



## Department of Health

ANDREW M. CUOMO  
Governor

HOWARD A. ZUCKER, M.D., J.D.  
Commissioner

LISA J. PINO, M.A., J.D.  
Executive Deputy Commissioner

July 21, 2021

### **RE: Funding for Local Health Departments to Support the New York State Public Health Corps Fellowship Program in Counties**

Dear Commissioner Dr. Whalen:

We are writing to inform you that your county is eligible to receive funding support for the New York State Public Health Corps Fellowship Program through Health Research Inc. / New York State Department of Health (HRI/NYSDOH). A total of \$3,547,330.00 over the next two years (\$1,773,665.00 annually) is available for Albany County through a Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) sponsored cooperative agreement for Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity for Infectious Diseases (ELC), CFDA# 93.323.

In the [2021 State of the State](#), Governor Andrew M. Cuomo announced the establishment of the New York State Public Health Corps (NYSPHC) Fellowship Program that will build public health capacity to support COVID-19 response operations and increase preparedness for future public health emergencies. The Governor directed the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) to work with LHDs and community partners to recruit and deploy up to 1,000 NYSPHC fellows across the state, excluding New York City, who will commit to a full-time, paid position and at least a one-year term. For more information about the NYSPHC Fellowship Program, please visit: <https://www.ny.gov/programs/new-york-state-public-health-corps>

Based on a methodology that takes into consideration county population and health outcome indicators, Albany County is eligible for a total of \$3,547,330.00 over two years to support up to 23 fellows annually, of which up to 3 would be Graduate Fellows<sup>1</sup>. While most of your allocated NYSPHC funding will be used to compensate the fellows employed by the LHD, a commensurate portion will provide support for coordination and maintenance of the program. Please contact [NYSPublicHealthCorps@health.ny.gov](mailto:NYSPublicHealthCorps@health.ny.gov) if you have questions about the allocated number of eligible fellows and/or funds associated with the number of fellows for your county.

The NYSPHC Fellowship Program will collaborate with participating LHDs to match and place fellows based on the results from the "Survey of LHD Priorities" which was issued on April 7, 2021. If your county completed the Survey of LHD Priorities when it was issued on April 7, 2021 and your priorities have not changed since that time, your county does not need to complete this survey again. If your priorities have changed or you did not complete the survey when it was issued on April 7, 2021, **please complete the Survey of LHD Priorities for your county as soon as possible and no later than July 30, 2021.** (see [here](#))

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<sup>1</sup> Fellows may have a high school diploma, however, preferred applicants will have completed a relevant Associate Degree –or– be within one semester of completing their undergraduate degree –or– document equivalent experience; Graduate Fellows must have completed a Master's degree or have completed their basic coursework and be within one semester of completing their academic program.

**Survey of LHDs Priorities link:** <https://forms.ny.gov/collab/Public-Health-Corps-Fellowship-Survey>

The NYSPHC Fellowship Program staff will use these survey results to send you qualified fellows for your review and approval, who also show an interest in serving your county. Through this state and local partnership, fellows will help address the local public health needs in your county over the next two years.

Compliance with the NYSPHC Program Scope of Work/Program Deliverables is required to receive NYSPHC Fellowship Program funding (see Attachment A). The Scope of Work/Program Deliverables document will also be included in the contractual agreement which will be sent under a separate email.

**Please review the Scope of Work/Deliverables (Attachment A), then complete the County Letter of Interest Survey as soon as possible and no later than COB September 1, 2021 @ [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NYSPHC\\_Interest](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NYSPHC_Interest) indicating the following:**

- Your county's interest in participating in the NYSPHC Program;
- The name and contact information of the main point of contact for HRI/NYSDOH;
- Your intention to accept the NYSPHC funds your county is eligible for and to comply with the Program expectations as set forth by the Scope of Work/Deliverables document or indicate the number of fellows your county public health network needs and are able to accommodate.

Existing ELC COVID-19 contract agreements will be amended to award NYSPHC funding. Once the [County Letter of Interest](#) to participate in the program has been completed indicating the number of fellows desired by the county, instructions for amending the existing ELC COVID-19 contract agreement will be sent.

The online application for Fellows to apply for the NYSPHC Fellowship Program opened on July 16, 2021. Visit the NYSPHC Program website for more information and Frequently Asked Questions [here](#). The NYSPHC Fellowship Program will be hiring Fellowship Placement Coordinators for each region across the state, who will be responsible for screening applicants and working with their assigned LHD to identify and match applicants based on location and articulated needs of the LHD. In the coming weeks (as Fellowship Placement Coordinators get hired and assigned), the NYSPHC Fellowship Program staff will directly reach out to your county's designated point of contact to provide fellow applications for review.

We are very excited about this opportunity to build the public health infrastructure and to strengthen the public health workforce and look forward to our continued collaborations to improve health outcomes for all New Yorkers. If you have questions, please feel free to contact us at [NYSPublicHealthCorps@health.ny.gov](mailto:NYSPublicHealthCorps@health.ny.gov).