

COVID-19 Testing and Mitigation
Kansas Questions and Answers from the Project Officer

	Question	Answer
1	Our hospital is considering adding a Pulmonary Rehab program to help with patients that are still struggling with post-covid symptoms. We are still assessing the feasibility but hope to move forward with this. I wanted to confirm that this would be an eligible project. I feel like it would work under the following activity but wanted to make sure that I was interpreting this correctly. "Education, rehabilitation, prevention, treatment, and support services for symptoms occurring after recovery from acute COVID-19 infection, including, but not limited to, support for activities of daily living--this includes services for the range of symptoms described as Post-Acute Sequelae of SARS-CoV-2 infection (PASC) (i.e. long COVID)."	No. Q22
2	For website reporting, does that include anything in addition to what we are already reporting in regards to the number of tests administered or is the reporting the same as what we are currently doing and is the use of funds reporting the same as previous SHIP grants? Again, asking for clarification that this grant will allow the use of funds towards staff compensation for testing and mitigation, such as staff time spent administering tests, staff time spent providing education on testing, staff time spent on developing and implementing testing events, staff time spent conducting contact tracing and staff time spent investigating COVID-19 cases?	Yes
3	We are looking to purchase an interface program through our EMR that will submit all in house COVID test results to the state. At this time this process is manual entry. Would this be considered under this grant?	Yes. Q10
4	New salad bar with sneeze/cough guard to meet CDC/KDHE guidelines (\$10K) and cafeteria re-design of current configuration to facilitate respiratory hygiene amongst associates (\$20K)	Yes
5	High heat instrument washer and disinfectant - current contaminated instrumentation is transported to St. Catherine Hospital which is nearly 60 miles away from BWMH. Sterilizing instruments at BWMH would significantly improve infection prevention by reducing the number of associate contacts with equipment and instrumentation that is used/contaminated often (but not solely) covid positive patients. Currently, the number of potential contamination points by transporting this equipment is five (between patient use, to BWMH courier drop point, to courier pick up, to SCH courier drop point, to SCH) down to only one. Cost of equipment is \$47,946 and construction/renovation estimated at \$10K.	Yes
6	Implementation of tele-intensivist and tele-hospitalist program for SCH and BWMH to provide more immediate and comprehensive access to physician care and resources for higher acuity patients. Two tele-carts (one ER and one med/surg) cost \$5K each for total of \$10K	No - not allowable. Could use regular SHIP grant funds for the carts
7	Transportation and mobile unit – to ensure appropriate and efficient use of clinical resources and patient safety BWMH will contract with a local independent (not county) ambulance transport company to secure exclusive transportation resource for Centura Health through a lease agreement to include ambulance, equipment and staffing to transport patients between SCH and BWMH for higher level of care requirements and for capacity issues to ensure patients receive care either at BWMH or SCH depending on bed capacity. Some downtime will be used as a mobile unit for community mitigation education and mobile test site. Estimated monthly lease at 6K per month to include staffing, equipment and ambulance. If this is not eligible under the funding requirements, funds could be used to acquire the equipment and ambulance and for staffing start-up which would be \$150K.	Yes, if related to testing
8	Hematology/Coagulation analyzer used for COVID testing	Yes

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9	We would like to understand if the new nurse call system would be covered by Testing and Mitigation grant funds. Again it is to keep our nurses out of the patient rooms if at all possible. Our facility could benefit from getting a more up to date version. We can't speak to patients currently with what we have. It does not hook up to the beds. It is like SOS to call for help. It would help from waste of PPE and know what we need to take in and out of rooms.	Project Officer determination: Yes, allowable
10	We need to add additional parking spaces for our hospital staff employees/patients because we have had to make several parking spaces in our existing parking lot designated for Covid Testing Parking. This cost is planned to be around \$25,000. Would this be allowable for grant funds?	Project Officer determination: Parking falls under 'construction' and would not be allowable under this grant.
11	Our Business Office staff do everyone's screening for COVID. They are full time employees, would their time screening be considered part of an allowable expense?	Yes
12	Do you think that our Employee Health nurse's time spent working with monitoring staff exposures/quarantines and notifying staff etc. could be used in this grant?	Yes
13	Workstation on Wheels can we use the money for these?	Yes
14	Exam chairs in clinic we know will be something we need so patients don't have to lay down to be examined. They are around \$8000.00 a piece and we need six. Can we use the money for these? (10/22 Amanda's reply to my email - It is a cleaning issue but also our current exam chairs are tables and they are hard to lay down on and or get up on. This is very hard when you are having issues breathing, not limber etc.)	No
15	There is mention about vehicle purchases in the documents provided. Would we be able to purchase a vehicle for Senior Living if we could have backing behind the purchase of it being for mitigation purposes? There is not room for all residents to be safely distanced in just one van for appointments and outings. This second van would allow the space to keep residents safe.	Project Officer determination: No, not allowed -- it's beyond the scope of the project for broad outings.
