

2017 Via Hope Recovery Institute
List of Application Questions and Responses
Last Updated November 14, 2016

This list of questions about the 2017 Recovery Institute application process reflects inquiries Via Hope has received and responses provided. Please note that some questions have been slightly modified so the response is relevant to as many readers as possible.

Q: Are non profits eligible to apply for the Recovery Institute?

Yes, they are, as long as they are publicly funded, they are a provider of mental health services, and they meet specific program requirements (see Application Supplement and Preview).

Q: Can our team's executive sponsor be located in a neighboring state?

There is no prohibition against that, if it's a national organization with a location in Texas. You need to consider though, that if your team is applying for any of the competitive programs, the executive sponsor is expected to attend in-person gatherings in Texas. Via Hope cannot use its funding to pay for travel for someone coming from out of state, so your agency would have to support the person's travel. Please address this in your application.

Q: This seems like a great opportunity for me to invite my supervisor and a group of people to get together to promote change at our organization. Is that right?

Yes, absolutely! We've designed the application process to help you continue, or start conversations between supervisors and team members about their organizations and the possibility of making intentional changes that will improve services and promote recovery.

Q: Is an MHMR eligible, if someone is a volunteer?

Volunteers can absolutely be members of teams. Usually, the team leader is a staff person, but in the past, applying teams were not excluded if they included volunteers.

Q: Can a single organization apply for more than one program?

Yes. If your organization chooses to apply to more than one program, you will be invited to rank its interest the programs. You may also be wondering whether your team can be selected to participate in multiple programs. We will consider whether your organization appears to have the capacity to do that successfully. There is nothing that prohibits one organization from participating in two programs at the same time, and we encourage you to apply for all of the programs in which you are interested. If you are initially selected for more than one, we will have a conversation with you about whether your organization has the capacity to support participation in both programs.

Typically when one organization has been accepted to two programs, there are different teams so that no individual is participating in two different programs.

Q: Are there any tips for applying to RILA?

Like all three of the competitive Recovery Institute programs, it will be important for every applicant team to read through the Application Supplement, review the relevant pieces of the Application

Preview, and consider the project(s) and answers together. You should also note that RILA has a requirement for the participation of at least two supervisors.

Q: What if our situation doesn't precisely match the requirements? For instance, our adolescent residents don't often stay long enough to transition to our adult services unit. They are more likely to return to their home agency or move into another system.

Even if the transition between your two units is not as much of a focus as it might be elsewhere, young people are served in both units. It would be worthwhile for both youth and adult staff to learn more about the strengths of this population and the stages through which they are developing. Your team could include a member from each of the units and meet the requirements. You should address your view of this special focus and need in your application.

Q: Our state hospital serves an at-risk population and we provide behavioral health services as part of holistic care. Can we apply?

Anyone can register for either or both of *Awareness Building* and *Peer Specialist Integration* activities.

In addition, your hospital can apply for two of the competitive programs: the Transition Age Youth (TAY) Initiative (if you serve both adults and children) and the Leadership Academy (RILA). State hospitals are not eligible to apply for the 2017 Person-Centered Recovery Planning Supervisors Collaborative program.

Q: In the application, we are required to commit to a number of gatherings/ events for certain Recovery Institute programs. For which part of these will we (as an organization) be financially responsible?

Via Hope will provide accommodation, breakfast, and lunch for each of your team members attending. Participant teams will be responsible for dinners and transportation to and from the gathering.

Also note that by completing an application, the Executive Sponsor is confirming that s/he will enable staff to attend planned activities, whether on-site or at gatherings off-site.