Work Plan) for the Component for which you are applying.

Question 10: When will announcement of grant awardees be made?

Answer 10: The estimated award announcement date is August 1, 2025.

Question 11: When do you anticipate that the contract will begin for the project funded under the RFA?

Answer 11: Please refer to Section IV. Administrative Requirements, G. Term of Contract in the Request for Applications.

It is anticipated contracts will have a start date of October 1, 2025.

Question 12: In the RFA, Section "K" Page 29, Minority & Woman-Owned Business Enterprise Requirements it states, "By submitting an Application, each Applicant and potential Grantee agrees to complete an M/WBE Utilization plan as directed in Attachment 6 of this RFA." Kindly clarify whether the Minority & Women-Owned Business Enterprise Forms - Attachment 6 is incorporated as a reference OR must be completed and submitted with the RFA application in order for the application to be considered complete.

Answer 12: The Minority & Women-Owned Business Enterprise Forms: Attachment 6 must be completed and submitted with the Application for the Application to be considered complete. Instructions for completing Attachment 6 can be found on the first page of the document.

Question 13: Should the M/WBE Utilization Plan be reflective of just the first-year budget or all five years? Will there be a possibility of applying for a waiver from the MBE and WBE requirements? Is this form required?

Answer 13: The M/WBE Utilization plan (Form #1 of Attachment 6) should be based on the life of the contract, which is five (5) years. Eligible M/WBE expenditures include any subcontracted labor or services, equipment, materials, or any combined purchase of the foregoing under a contract awarded from this solicitation.

Please refer to the instructions on Attachment 6, Guide to New York State DOH M/WBE RFA NFP Required Forms, Form #2: M/WBE Utilization Waiver Request for instructions on applying for a waiver. If the M/WBE Utilization Plan is incomplete, and the applicant is selected for funding, the resulting award will be held pending completion of the required documentation. All Applicants must complete Form # 3 (Online Compliance System Payment Submission Confirmation), Form #4 (M/WBE Staffing Plan), and Form #5 (EEO and M/WBE Policy Statement) in addition to the forms noted above.

Question 14A: Are letters of support or linkage agreements required to be submitted for this grant?

Question 14B: May applicants submit letters of support from collaborative partners with their applications? If yes, are there any guidelines for submission (e.g., number of letters, length, etc.)?

Answer 14 A-B: Please refer to Section VI. Attachments on page 45 of the Request for Applications for a list of the required attachments.

Letters of support or linkage agreements are not required for this Request for Applications and will not be considered or scored by reviewers of this Request for Applications.

Question 15: May applicants include graphics (e.g., logic model, theory of change) within their applications? If graphics are not permissible within the narrative, may applicants include them as attachments?

Answer 15: Please refer to Section V. Completing the Application of the Request for Applications for instructions on how the application should be completed and submitted. Applicants are instructed to use the "Response" box for narrative responses unless otherwise instructed within this RFA. Your responses to the Bid Factor Questions in SFS comprise your Application and should be specific, succinct, and responsive to the statements and questions as outlined. SFS does not allow for submission of graphics. Any material added to a Bid Factor "Add Comments" box in SFS or attachments submitted in addition to those requested will not be reviewed as part of a submitted application.

Program

Question 16: Section 4.H (page 36) for Component A applicants states “Provide your plan for completing applications for continuing education credits, including the cost.” There is no reference to continuing education credits in the Component B instructions. **We would like to confirm that there is no direct role for the Component B awardee to request or manage continuing education credits for CEI.**

Answer 16: Funded Applicants for Component B will not be expected to manage Continuing Medical Education for Component A Topic-specific Centers of Excellence. As stated in Section III. Project Narrative/Work Plan Outcomes, Component B: Resource Center of Excellence, Trainings, the Resource Center will be expected to manage Continuing Medical Education Credits for the courses it develops and the tracking of these credits. It will ensure that the Learning Management System (LMS) has the functionality to award Continuing Medical Education (CME) credits from each of the Topic-Specific Centers to learners. The funded applicant will have the capacity to conduct surveys and tests required for awarding Continuing Medical Education (CME) credits and shall allow the learner to save and print documentation of completion of continuing education courses.