16	Would new flooring in our hospital would qualify. Our current flooring is in such bad shape there are tiles that are missing and broken so we are unable to clean on a regular basis and are unable to wax the floors. We attempted waxing a small room and the tiles all popped up and broke. This would help with mitigation to have replace the current flooring so we can have a cleanable surface. (alteration/renovations that update surfaces to more sanitary materials)	Project Officer determination: Yes, allowable
17	I know staff used for screening is allowable but is the time frame from 1/1/2021 – 12/31/2022 or is it 7/1/2021-12/31/2022? I know it says qualifying purchases from 1//2021-12/31/2022 but didn't know if staffing fell into that category. Also, what kind of documentation will be needed for staffing? Currently managers log these shifts on a HICS 252 form which we then log in excel and pull their timecard for verification but wasn't sure what needed to be submitted for the grant.	Yes. We just need something that isolates COVID related screening times.
18	It states in the allowable uses "alteration/renovations that update surfaces to more sanitary materials". We have a whirlpool room in our LTC building that is old. The flooring, cabinets, whirlpool, sink, etc are in need of replacing. This would definitely make a difference when it comes to ease of cleaning and improved sanitation. Would any part of this project qualify?	Project Officer determination: Yes, allowable
19	I am looking at purchasing a software interface between our long term care electronic medical record and our laboratory information system that would allow orders to flow from our long term care EMR, including COVID testing orders, electronically to our laboratory information system and would allow lab test results, including COVID test results, to flow from the laboratory information system electronically to our long term care EMR. Do you believe this would qualify as an allowable expense for the SHIP COVID-19 testing and mitigation grant?	Yes. Q10
20	wanted to double check that additional equipment for testing would qualify. Attached is a quote to expand our in-house capabilities and increase throughput of testing. Would that work?	Yes.

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21	Will PPE (gloves, gowns, PAPRS, masks, etc..) be an allowable expense? I remember Jennifer specifically say no hospital beds, ventilators, vaccine distribution, and employee bonuses/retention incentives.	Yes
22	Due to an increase in post-COVID lung testing, we need to update our Pulmonary Function Testing equipment at a cost of approximately \$60,000. Does this fit the parameters of the SHIP COVID 19 equipment?	Project Officer determination: No, this is patient care, so not allowable under the SHIP Testing and Mitigation Funds
23	We are thinking about purchasing a new portable x-ray machine and lab equipment for in-house PCR testing with the SHIP Covid funds. I know the grant will cover the cost of the equipment; however, will it cover extended warranty for years 2-5 after the original warranty expires? Normally if you pay for years 2-5 of warranty at the time of purchase they give you a big discount. Please let me know your thoughts as soon as possible because I have two companies that have deals going on if you sign the PO by 09/30/2021 as it is the end of their fiscal year.	Project Officer determination: A warranty is allowable, and if paid up front is allowable.
24	Air purification systems throughout the hospital that are supposed to speed up clean air exchange hopefully reducing spread of COVID	Yes
25	In our purchasing department, we want to demo a wall and add in 3 more rolling shelves to store PPE	Project Officer determination: Yes, allowable
26	Nurses station – we would like to install a permanent glass barrier on the counter tops around the nurses station for additional infection control/reduce spread of illness.	Yes
27	Registration – We currently have 2 stations where people check in for admission to the hospital. At these stations, people stand side by side. We would like to recess that area and partition it so there is more separation for patients that are checking in. This would be remodel and not new construction. Would that be allowed?	Yes - cannot exceed more than 50% of the award
28	We are looking at replacing beds in the patient care area that would be air flow beds to mitigate blood clots and pressure ulcers. Would this be an allowable expense for the COVID-19 testing and mitigation grant?	Project Officer determination: Not allowable
29	We would like to know if replacing chairs in our patient rooms and common patient/visitor areas with washable surface chairs would qualify under this funding as a mitigating activity.	Project Officer determination: Yes, allowable
30	Courier vehicle for picking up specimens/swabs from other facilities that we contract with and brining those swabs back to our building to run for COVID.	Project Officer determination: Yes, allowable
31	New radios for EMS for purpose of using in case of an influx of COVID patients, to use on our COVID unit that is separate from others so the nurse is isolated, for EMS to use to report possible, suspected, or confirmed COVID patient to ER staff prior to arrival to prepare, also for our door screeners to use when arranging and delegating parking lot COVID swabs.	Project Officer determination: Yes, allowable
32	We have been discussing remodeling our “link” between our new facility and old facility. It would include removing carpet and installing cleanable floors as well as replacing old stained lobby chairs in the link and purchasing cleanable surface chairs. This is one of those projects that is costly that we wanted to do for COVID for infection control purposes and now we could afford to with this grant, would this be covered?	Project Officer determination: Yes, allowable
33	Also, we are wanting to expand and improve our front main parking lot to ease for drive through COVID testing, would these funds cover that? Would consist of tearing out old concrete and installing new concrete and enhancing a drive thru area.	Project Officer determination: Parking falls under 'construction' and would not be allowable under this grant.
