

**Eligible Providers and Eligible Hospital**

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**Voucher Funding Announcement No. 2011- 02**

**12/8/2011**

**OKLAHOMA HEALTH INFORMATION EXCHANGE TRUST (OHIE)**

## Opportunity Overview

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### Oklahoma Health Information Exchange Trust (OHIET)

Administration: **Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH)**

**Voucher Funding Announcement Title:** Funding Opportunity for Eligible Providers and Eligible Hospitals to Promote and Implement Health Information Exchange in Oklahoma

**Announcement Type:** Initial

**Funding Opportunity Number:** 2011-02

### Voucher Funding Opportunity Description

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#### Legal Authority and Background

Information described under this Voucher Funding Announcement is pursuant to the Terms and Conditions issued by the United States Department of Health and Human Services (“HHS”) through the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (“ONC”) in a Notice of Grant Award for Grant No. 90HT0035/01 (“the SHIECAP Award”) and authority as a state-beneficiary public trust, an instrumentality of the State of Oklahoma, and 74 O.S. §581.

Funding for this program is made available under a grant from the U.S. Department of Health And Human Services (HHS), Office of National Coordinator, CFDA Number 93.719. Under this program, the State of Oklahoma has been awarded a cooperative agreement for activities that include, but are not limited to, establish and adopt standards and requirement for the use of health information and the requirement for participation in any health information exchange(s); promote and facilitate the sharing of health information among health care providers within Oklahoma and in other states by providing for the transfer of the information, medical records, and other health data in a secure environment and; establish and maintain a framework for the exchange of health information through a health information exchanges, and encourage the widespread adoption.

#### Purpose

OHIET recognizes the areas of critical need, as related to the exchange of health information, are the rural regions of the state. Providers and hospitals will work with Certified HIOs to connect via a secure electronic means to communicate, share medical records, perform referrals, obtain lab and pharmacy data electronically, submit reportable data to the Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH), and share data between electronic health records (EHR).

The OHIET Voucher Program enables providers and hospitals to meet ONC’s Meaningful Use (MU) criteria and to build the infrastructure that will allow health information exchange (HIE)-related tasks required in future stages of MU. The overarching goal of OHIET is to allow clinically relevant patient data to electronically flow across the state with an emphasis on connecting rural providers and hospitals and to ultimately improve public health, care coordination, and the welfare of Oklahomans.

## Definitions

Rural – For purposes of this funding announcement rural is any county in Oklahoma excluding Oklahoma, Cleveland, Tulsa, and Comanche.

Healthcare Provider Shortage Area (HPSA) – The criteria for HPSAs can be found at <http://bhpr.hrsa.gov/shortage/>. A map of Oklahoma HPSA areas can be found at [www.ohiet.org](http://www.ohiet.org)

Medically Underserved (MU) – The criteria for MU area can be found at <http://muafind.hrsa.gov/>. A map of Oklahoma Medically Underserved areas can be found at [www.ohiet.org](http://www.ohiet.org)

Critical Access Hospital – Rural hospital that has been certified by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) as a Critical Access Hospital [https://www.cms.gov/CertificationandCompliance/04\\_CAHS.asp#TopOfPage](https://www.cms.gov/CertificationandCompliance/04_CAHS.asp#TopOfPage). A map of Oklahoma eligible hospitals can be found at <http://www.healthsciences.okstate.edu/ruralhealth/mapshow/economic.cfm>

Small Hospital Improvement Program (SHIP) – Section 1820(g)(3) of the Social Security Act (SSA), makes funds available through the Office of Rural Health Policy to assist small rural hospitals under 50 beds that are essential health access points for Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries. A map of Oklahoma eligible hospitals can be found at <http://www.healthsciences.okstate.edu/ruralhealth/mapshow/economic.cfm>

Full Service General Hospital – Hospitals with  $\geq 51$  beds

Adopt, Implement and Upgrade (AIU) – means

- (1) Acquire, purchase, or secure access to certified EHR technology (proof of purchase or signed contract will be an acceptable indicator);
- (2) Install or commence utilization of certified EHR technology capable of meeting meaningful use requirements; or
- (3) Expand the available functionality of certified EHR technology capable of meeting meaningful use requirements at the practice site, including staffing, maintenance, and training, or upgrade from existing EHR technology to certified EHR technology per the ONC EHR certification criteria.