Question 17: Section 4.M (page 38) for Component A applicants states “Please describe how your program will work with the AIDS Institute’s Office of Program Evaluation and Research to conduct process and outcome evaluation of the program, including small scale mixed method studies to evaluate the impact of clinical education on quality of clinical care and health outcomes.” Section 4.L (page 42) for Component B applicants states “Describe how you will collaborate with the New York State Department of Health AIDS Institute, other Centers of Excellence, and the New York State Department of Health AIDS Institute Office of Program Evaluation and Research to evaluate Clinical Education Initiative (CEI) activities, including conducting small scale, mixed methods studies to evaluate the impact of clinical education provided on clinical care and specific clinical outcomes.” **Do you anticipate that the AIDS Institute’s Office of Program Evaluation and Research will oversee evaluation data collection, data management, and data analysis, or do you anticipate that the Component B awardee will have this data-related oversight responsibility with the Component A centers?**

Answer 17: Funded applicants awarded from Component B Resource Center of Excellence will not have responsibility for evaluation activities related to Component A Topic-specific Centers. The CEI program manager and staff from the AIDS Institute, Office of Program Evaluation and Research will provide technical assistance to Component A Centers as they engage in evaluating program activities.

Question 18A: Page 9 section A, paragraph 3: “Topic-Specific Centers will plan and conduct their own online education programs and work with the Resource Center in its role to register learners, award Continuing Medical Education (CME) certificates and/or credits, and archive and maintain programs on the Clinical Education Initiative (CEI) website.”

Many current CEI courses award CNE or CNE Rx. This is not addressed in the RFA narrative. The workplan refers to continuing professional education credits rather than simply CME (page 2 Task 1.5). Is awarding CNE/CNE Rx expected, or allowed if the center feels it is warranted, or not allowed since the RFA language specifies CME?

Question 18B: Will grantees work with the Component B accreditation system, or must they find their own accreditor? Should applicants be prepared to offer CME only? What about CNE or CPE?

Answer 18 A-B: As stated in Section III. Project Narrative/Work Plan Outcomes, Component A: Topic-specific Center of Excellence, the Topic-Specific Centers are expected to conduct their own online education programs and work with the Resource Center in its role to register learners, award Continuing Medical Education (CME) certificates and/or credits, and archive and maintain programs on the Clinical Education Initiative (CEI) website. Offering CNE or other profession-specific continuing education credits would be considered outside of the scope of this RFA and would not be supported with Clinical Education Initiative funds. The AIDS Institute acknowledges that many advance practice nurses can claim CME.

Question 19: Do lectures given to mid-level providers such as nurse practitioners and physician assistants also count toward the annual educational course requirement, as they have a method of obtaining continuing training credits that is different from that of physicians?

Answer 19: A minimal number of courses can be directed to mid-level providers and PAs, but as noted above the only continuing education credits that can be funded under the CEI initiative are Continuing Medical Education credits.

Question 20: Page 9 last paragraph: “Continuing Medical Education (CME) certificates must be awarded to learners through the CEItraining.org website’s learner interface (i.e. MyCEI)” and Page 10 Paragraph 1: “Each Topic-Specific Center will cover its cost of course approval and the awarding of individual certificates and will be expected to negotiate competitive rates for course approval and learner certificates. This will serve to maximize use of resources to support the educational programs. The cost of Continuing Medical Education (CME) course approval and learner certificates will be subject to AIDS Institute approval”

Currently, all CE accredited courses offered through CEI are accredited through one ACGME accredited institution (University of Rochester). All CE certificates are issued through this body and reach the learners through MyCEI. If each Topic Specific Center will separately negotiate the cost of CE, does this mean that there are potentially 3 separate ACGME accreditation entities granting CE for CEI activities (1 per center) or does the RC or NYS AI determine the entity granting the CE and the Topic Specific Centers enter into a cost negotiation with that designated entity?