34	Would an HVAC system be covered?	Yes
35	Another idea I have for utilization of the money would be to get 2 digital signs. We could use them to update the public on COVID testing and what hours we are doing that. Is that something we could possibly utilize the money for?	Yes

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36	Would we be able to utilize around \$10K in our clinic/patient area for wall protection, new paint that is wipeable, and cove base. We are trying to improve our infection control challenges within the hospital.	Yes
37	Would buying a new server be an approved expense. With the expansion of equipment in our covid area IT is needing to upgrade to a bigger server.	Project Officer determination: Yes, allowable
38	Would it be allowable to spend some of the funds on a refrigerator for our lab department? This would hold reagents for our chemistry analyzer, some of these reagents would be related to COVID testing. The question has also arose on a freezer where COVID samples would be stored.	Project Officer determination: Yes, allowable
39	if a pizza party and t-shirts that we are purchasing to boost employee morale would be approved purchased under the COVID SHIP grant	No - meals for staff unallowable
40	we would like to expand our Pulmonary Rehab, we have had an influx of post COVID patients, but we already have other patients and cannot spread them out from already vulnerable patients, for mitigation purposes without a remodel or expansion	Yes to mitigation of a remodel but no to equipment. Not to exceeding more than 50%
41	We had to purchase new and expand our current Telemetry to accommodate plenty of room for social distancing to mitigate the spread by separating our non-COVID from our COVID patients. My purchasing manager is asking whether the grant will also pay for the "Maintenance Contract". We purchased the cardiac system April 2020. Which we extended our telemetry system from 4 to 10 units. The one year full service warranty expired August 1, 2021. This is \$10,134.68/annually. This contract will run for 5 years. Total contract is \$50,673.40 for maintenance on the system. We see the purchasing of the equipment would have been "green lighted" on the examples of approved expenses, but the cost of the maintenance was in the "gray area" for us.	Project Officer determination: same as above -- yes, it is allowable and if they pay upfront it's allowable
42	We are planning on setting up a special room in our ER for patients that arrive with COVID symptoms. This room will mitigate the spread of COVID by allowing adequate spacing for providers and patients to be distanced as much as possible yet also allow room to treat infectious patients away from other patients coming in for non COVID illness needs. We would also like to purchase a new ER bed for that room to be utilized for COVID patients. Is that an expense we could utilize the funding for?	Project Officer determination: Yes, allowable
43	Our lobby chairs and registration chairs have cloth backs so they can not be cleaned appropriately. Could we utilize the funding for some new chairs in those areas?	Project Officer determination: Yes, allowable
44	We would like to submit the expense of a GE Ultrasound machine. I have attached the justification from the PRMC Ultrasound Department and quotes from GE and Canon. We are doing a lot of echocardiograms on post COVID 19 patients to determine if lasting damage has been done to the heart muscle. Research has shown that patients who have recovered from any level of COVID 19 may have an increased risk of heart failure and other complications in the future. If this is an approved usage of the SHIP M & L funds please confirm	No - post COVID pts
45	"Alteration/renovations that update surfaces to more sanitary materials" is an allowable cost. We are in desperate need of replacing/resurfacing our floors in our operating rooms, as they cannot be properly cleaned to meet infection control standards due to their age and condition. Would this project be considered an "alteration/renovations that update surfaces to more sanitary materials" that could qualify under this grant?	Project Officer determination: Yes, allowable
46	Will having our EMR converted to tablets for the nurses to carry to COVID patient rooms will be covered by this grant. This will mitigate the spread of COVID because the tablets will be to scan medications and take care of patients w/o taking the whole computer and COW into COVID rooms and then using that same equipment for other patients. Cerner wants to charge us to put their services on tablets for us and I would assume this would be covered, but want to make sure.	Project Officer determination: Yes, allowable

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47	We have been using a Xenex Robot to disinfect the facility with ultraviolet light. The service plan is due now. Would the service plan cost be eligible for the Testing & Mitigation grant? The Xenex Robot was purchased in September 2020. Also would the cost of replacement lamps be eligible?	Project Officer determination: Yes, allowable
48	Can we use the grant for a Bidirectional Interface for Covid Reporting and electronic case reporting for public health measures, would this be acceptable?	Yes
49	We are wanting to put in a shed for Covid-19 testing. However with this shed we would like to put electricity into the shed as well. Our thinking behind this situation is to keep the covid patients that are testing for outside of the hospital. But most of the time they are wanting a chest xray as well. It does not make sense to just do the covid test outside and then bring them inside the four walls of the hospital for the xray. So we would like to set up our portable xray machine within the shed as well. I do not have quotes or anything on this yet, but wanted to see if it would be included and accepted for this grant.	Project Officer determination: If a shed is a temporary structure, yes and will be taken down after COVID, but if it's breaking ground and expanding the footprint over the long term, that is construction and not allowable.