Stage One Meaningful Use (S1MU) – means

Meaningful use of EHR technology is a major goal of this funding opportunity. The current rule provides specific information on Stage 1 which focuses heavily on establishing the functionalities in certified EHR technology that will allow for continuous quality improvement and ease of information exchange. They include:

- Electronically capturing health information in a structured format;
- Using that information to track key clinical conditions and communicating that information for care coordination purposes (whether that information is structured or unstructured, but in structured format whenever feasible);
- Implementing clinical decision support tools to facilitate disease and medication management; using
- EHRs to engage patients and families; and
- Reporting clinical quality measures and public health information.

## Voucher Program Description and Eligibility

This Announcement will provide the means to begin the effective, secure exchange of electronic health information and to bridge the gap between the urban and rural provider communities. The intent is to establish interconnectivity to facilitate care coordination. OHIET is offering this Voucher funding opportunity to Eligible Hospitals and Providers to help offset a portion of signing up with a certified HIO to electronically exchange health information.

### Hospitals

Eligible Hospitals (EH) (as defined by CMS) who participate in this Voucher Announcement program are expected to participate in future stages of Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) measures of meaningful use (MU) ([https://www.cms.gov/ehrincentiveprograms/15\\_Eligibility.asp#BOOKMARK1](https://www.cms.gov/ehrincentiveprograms/15_Eligibility.asp#BOOKMARK1)).

#### **Voucher funding is available at two levels:**

Level 1: Send and receive CCDs via DIRECT standard messaging or equivalent, and query for and view data on individual patients via the web based portal from the chosen HIO. Voucher value for funding "Level 1" will be applied toward the cost of contractual agreements made with participants Certified HIO. This could include initiation/credentialing fees and subscription service/support.

Level 2: Connect directly with a certified HIO and send structured clinical data using HL-7 protocols for transmission of CCD, additionally hospital and ED discharge summaries for consumption by HIO users will be transmitted by EHs. Voucher value for funding "Level 2" will be applied toward the cost of contractual agreements made with participants Certified HIO. This could include interface fees, initiation/credentialing fees, messaging services capable of Direct standard messaging or equivalent, and subscription service/support and will be based on the contractual arrangement with participants Certified HIO.

An EH may apply and receive a voucher based on readiness for the Levels indicated above and determined by EH through attestation.

OHIET ultimately would like EHs to implement workflow enhancements such as single sign on and patient context managements so that data can be internalize from any source. OHIET encourages EHs to use this opportunity to ready themselves for compliance with ONC's future stages of meaningful use compliance. OHIET's mission is to better the health and welfare of Oklahomans through the active, effective use of electronic medical data.

### Providers

Eligible Providers (EP) (as defined by CMS) who participate in this Voucher Announcement program are expected to participate in future stages of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) measures of meaningful use (MU) ([https://www.cms.gov/ehrincentiveprograms/15\\_Eligibility.asp#BOOKMARK1](https://www.cms.gov/ehrincentiveprograms/15_Eligibility.asp#BOOKMARK1)).

#### **Voucher funding is available at three levels:**

Level 1: Send and receive CCDs via DIRECT standard messaging or equivalent, and query for and view Data on individual patients via the web based portal from the chosen HIO. Voucher value for funding "Level 1"

will be applied to toward the cost of contractual agreements made with participants Certified HIO. This could include initiation/credentialing fees and subscription service/support.