Answer 20: Yes, each Component A Center of Excellence will be responsible for awarding their own Continuing Medical Education (CME) credits to learners. Please refer to Section III. Project Narrative/Work Plan Outcomes, Component A: Topic-specific Center of Excellence in the Request for Applications for more details.

Question 21: Re: III. Project Narrative/Work Plan Outcomes: 3: Trainings
“Annual training deliverables will be provided, consistently offering a minimum of 90-100 clinical education and interactive courses for New York State Clinicians”

Do lectures given to trainees such as those in medical school, residencies, and fellowships count toward the annual educational course requirement given that these participants typically do not receive CME credits?

Answer 21: The intended audience is described in Section III. Project Narrative/Work Plan Outcomes, Component A: Topic-specific Center of Excellence as follows: Medical Doctors (MDs), Doctors of Osteopathy (DOs), physician assistants (PAs), nurse practitioners (NPs), registered nurses (RNs), and other public health staff working in sexual health/Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) clinics. Use of CEI funding to educate and train medical students and residents is not permitted.

Question 22: Re: III. Project Narrative/Work Plan Outcomes: A Program Model Description, Component A: Topic Specific Centers of Excellence

“Each Topic-Specific Center will cover its cost of course approval and the awarding of individual certificates and will be expected to negotiate competitive rates for course approval and learner certificates”

Can CME credits for those attending the educational activities be offered free of cost to attendants?

Answer 22: Yes, it is expected that free continuing education credits would be offered by Component A and B.

Question 23: Page 12, g “Provide technical assistance to improve health care providers’ capacity to enhance patient self-management skills.”

Can you explain what this is referring to? For example, would this be technical assistance regarding health promotion or health care seeking behavior (e.g. PrEP, testing)?

Answer 23: Clinical guidelines and good practice include health care providers assisting patients with self-management skills such as treatment adherence, tracking symptoms, managing stress, seeking support when needed, etc. Supporting health care providers’ capacity to offer PrEP and testing would be allowable use of funding under this initiative.

Question 24: Page 12, Section 3a Trainings:

The RFA describes a requirement for 90-100 clinical educational and interactive courses annually for NYS clinicians. These are expected to be delivered as 40% in person and 60% online. Can you elaborate what online trainings would be included? Does “online” include digital trainings that are not live e.g. a pre-recorded presentation that can be accessed at any time by the learner on a digital platform such as the CEI website or YouTube?

Answer 24: Online trainings include new content that will be placed on various digital platforms and include asynchronous and synchronous content.

Question 25A: Page 13, 3d Provide tele-mentoring for healthcare providers via multi-digital platforms.

Tele-mentoring is mentioned in the glossary under the category ECHO. Is the tele-mentoring requirement expected to follow the ECHO format? What is meant by multi-digital platforms?

Question 25B: Should applicants be prepared to launch ECHO telementoring programs? If not, please clarify.

Answer 25 A-B: Please see Addendum #1 that was issued on May 12, 2025.

ECHO is a proprietary program with which CEI no longer participates, and this reference was included in error. However, we expect the Component A Centers to develop interactive tele-mentoring programs. Centers should describe their approach to tele-mentoring based on their experience and expertise.

See Question 26 for response re: multi-digital platforms.

Question 26: Can you please define multi-digital platforms?

Answer 26: For purposes of this Request for Applications, multi-digital platforms are integrated systems that operate across various digital channels to deliver content.

Question 27: Page 27 Section 3 bullet 2 requires monthly client service and outcome data through AIRS.

What data would be reported to AIRS?

Answer 27: Please see Addendum #1 that was issued on May 12, 2025.