50	Could we remodel our patient reception area: re-design to allow sufficient spacing for patients checking in; keep the area for them to wait for lab, radiology, etc socially distanced. Estimated remodel cost at \$90,000.	Yes to mitigation of a remodel. Not to exceeding more than 50%
51	Could we make our website more patient friendly when looking for COVID information: hire someone to put COVID testing and education together in such a way that a patient could easily find information needed for testing and vaccine clinics, etc. Estimated development cost at \$18,000.	Project Officer determination: Yes, allowable
52	New, hands free lavatory faucets and battery operated flush kits for toilets \$11,543.40	Yes
53	New patient chairs, ours cannot be wiped and disinfected	Project Officer determination: Yes, allowable
54	A few new staff office chairs to replace ripped and cloth chairs	Project Officer determination: Yes, allowable
55	seating outside of the hospital for patients to visit families outdoors	Project Officer determination: Yes, allowable
56	New vital sign machines needed in testing rooms	Yes
57	Replace broken countertops in hospital area where the plywood is showing through, cannot be properly sanitized	Yes
58	Trophon2, completely sanitize ultrasound transducers (which we use to check for blood clots in COVID patients). We need a way to sanitize this after use.	Yes
59	Upgrade to portable Xray. We can use this machine to go in to the isolated room instead of taking the patient in to the common Xray room.	Yes
60	They found mold in the RHC. Environmental study named the source of mold was HVAC system. Will replace HVAC, which is on the allowable expense. Mold is in wall paper, so they need to have the wall paper removed and paint put in place. The paint will be washable so they can keep it sanitary. They are also replacing wood countertops with bacteria-resistant material, which is clearly allowable. The question is about the wall paper. The countertops are covered under the "Alteration/renovations that update surfaces to more sanitary materials." Do you agree that walls are also covered? The counter tops and cabinets are wood from the 1980's so they are not bacteria resistant. We are just going with an antimicrobial Formica type of material.	HVAC and Countertops covered; cans of paint - yes; mold mitigation - no
61	Could we use these funds to make 2 of our clinic rooms negative pressure so we can bring our sick patients back in house. We modified our old ct trailer to test those patients in. the trailer is not RHC space so we will have to move them back in house once the waivers are no longer.	Project Officer determination: Yes, allowable

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62	Our patient room #1 is across from the nurses station is considered a Covid room – however it is an old room so very small and not a handicap accessible bathroom. I thought the remodel of that room to make it bigger and we would make the bathroom bigger and handicap accessible which would make it more efficient plus safer for patients, especially the bathroom, and new flooring for infection etc. Would this be acceptable?	Project Officer determination: Is there a way that this ties into mitigation? We don't pay for improvements related to rooms for direct care.
63	Employee Assistance Program - Contract cost for 1/1/21 to 12/31/22. Staffing is an ongoing issue as the pandemic continues. Part of keeping adequate staffing levels is addressing burnout and mental health issues that have been caused by the ongoing and continued stress of the pandemic. Paying \$310.00 a month for the program, \$2.45 per person. The program offers mental health services, including help for stress, anxiety and depression to individual employees. This is accomplished in a variety of ways including telephone consultation, access to clinicians, counseling sessions, tele-video consultation, access to member website, work-life assistance, a mobile application, emotional well-being screener, crisis support and training. Employees are able to access on their own for personal services. The program pays for 8 counseling sessions- per issue, per year.	Project Officer determination: Yes, allowable
64	In our continuing effort to combat COVID-19/SARS COV-2 we are taking extra measures to mitigate the possible spread. We are allowing our employees to work from home if they have been quarantined and are able to work. In order to fully accommodate this it requires some equipment listed below. Digital meeting technology in order to maintain physical distancing and reduce traffic. Technology that applies to virtual meetings and work from home for employees: Phones - Jabra speak 710 MS VoIP- desktop speakerphone, Yealink SIP-T48S- VoIP phone- 3 way call capability, Grandstream WP820 Portable Wi-Fi IP Phone Cameras - Yealink UVC20- conference camera, Yealink VP59- Teams Edition- IP video phone- with digital camera, Bluetooth; Laptop - checked out as required - work from home employees; Firewall - VPN's as required - work from home employees All these steps help keep our hospital running smoothly and safely by allowing all at risk employees and quarantined employees to work from home thus preventing the spread of covid and keeping the hospital and its staff functioning.	Project Officer determination: Yes, allowable
65	EMS is wanting a Z-vent. \$27,292. The Z-vent is designed to filter the air before it is released so it would cut down on the spreading of pathogens while en route to the hospital. It is 4 machines in 1. It has the capability of a CPAP, Bi-level, Synchronized Intermittent Mandatory Ventilation and Assisted Control. Many vents are not designed to be used in a pre-hospital setting, because of the size of this vent it can be taken into a CT, MRI, or other diagnostic settings before ever being tested for Covid.	Project Officer determination: Yes, allowable
66	EMS is wanting a Zoll X Series \$34,254. The Zoll is a device we currently use on every call. The Zoll we have now, we take in on the cot to start getting vitals on all patients. Capabilities are endless on these devices. With the new protocols for EMT's we are able to practice to our full scope. Blood pressure, O2 monitoring, ETCO2 monitoring, AED/Defibrillator, and cardiac are things we all use currently. The new addition will have the ability for BVM measurements as well. The X Series has new technology that can also detect any type of brain injuries that were endured in the field or prior to hospital arrival. Any patient suspected to have Covid must have constant monitoring of their oxygen levels, breathing rate and cardiac activity. The X series would make transporting these patients to the hospital much safer for them and our staff.	Project Officer determination: This is unclear how it supports mitigation -- as framed it is more direct care, which is unallowable.