Level 2: Connect directly with a certified HIO and send structured clinical data using HL-7 protocols for transmission of CCD, additionally hospital and ED discharge summaries for consumption by HIO users will be transmitted by EPs. Voucher value for funding "Level 2" will be applied toward the cost of contractual agreements made with participants Certified HIO. This could include Interface fees, initiation/credentialing fees, messaging services capable of Direct standard messaging or equivalent, and subscription service/support and will be based on the contractual arrangement with participants Certified HIO.

Certified EHR Connection: This funding opportunity provides for the connection of a Certified EHR database and is limited to one per practice.

An EP may apply and receive a voucher based on readiness for the Levels indicated above and determined by EH through attestation.

OHIET ultimately would like EPs to implement workflow enhancements such as single sign on and patient context managements so that data can be internalize from any source. OHIET encourages EPs to use this opportunity to ready themselves for compliance with ONC's future stages of meaningful use compliance. OHIET's mission is to better the health and welfare of Oklahomans through the active, effective use of electronic medical data.

#### **VOUCHER PERIOD:**

The Voucher shall become effective on the date it approved by OHIET and will terminate upon completion of final milestone or expiration of funding.

#### **VOUCHER EXPENSE CAP:**

This Announcement is coordinated by OSDH on behalf of OHIET Board of Trustees. Funding will provide partial support for implementation of technology systems compliant with ONC standards.

The OHIET has a proposed budget of approximately \$1,500,000 to pay multiple Applicants' for the period of award through expiration of funding or announcement is withdrawn.

#### **VOUCHER AWARD AMOUNTS:**

A maximum of one application per provider or hospital is allowed. Per this announcement provider/hospital may apply for Level 1 or Level 2 but not both 1 and 2. A future announcement may provide an opportunity for provider/hospital to apply for Level 2 if they selected Level 1 initially however the amount of Level 2 would be reduced by the amount received by Level 1. Provide seeking funding for a connection to an EHR database will only be eligible if Level 2 is selected.

#### **Hospitals:**

Voucher Award Amounts:

Level 1 – \$7,350

Level 2 – \$17,150

#### **Providers:**

Voucher Award Amounts:

Level 1 – \$692

Level 2 – \$1,614

Certified EHR Connection (max of one connection to unique EHR database) - \$3,000

Funds for each voucher will be released as each milestone is accomplished. Milestones are based on the successful completion of each funding level or connection as stated in the Voucher Program Description and Eligibility section. HIO will submit a monthly invoice detailed 'by provider' indicating date each milestone was accomplished. Payments will be capped based on participants voucher award.

**OHIET may provide future funding opportunities based upon funding availability and adoption of standards as set forth by OHIET.**

**COST SHARING OR MATCHING:**

Providers or Hospitals may be required to provide the non-federal share, as described in Table 1, for the amount of funded work assigned and executed under OHIET Programs. Match may be provided in cash. Participants Certified HIO vendors are allowed to provide cost sharing as in-kind service but will be required to collect, document and deliver required match amounts to OHIET with each invoice.

<b>Year of Voucher Receipt</b>	<b>Match Funds Required Per Voucher Dollars Received</b>
FFY 2012: 10/1/2011 – 9/30/2012	\$1 for every \$7
FFY 2013: 10/1/2012 – 9/30/2013	\$1 for every \$3

**UNAVAILABILITY OF FUNDING:**

In the event state or federal funds used to support this contract become unavailable, either in full or in part, due to reductions in appropriations, the OHIET may terminate or reduce the contract upon notice in writing to the Applicant by certified mail.

The OHIET shall be the final authority as to the availability of funds. The effective date of such contract termination or reduction shall be specified in the notice. In the event of a reduction, the Applicant may cancel this contract as of the effective date of the proposed reduction upon advance written notice to the OSDH.

In the event Federal funds used to finance this contract become unavailable either in full or in part due to reductions in funding, The OSDH via OHIET may terminate or reduce the contract upon notice in writing to the Contractor by Certified mail. The OSDH via OHIET shall be the final authority as to the availability of funds. The effective date of such contract termination or reduction shall be specified in the notice. In the event of a reduction, the Contractor may cancel the contract as of the effective date of the proposed reduction upon advanced written notice to the OSDH via OHIET. Reductions shall not apply to payments made or due for services satisfactorily completed prior to said effective date.