The Clinical Education Initiative does not include client services and therefore AIRS is not applicable for this Request for Applications.

Question 28: Page 3, Section A Bullet 1: “Provide progressive HIV, Hepatitis C, sexual health, and drug user health education to clinicians, with an emphasis on improving clinical care and promoting equitable health outcomes across all populations” and Page 4 paragraph 1: “equipping clinicians with up-to-date skills and progressive education”

Can you define what is meant by progressive in these sentences?

Answer 28: For purposes of this Request for Applications, “progressive” in this context is defined as courses with increasingly complex content.

Question 29: Can grant funding be allocated to generating a website and/or a phone app for users to allow for greater engagement/interactive abilities? If a website can be created, can it be integrated into our hospital’s Infectious Disease specific website, which is currently available to the general public?

Answer 29: Please refer to Section III. Project Narrative/Work Plan Outcomes, Component B: Resource Center of Excellence. The only website supported under this initiative is the Learning Management System website: www.ceitraining.org.

Question 30: Could you please let me know what the salary cap is for this RFA?

Answer 30: Per the U.S. Office of Personnel Management (<https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/salaries-wages/2025/executive-senior-level>), the salary cap for 2025 is \$225,700.

Question 31: Re: Staffing Structure:

Program Director (minimum Full Time Equivalent (FTE) .9): will have a master’s degree in public health, nursing, education, or a related field. The Program Director should have experience coordinating educational programs, developing curricula, and working with clinical providers and health care organizations.

Program Coordinator (minimum Full Time Equivalent (FTE) 1.0): will have a bachelor’s degree, or preferably a master’s degree in public health or related field

Do these positions require the outlined degrees, or would experience be a factor in the individuals who are selected for these roles?

Answer 31: Yes, these positions required the degrees stipulated in the RFA. Please refer to Section III. Project Narrative/Work Plan Outcomes, Component A: Topic-Specific Centers of Excellence and/or Component B: Resource Center of Excellence, Staffing Structure for more detail.

Question 32: Component A: Topic Specific Centers of Excellence:

Applicant must be a not for profit Academic Medical Center or Community Health Center with at least five years of experience in the area of clinical expertise for which they are applying:

Is the training of our staff member adequate to apply for Medical Directorship for this grant?

Answer 32: Please refer to Section II. Who May Apply, A. Minimum Eligibility Requirements, Component A: Topic-Specific Centers of Excellence.

- Applicant must be a not-for-profit Academic Medical Center or Community Health Center with at least five (5) years of experience in the area of clinical expertise for which they are applying.
- Applicant must identify a qualified Medical Director who will serve as Principal Investigator and is prepared to dedicate 25% of their time to CEI. This information should be provided as a response to Bid Factor question 1h, Program Specific Questions (PSQ)/Bid Factors—Component A.

Applicants must meet all Minimum Eligibility Requirements or their application will be removed from consideration.

Question 33: Applicant must identify a qualified Medical Director who will serve as Principal Investigator and is prepared to dedicate 25% of their time to CEI:

Do the Medical Director and the Principal Investigator have to be the same person? For instance, can the Medical Director be the faculty member and the Principal Investigator be the Division Chief of Infectious Disease at our institution?

Answer 33: As stated in Section II. Who May Apply, A. Minimum Eligibility Requirements, Component A: Topic-Specific Centers of Excellence, the applicant must identify a qualified Medical Director who will serve as Principal Investigator and is prepared to dedicate 25% of their time to CEI. This role must be fulfilled by one (1) person.

Question 34: III. Project Narrative/Work Plan Outcomes

4: Technical Assistance: Provide clinical experts to respond to calls Monday-Friday from 8 am to 8 pm with the capacity for expanding hours of operation in response to identified need?

Would it be appropriate and permissible for our intrinsic Infectious Disease on call system, which involves an on call Infectious Disease fellow and attending on nights and weekends, to answer STD related calls from providers looking for consultation.