67	We have a project and we were wondering if it would qualify for the COVID SHIP funding. It is a vehicle to haul our medical mobile unit from site to site. We use our medical mobile unit for collection of COVID testing and for vaccination clinics. We are currently using employee personal vehicles, however this is not ideal for long term use.	Project Officer determination: A vehicle primarily related to COVID testing is allowable.

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68	In the Promoting Interoperability call last Friday, Brenda talked about the 2022 IPPS Final Rules. There are 2 pieces we don't have and we will need them to attest for the 2022 year. In the call she stated that KHA has approved the use of SHIP money to cover these costs. The 2 pieces we don't currently have are Bi-directional exchange and E-Case Reporting. We don't know the official costs of the E-Case reporting but for the Bi-directional it is \$10,000 up front fee and there will be a monthly cost as well. Brenda was not sure if the SHIP money would cover the monthly costs or not. Brenda will be sending out how we need to word the documentation to get the SHIP money to cover the costs.	Monthly fees would be covered during grant period
69	Could this be considered a strategy that would be allowable to reduce/prevent burnout of staff if they were allowed one paid day every 6 months to go and do what they enjoy and add it into our "wellness" activities. If you feel a spelled out policy would enhance, I can provide that as well. It would be nice if this is not allowed – what they would allow as a strategy to reduce staff burnout.	Project Officer determination: Unfortunately, this would not be allowable. As far as allowable activities, we've heard of hospitals creating a space for staff to unwind/ exercise/etc., hospitals contracting with a third party to provide staff with coaching, mental health services, etc
70	Also, the employees were having to use their own vehicles to take samples to Liberal for us when we need a fast PCR test done. We have a hospital vehicle, but it is not ok to drive out of town. Do you think we could get a vehicle in case we need to run samples? Also, we have a surplus of patients needing oxygen short-term because of COVID and our DME has no way to take oxygen to the patients without using her own vehicle. We did just buy a PCR machine so we may not be running samples as often anymore, just in case of emergency I'm sure, but the oxygen concentrators are becoming a hassle having to pick up and drop off in their own vehicles.	Project Officer determination: The vehicles primary use must be testing and/or mitigation related. So running samples or other testing related activities would need to be the primary function of the vehicle.
71	We would like to use the funds to purchase a CT injector. The Hospitalists and quite a few of the ER Providers order CTA Chests on patients with COVID prior to admitting or transferring. There is also research that says COVID causes Pulmonary Embolism in about 30(give or take)% of patients with active disease. The CT injector aids in the process of identifying the pulmonary embolism. Can you check and see if this would be allowable? Thanks!	No; Pt care - not covered
72	Would monitoring equipment that is connected directly to patient and centrally monitored (measuring vital signs, continuous pulse ox, etc.) be covered? This would help reduce the amount of exposure for staff, decrease PPE usage, and reduce the risk for cross contamination and possible spread of covid from using portable equipment.	Yes
73	Would the purchase of a Vapotherm machine would qualify under the grant? The cost is \$7,238, I have attached the quote for reference. In terms of need and criticalness it goes like this Vapotherm, bipap and then full ventilator. We currently do not have any ventilators, I have reached out to another grant to request funding for two bipap /ventilator combos and am awaiting approval. We are constantly moving our one Vapotherm around from patient to patient, based on criticalness of need	No; Patient care - not covered
74	Could we use funds to purchase an AIRVO? The AIRVO 2 is a humidifier with integrated flow generator that delivers high flow warmed and humidified respiratory gases to spontaneously breathing patients.	No, Pt care - not covered
75	Could we use funds to purchase respirators such as respiratory papr?	Yes

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76	Our patient room one which is right across from our nurses station is used for covid testing, as well as housing covid patients is very small. To mitigate the disease by enlarging this room would allow us to have more adequate spacing as well as replacing/resurfacing the counter top and flooring which would be better for cleaning to meet infection control standards due to the age and condition.	Yes - as long as less than 50% of award. If more, has to go to PO for approval prior
77	We have an old dumb waiter here to transfer patient trays down stairs from the patient floor to our dietary dish sanitizing area in the basement in the kitchen. It's VERY old and starting to quit on us, we use it to bring patient trays and other patient items down to be sanitized and cleaned, lessening the risk of exposure on contact surfaces. I should be able to replace the whole dumb waiter with a two man elevator in the same shaft for nearly the same cost as replacing a dumb waiter, allowing not only a way to get things to the sterilizer in the basement but also mitigation equipment that we need to purchase will have a place to be stored. Currently we can't purchase a much needed floor cleaner because we do not have space on the first floor to store it anywhere. We have a ton of space in the basement but the only access is stairs and no way to get it down there. We could also use a robotic room sterilizer if I could store it in the basement... only again, no way to get it down there. Would the replacement of this be covered?	1/10/22 - Project Officer determination: This would be allowable and be considered minor A/R because it is necessary for the hospitals larger mitigation strategy.
