

**Allegheny County  
Department of Human Services  
Request for Proposals Q&A**

RFP for Systematic Therapeutic Assessment Resources and Treatment (START)

<b>Q&amp;A from the Information Session on Wednesday, June 29, 2022</b>
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**1. Will the START provider have the ability to refer in-house if they provide some of those supportive services that was listed out in the linkage agreements? Our organization is multifaceted and we have some of the supportive services located in other parts of the agency. Can we refer in-house or does it have to be someone that is not connected to the START provider?**

Yes, you can refer a Participant in-house if you have different supportive service elements contained under the umbrella of your parent agency. However, importantly, it must be the Participant and their family’s choice to use the in-house services. The Successful Proposer should work with the Supports or Service Coordinator to review must give the Participant and their family options of other agencies for the referral and document the options offered.

**2. Is there an existing EHR (electronic health record) that START providers utilize? Or would the new START provider be required to build START forms into an EHR or an EHR of their choice?**

START comes with a comprehensive library of forms and treatment plan structure. The Successful Proposer does not need to build their own forms. However, START does not have its own EHR system. START providers will need to use an EHR system, but no specific system is required.

<b>Thursday, July 21, 2022</b>
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**3. For the initial 3 years, is the model program funded? Page 13 of the RFP states, “Hours performing activities must be billed on an actual time worked basis at the rates proposed.” Is that referring to program activities during or after the first three years?**

For the first three years, the START program will be program funded. Allegheny County expects unit-rates for services to be tracked during the grant funded years in order to establish actual costs as part of the sustainability analysis. However, the Successful Proposer cannot bill for any services required as part of the grant.

**4. During the first three years and beyond, are waiver system funds used to support the program in addition to behavioral health funds?**

For the first three years, the START program will be program funded. After that, it is the expectation that while an individual's IDA related services may be waiver funded, the START program services would receive behavioral health related funds.

**5. Does full enrollment of 100-120 indicate a census of 100-120 or individuals served annually?**

100-120 individuals will be individuals served annually. We expect there will be individuals served across years, but the annual census should be 100-120.

**6. Are you open to receiving budgets greater than \$1.25 million annually?**

Yes, DHS will consider all proposed budgets for reasonableness and will negotiate and agree upon final numbers with the Successful Proposer.