Answer 34: This would be permissible as long as the calls are answered based on the description in this section. Applicants are instructed to describe how they propose to address technical assistance needs and questions from health care organizations related to New York State Department of Health AIDS Institute Clinical Guidelines and Policies in Program Specific Questions (PSQ)/Bid Factors #4e.

Question 35A: Attachment 2: Stipend Reimbursement Guidance

Preceptorships:

“Honoraria for preceptorship consisting of 6 – 8 hours per day may be \$500 for 1-2-day preceptorship and \$1,000 for 3-5 day preceptorship.

The honorarium includes travel costs. The CEI Contract Manager will review and may approve a higher rate on a case-by-case basis.”

What exactly constitutes a preceptorship?

Question 35B: Can the program provide remuneration to external hosts of preceptorship programs (e.g., the clinic that accepts CEI preceptees and provides on-site shadowing)? Are honoraria for preceptorship available for preceptees (i.e., program participants); preceptors (i.e., clinicians who host preceptees); and preceptorship program host sites (i.e., the clinic that hosts the program)?

Answer 35 A-B: Please see Addendum #1 that was issued on May 12, 2025.

This Addendum corrects an error in Attachment #2: Stipend Reimbursement Guidance. The Clinical Education Initiative does not support Preceptorships.

Question 36: Is the staffing pattern strongly recommended, or will other staffing models be allowed?

Answer 36: Reviewers will evaluate the proposed staffing structure based on program model proposed and adherence to the intent of the RFA.

Question 37: If a single organization is awarded multiple CEI components, are two content-specific Centers able to share staff?

Answer 37: Given the required FTE for each Component it would be impractical to share staff in the event that a single organization was awarded funding for both Components. Reviewers will evaluate the proposed staffing structure based on the program model proposed and adherence to the intent of the RFA.

Question 38: Will the program allow for part-time staff?

Answer 38: It is expected that the primary positions listed in Section III. Project Narrative/Work Plan Outcomes, Component A: Topic-specific Center of Excellence and/ or Component B: Resource Center of Excellence, Staffing Structure in the Request for Applications would be held by one (1) staff person. Administrative, clerical support, information technology and social media staff for the program could be part-time positions on the CEI initiative.

Question 39A: What are program expectations around evaluation?

Question 39B: Are applicants expected to supplement the proposed program with existing evaluation staff?

Answer 39 A-B: The Funded Applicant will work in collaboration with AIDS Institute staff to evaluate the delivery and effectiveness of clinical education activities. Please refer to Section III. Project Narrative/Work Plan Outcomes, Component A: Topic-Specific Centers of Excellence, 10. Evaluation and/or Component B: Resource Center of Excellence for more detail.

Question 40: How does the Resource Center's role in program assessment differ from OPER? Is the Resource Center expected to collaborate with OPER?

Answer 40: Component B will not have responsibility for evaluation activities related to Component A Centers. The CEI program manager and AIDS Institute staff from the Office of Program Evaluation and Research will provide technical assistance to Component A Centers as they engage in evaluating their own activities.

Question 41: Is reimbursement available for speakers of other disciplines (e.g., peers, licensed clinical social workers, others with relevant clinical experience)?

Answer 41: No. reimbursement is only available for those providers listed in Attachment Stipend Reimbursement Guidance - **Providers (Physician, Physician Assistant, or Nurse Practitioner).**

Question 42: Do podcasts and videos count toward deliverables listed on page 12 (Annual training deliverables will be provided, consistently offering a minimum of 90 to 100 clinical educational and interactive courses for New York State clinicians)?

Answer 42: Yes, podcasts and videos that are posted on specific social platforms (e.g., YouTube and LinkedIn) count toward the deliverables listed on page 12, Section III. Project Narrative/Work Plan Outcomes, Component A: Topic-specific Center of Excellence, 3. Trainings.