78	We are in need of a second set of automatic entry doors and a wall to create a screening entrance for our ER. We currently do not have this in place so screenings are face to face once we bring them in out of the weather. If we add this second entrance we can install a speaker with our nurse call system and avoid exposure by face to face contact, allowing our medical staff to have proper PPE before bringing the patient inside. Would this be covered?	Yes - as long as less than 50% of award. If more, has to go to PO for approval prior.
79	Dimension Chemistry Analyzer - this machine has the availability to perform the COVID total antibody test on patients. The machine is also used in the treatment of COVID positive patients. The analyzer allows clinicians to run diagnostic lab tests on COVID positive patients to determine if further treatment is necessary, and what treatment plan is appropriate for the patient.	Project Officer determination: If this machine allows for COVID testing, then it would be allowable.
80	BioFire - COVID-19 is a top concern for patients and clinicians, but several respiratory pathogens can cause nearly indistinguishable symptoms. The BioFire helps clinicians quickly diagnose whether the respiratory infection is COVID-19, influenza, RSV, or many others. Rapid respiratory PCR test results may enable better-informed diagnosis and treatment of patients. Quick turnaround on a broad menu of pathogens may also help clinicians make vital decisions regarding admission, isolation, cohorting, and additional diagnostic testing.	Yes
81	Lab EDI interface devices (2) that carry lab results (including COVID-19 testing results)- \$5000	Yes
82	1-Year Maintenance agreement for Cepheid machine that we use for COVID testing at our facility.	Yes
83	Portable x-ray machine (our hospital currently does not have this tech available so we have to transport COVID patients through the facility to get them a chest x-ray) ~\$115,000. Our radiology director is currently in the process of evaluating options and pricing for these machines.	Yes
84	Installation of a fresh-air handler for one of our patient wings. Currently this space has minimal fresh air ventilation. ~\$115,000	Yes
85	PPE Storage cart for COVID ward (~\$1800)	Yes
86	We are needing to make some renovations for an additional clinic nurses station. We have had to add nurses during Covid to keep up with testing. Also our current nurses station doesn't meet the OSHA six feet standard. This project will be around 15k.	Yes
87	We would like to fully enclose our hospital nurses station with glass to protect our clinical team. This project should not exceed \$25k.	Yes

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88	We are seeking funding to replace our current workflow for the patient/client acknowledgement process on most of our forms and documents, with an electronic signature process, using a product called e-Signature. E-Signature is a paperless, contactless hardware/software solution that would eliminate up to 7 points of contact with our current paper-based forms, ultimately reducing the chances of spreading COVID or COVID-like diseases.	Project Officer determination: Allowable
89	I am wondering if the expense of a Community Health Needs Assessment would be covered by the SHIP grant. We feel it would benefit us to prioritize health needs, and to plan and hopefully met some of the community health needs. After talking with my CEO, she wanted me to check if the SHIP Testing and Mitigation grant could cover the expense.	No for T&M; Will research and reply for Regular SHIP No for Regular SHIP
90	When reading through the guidance I had a question about the EMR expense. Currently in our Rheumatology clinic everything is on paper and no telehealth options really, would we be able to use funds from the grant to purchase an EMR system? The cost is around \$3,000 per month. Currently in Rheumatology all patients have to be seen in person as we actually have no EMR. This also means that when we have staff out with COVID-19 there is no one in the office to process records, send orders, or file the patient charts. Dr. Anderson would also be able to do more oversight of his PAs if he was able to see the charts remotely from his main office. Having no EMR requires more face-to-face time for our staff to be exposed to potentially infected patients. If we had an EMR, the staff exposure time could be mitigated from possibly contracting COVID and then passing it on to other patients and staff.	Project Officer determination: Unfortunately, we cannot fund EMRs in their entirety. If there are specific modules of the EMR that are related to COVID testing/mitigation/contact tracing, costs for those could be covered with the grant.
91	New SAN for remote computers to access our EMR - need to be able to handle remote access everyday. This will very much strengthen the hospital's core capacity.	Yes
92	Computers/Terminals for each patient room (approx 15): We currently have a computer on wheels that moves between patients rooms, so to mitigate the spread of COVID, we want to eliminate this practice by placing permanent terminals in each room. 02/25 - Project Officer determination: This is a grey area. I think we would need a clear justification of how this mitigates the spread. 3/03 - CEO response: We currently have a laptop with meds and scanner(computer on wheels-COW) that we utilize for all patients, and it can be wheeled room to room for patient charting, medications, etc. Instead of having this equipment go in and out of all patient rooms, including COVID+ patient rooms, we would have this equipment installed in each patient room to avoid potential cross-contamination between patients, staff, and rooms and thus help prevent the spread of COVID.	Project Officer determination: Allowable
93	Automated Door System/Keypad Entry: We would like to add additional doors/keypads to our current automated door system. Areas/Doors to be added include our COVID unit and our COVID testing/vaccination areas. This will allow us to limit access and allow only authorized individuals into these areas.	Yes
94	Can we use this funding to test our staff PCR. Insurance would fully cover this however our providers think this an issue of why our staff does not want to come in and get tested if they have signs and symptoms. Currently we are getting charged for the PCR testing supplies. Can we use the mitigation funds to pay for staff hours and testing supplies to make sure this is a safe environment?	Yes - testing supplies and staff time to perform testing No - staff time to come in to get tested
95	We have already finished this renovation project and we were hoping it can be covered under this program. We remodeled 3 ICU rooms with negative pressure for Covid-19 patients. The total project was \$305,415.00, I have attached the final bill so you can use it for your approval process. Please let me know what you find out.	Project Officer determination: Allowable. They are welcome to charge that to the grant as it is an allowable cost and it was completed pre-award.