This clause provides exception to the amendment clause and the cancellation clause of thirty (30) days notice.

## TARGET AREAS TO BE FUNDED

Hospitals and Providers that are in rural regions and meet one or more of the criteria established by OHIET for funding will be given preference in this voucher program.

The voucher program is a statewide program available to all providers and hospitals that meet the program eligibility criteria and agree to the requirements. The program goals, however, give priority, in descending order, to hospitals and providers that meet the following descriptions. This criteria is based upon the mission of closing HIE and interconnectivity gaps across the state so as to improve public health and will be used to prioritize voucher award within the zones described above.

Hospital Voucher Scoring	Weight
Rural	30
Healthcare Provider Shortage Area	20
Medically Underserved	20
CHOOSE 1	
Critical Access Hospital: ≤ 25	20
Full Service General Hospital (meeting the Small Hospital Improvement Program (SHIP) definition): 26 – 50 beds	15
Full Service General Hospital ≥ 51	10
CHOOSE 1	
Already Adopt, Implement and Upgrade	10
Already Stage One Meaningful Use	15
Ready for Stage One Meaning Use Exchange	20

Provider Voucher Scoring	Weight
Rural	30
Healthcare Provider Shortage Area	20
Medically Underserved	20
CHOOSE 1	

Already Adopt, Implement and Upgrade	15
Already Stage One Meaningful Use	20
Ready for Stage One Meaning Use Exchange	30

EP/EH meeting the following criteria are ineligible for this voucher program:

- Has contracted services from an HIO vendor within the last twelve months.

## APPLICATION & ATTESTATION

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### NON-RESPONSIVE APPLICATIONS:

Applications which do not meet all material requirements of this response or which fail to provide all required information, documents or materials may be determined as non-responsive and may not be evaluated.

### METHOD OF APPLICATION & ATTESTATION SUBMISSION

Applicants are required to submit an application and attestation to apply for this funding opportunity. The application and attestation is to be submitted online at [www.ohiet.org](http://www.ohiet.org) by the applying provider or hospital. A sign copy of the application and attestations should be submitted to [OHJET@health.ok.gov](mailto:OHJET@health.ok.gov) after the online submission.

OHIET or its designee will review, score/rank and approve or deny applicants. Timing of funding approval will be dependent on participants score. OHIET reserves the right to request further information or criteria of any or all applicants in order to determine eligibility for participation in the voucher program. Grantees will be subject to federal and Oklahoma state policies and laws as well as OHIET policies and any additional requirements released by the ONC impacting this program.

Applicants for the Provider and Hospital vouchers must select an OHIET approved HIO vendor for an application to be complete. Certified HIO vendors may solicit and assist Providers and Hospitals on completion of the application. The OHIET site provides a complete list of Certified HIO vendors and target service areas. ([www.ohiet.org](http://www.ohiet.org)) OHIET encourages providers and hospitals to select and engage the HIE vendor most prevalent to their referral patterns. For assistance with the application process, applicants may contact [OHJET@health.ok.gov](mailto:OHJET@health.ok.gov) or dial 405-271-9662 with e-mail being the preferred contact method.

Once a voucher is approved, an email will be sent to the provider/hospital and the Certified HIO identifying the voucher option(s), value and effective date of funding. Funds for each voucher will be released as each milestone is accomplished. The HIO will submit a monthly invoice detailed by provider/hospital indicating date each milestone was accomplished. Milestones are based on the successful completion of each funding level or connection as stated in the Voucher Program Description and Eligibility section. Payments will be capped based on participants voucher award.

The hospital or provider awarded will be solely responsible for planning, directing, and executing the proposed project, including the engagement of a Certified HIO vendor.