

**RFA Number 0704271204**

**On-Time Quality Improvement  
for Long Term Care**

# **Amendment Two to RFA**

Issued August 29, 2007

## **Change in Application Review Process and Timeframes**

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**KEY DATES**

RFA Release Date: August 1, 2007

Live Webcast (Applicant Conference): August 8, 2007

- available on demand at: <http://fda.yorkmedia.com/fda/catalog/>

Questions Due: August 17, 2007

RFA Updates Posted: August 29, 2007

Change in Application Due Date: September 28, 2007.

## Original Process, Page 13 of RFA

Applications will be reviewed and scored on a “first come, first served” basis after September 4, 2007 until all funds allocated to this initiative have been awarded or October 15, 2007, whichever comes first.

## Amended Process

All applications received by September 28, 2007 4:00 PM will be reviewed for eligibility as per RFA requirements. Applications submitted by eligible nursing homes will be reviewed, scored and rank-ordered from highest score to lowest score. The applications with the highest scores will be selected to be funded until all funds available for this initiative have been awarded.

## Rational for Amended Process

Under the original process, applications would have been reviewed and scored in the order in which they were received. The review and scoring process would have stopped after 12 applications were selected to be funded. Thus the first 12 applications to score 10+ points would have been funded regardless of whether higher scoring applications arrived after these 12.

The amended process provides that all applications submitted by eligible nursing homes by September 28<sup>th</sup> will be reviewed and scored. It ensures that the highest quality applications among all those submitted will be funded. It also provides additional time for nursing homes with limited resources to prepare a competitive application.

Additionally, while Amendment One to the RFA was posted on August 14, 2007, the Department has concluded that many nursing homes will not become aware of this additional application requirement until August 29<sup>th</sup> when they access the Department’s website to read the Questions and Answers. Amendment One requires applicants to educate and solicit support for the project from their residents, their residents’ families and staff. Nursing homes will need more than one week to reach out to the community and gain its support. A due date of September 28<sup>th</sup> provides all interested nursing homes with sufficient time to meet the requirements of Amendment One and doesn’t place them at a competitive disadvantage because they did not get their applications to the Department by September 4<sup>th</sup>.