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	Question	Answer
96	We looked at many ways to decrease/mitigate the spread of infection. One thing we noticed was that our wheelchairs used to transport our covid patients from the ER to the inpatient area were worn (showing cracks and tears in the surface). We want to replace 3 wheelchairs so that transporting patients would be less of a risk. The wheelchair parts (legs and arms) would be billed separately due to shipping issues.	Project Officer determination: Allowable
97	Could we use this to pay for housekeeping staff time: I included a graph that has the number of covid discharges from each area, along with the average cleaning time for each room, total hours, average hourly rate, and then total compensation amount. Along with the graph is this explanation. Housekeeping: Time spent doing terminal cleaning in Covid-19 rooms (upon discharge). We counted the time spent cleaning x the number of covid discharges in each area to come up with this amount. Proper cleaning has been emphasized to mitigate the spread of Covid-19.	02/25 - Project Officer determination: I think this may be allowable, but it also needs to be reasonable and allocable. So, for example, if the housekeeping has increased because of COVID or things take longer to clean in COVID rooms, perhaps the difference between that and other rooms might be reasonable. But that is more up to you at the state to help hospitals determine what would be reasonable.
98	New steam sterilizer - this instrument sterilizer would replace our current one nearing end of life and would continue to allow RRH to provide sterilization to instrumentation that is sometimes used on COVID positive patients (but not only on COVID positive - used for surgical dept.) as this sterilizer is used on instrumentation packs from our Emergency department, hospital and clinic facility instruments.	Yes
99	Replacing/updating flooring in several areas within our facility to help update the surfaces to a more sanitary material. This would be updating the flooring to help increase cleaning to meet infection control standards which is affected by the current condition and age of the flooring.	Yes
100	Through COVID we have had to try to find ways to communicate to family members outside of face-to-face visits. We have used iPads in the past to help communicate but our internet connection is spotty. We are looking for a purchase of a WiFi infrastructure upgrade. Our current vendor security support on our current hardware will end in April. The total purchase price for this would be \$40,149. Would this be a qualifying purchase?	Yes
101	Through Covid we have had several new policies and trainings that we are needing to help implement with our team members. Unfortunately, we are not able to do these trainings in person due to possible exposure. We are looking for a purchase of a training module through our current platform where our policies are housed. This would allow our staff to be able to view a policy and do a training quiz, video, or demonstration on a particular Covid policy that is continually changing without having to risk getting multiple individuals in a room together. The total purchase price we are looking for on this purchase is \$12,000.	Yes. Could also utilize regular SHIP under Emergency Preparedness for training.
102	We currently have an ice chest that we fill with a scoop in our nursing area and in our general coffee shop area. We were wondering if hands free ice machines for these areas would be allowable through this grant to prevent ice contamination? Please let us know if this would work.	Project Officer determination: No, out of the scope of the grant.

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	Question	Answer
103	<p>Can we use funds to cover the isolation leave for our COVID positive staff (not work related) or leave to care for COVID positive dependent children? Our thinking is that by covering these hours, staff will be more apt to test and will reduce the stress related to missing work in addition to being COVID positive. When the ETS came out we did not have any COVID funds due to the transition from Great Plains Health Alliance. Since we had sick leave separate from vacation, we had staff use their sick time to cover these hours. Now that we are seeing higher rates of positive cases, and even staff members who are vaccinated, boosted, and in one case COVID positive in October and again this January (unbelievable), staff are faced with having to completely deplete their sick leave. If we could allocate grant funds for verified COVID positive, we would like to alleviate this stress.</p>	No
104	<p>Also, one of the FAQ said that upgrading a server is allowable. We have 3 servers that are almost at critical points needing replaced. We began planning for this in 2021 but did not get it done. Would it be allowable to use grant funds for all or some of this expense? Even replacing 1 with grant funds would significantly reduce this expense and allow us to meet <u>the growing demands of our IT systems.</u></p>	Yes - based on the PO determination
105	<p>Digital and directional signage - PRMC would like to add hospital complex digital signage and directional signage to help patients get the COVID information and assistance they need. The digital signage would be placed on Highway 54 on the north side of the hospital complex where a majority of the traffic is concentrated. The digital signage would inform the public where the testing sights are located on any given day and give directions for those seeking COVID testing or treatment in the PRMC Emergency Department, which is located on the south side of the hospital.</p> <p>Directional illuminated signs would be needed to direct people to the PRMC ED entrance where periodic drive-by testing is available as well as COVID treatment. Three illuminated signs would be needed (one for the west and east sides of the campus and one on the south side of the hospital). Since PRMC is a regional facility, it is important to direct patients to the PRMC ED area for COVID testing and admittance who may not be familiar with the City of Pratt.</p> <p>Pratt does not have any marketing capabilities that can touch large segments of the public. The newspaper is a weekly edition with minimal circulation and social media does not touch a significant portion of the population considering that over 20% of the population is 65+. The addition of digital signage will improve access to information about COVID testing and treatment protocols.</p> <p>The digital signage would cost \$99,877.42. The three illuminated signs would cost \$51,524.93.</p>	Yes
106	<p>We are looking to purchase a golf cart to transport the testing specimen to the lab for faster turnaround times for results. The golf cart will also assist marketing education materials for COVID-19 throughout the community, at public events, and vaccine clinics. - <u>read full proposal</u></p>	Project Officer determination: Allowable
107	<p>We need to add additional security cameras on the doors where we are doing patient screening and our door where people come to be vaccinated so that nurses can directly see who is at the door and also note if they are in distress. Would this be allowable?</p>	Project Officer determination: No, outside the scope of this grant.
108	<p>Would it be allowable to utilize funds to purchase a portable ultrasound machine? This machine could be used to perform Echos on COVID positive patiens in our ED or Inpatient setting. The machine would be taken to the patient so the patient would not have to be transported through the facility and limit the COVID exposure.</p>	Yes
109	<p>Installation and modification for 5 in ceiling Hepa filters</p>	Yes
110	<p>Portable GB 300 units (Hepa filters) for air exchange in areas such as cafeteria, hopital waiting, ED waiting, Surgery waiting and 6 for clinic waiting areas - Hospital Only</p>	Yes

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	Question	Answer
111	Portable GB 300 units (Hepa filters) for air exchange in areas such as cafeteria, hospital waiting, ED waiting, Surgery waiting and 6 for clinic waiting areas - Hospital and Clinics	Yes
112	CAPR units and supplies	Yes
113	Disinfection Cabinets for items such as stethoscopes, SaO2 monitors, phones, etc.	Yes
114	Additional Fit Testing Hood and Supplies	Yes
115	Hand Hygiene Monitoring System - to mitigate the spread using blue tooth technology to identify movement of the health care worker in the patient room and identify moments of hand hygiene behind closed doors and limits the need for direct observation which is near impossible with a COVID patient. Software also will monitor length of time in a patient room/isolation room since pathogens exposure and potential for transmission go hand in hand. Would also be able to be used for hourly rounding and limit exposure to contagious isolation room patients by utilizing just in time correction of non-conformance with safety round protocols.	Project Officer determination: Allowable
116	Automatic door controls on north end of ICU/Covid area	Yes
117	Beds to assist in turning covid patients - would replace our 4 beds that never were replaced at construction and are 30+ years old. The beds in question are designed to assist nurses turn the patient from his/her back to his/her stomach. This has to be done with COVID patients and the beds "assist" them in turning the patient. This is part of the treatment protocol for COVID patients, decreases the possibility of physical injury to the caregiver and decreases physical contact with the COVID patient for the caregiver. The PRMC CNO may send me additional information which I will forward to you when I receive it but this will give you an idea of the usage of the requested beds.	Project Officer determination: Allowable
118	Staff Resilience Building (Offering things such as yoga, meditation, exercise classes, massage, Webinars, etc.)	Project Officer determination: Allowable. These activities are best if they build the capacity of staff to be resilient. I would be wary of using the funds for massage, because that is one time stress relief, whereas other types of classes may give staff additional coping mechanisms.
119	Pulmonary Function Test Equipment	No; direct patient care related
120	Vent Hood - Lab	Yes
121	We are utilizing some of the SHIP COVID mitigation funds to remove carpet and install wood flooring in waiting areas of the hospital. I understand the materials for the floor is covered with grant funds but can we use the funds to cover the labor costs to install the flooring?	Yes
122	Pyxis System: We currently handle all medicines, drugs, etc. manually whereby meds are stored in bottles that have to be emptied by hand to pour the necessary number of pills into a pill container. There is risk of nursing staff handling and touching the individual pills that are taken from the bottle. A pyxis system would allow for the automated disbursement of medication in individually wrapped/sealed blister packs so that there would be no risk of contamination from staff to patient. This would help mitigate the spread of COVID-19 as well as other respiratory diseases.	Project Officer determination: Allowable
123	COVID Unit cleaning cart: mitigation supplies and equipment	Yes
124	COVID Unit Laundry Cart: mitigation supplies and equipment	Yes
125	Is a screening machine for our front door covered by COVID ship grant? Is it mitigation?	Yes

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	Question	Answer
126	if we could use any prn provider wages for the Covid SHIP grant. She said that the "sick side" of our clinic was so busy that we had to add a prn provider to assist in seeing these patients/ordering tests etc. I was not sure if this would count as an expense or not.	No, treatment is not allowable. Salaries of staff doing the testing could be allowable.