

Berkshire Health Systems, Inc.
Application # BHS-23072710-OL

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Application Form
2. Narrative
3. Factor 1 Exhibits
 - A. Patient Panel Data
 - B. Joint Commission Health Equity Review
 - C. Community Engagement Presentation
4. Factor 4 Exhibits
 - A. Stroudwater Report
5. Factor 6: Supplemental Documents
 - A. Community Health Needs Assessment
6. Affiliated Parties
7. Change in Service Form
8. Notice of Intent
9. ACO Letter
10. Articles of Organization
11. Affidavit of Truthfulness & Compliance
12. Filing Fee



Massachusetts Department of Public Health

Determination of Need

Application Form

Version: 11-8-17

Application Type:	Original License	Application Date:	08/15/2023 2:06 pm
Applicant Name:	Berkshire Health Systems, Inc.		
Mailing Address:	725 North Street		
City:	Pittsfield	State:	Massachusetts
		Zip Code:	01201
Contact Person:	Jared Barnes	Title:	Vice President and General Counsel
Mailing Address:	725 North Street		
City:	Pittsfield	State:	Massachusetts
		Zip Code:	01201
Phone:	4134459529	Ext:	
E-mail:	jbarnes@bhs1.org		

Facility Information

List each facility affected and or included in Proposed Project

1	Facility Name:	North Adams Regional Hospital		
	Facility Address:	71 Hospital Ave		
	City:	North Adams	State:	Massachusetts
			Zip Code:	01247
	Facility type:	Hospital	CMS Number:	Pending
		Add additional Facility	Delete this Facility	

1. About the Applicant

1.1 Type of organization (of the Applicant):	nonprofit
1.2 Applicant's Business Type:	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Corporation <input type="radio"/> Limited Partnership <input type="radio"/> Partnership <input type="radio"/> Trust <input type="radio"/> LLC <input type="radio"/> Other
1.3 What is the acronym used by the Applicant's Organization?	BHS
1.4 Is Applicant a registered provider organization as the term is used in the HPC/CHIA RPO program?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
1.5 Is Applicant or any affiliated entity an HPC-certified ACO?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
1.5.a If yes, what is the legal name of that entity?	Berkshire Health Systems, Inc.
1.6 Is Applicant or any affiliate thereof subject to M.G.L. c. 6D, § 13 and 958 CMR 7.00 (filing of Notice of Material Change to the Health Policy Commission)?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
1.7 Does the Proposed Project also require the filing of a MCN with the HPC?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No

1.8 Has the Applicant or any subsidiary thereof been notified pursuant to M.G.L. c. 12C, § 16 that it is exceeding the health care cost growth benchmark established under M.G.L. c. 6D, § 9 and is thus, pursuant to M.G.L. c. 6D, §10 required to file a performance improvement plan with CHIA? ☐ Yes ☒ No

1.9 Complete the Affiliated Parties Form

2. Project Description

2.1 Provide a brief description of the scope of the project.

See attached narrative

2.2 and 2.3 Complete the Change in Service Form

3. Delegated Review

3.1 Do you assert that this Application is eligible for Delegated Review? ☐ Yes ☒ No

4. Conservation Project

4.1 Are you submitting this Application as a Conservation Project? ☐ Yes ☒ No

5. DoN-Required Services and DoN-Required Equipment

5.1 Is this an application filed pursuant to 105 CMR 100.725: DoN-Required Equipment and DoN-Required Service? ☐ Yes ☒ No

6. Transfer of Ownership

6.1 Is this an application filed pursuant to 105 CMR 100.735? ☐ Yes ☒ No

7. Ambulatory Surgery

7.1 Is this an application filed pursuant to 105 CMR 100.740(A) for Ambulatory Surgery? ☐ Yes ☒ No

8. Transfer of Site

8.1 Is this an application filed pursuant to 105 CMR 100.745? ☐ Yes ☒ No

9. Research Exemption

9.1 Is this an application for a Research Exemption? ☐ Yes ☒ No

10. Amendment

10.1 Is this an application for a Amendment? ☐ Yes ☒ No

11. Emergency Application

11.1 Is this an application filed pursuant to 105 CMR 100.740(B)? ☐ Yes ☒ No

12. Total Value and Filing Fee

Enter all currency in numbers only. No dollar signs or commas. Grayed fields will auto calculate depending upon answers above.

Your project application is for: Original License

12.1 Total Value of this project:

\$2,850,000.00

12.2 Total CHI commitment expressed in dollars: (calculated)

\$142,500.00

12.3 Filing Fee: (calculated)

\$5,700.00

12.4 Maximum Incremental Operating Expense resulting from the Proposed Project:

12.5 Total proposed Construction costs, specifically related to the Proposed Project, If any, which will be contracted out to local or minority, women, or veteran-owned businesses expressed in estimated total dollars.

13. Factors

Required Information and supporting documentation consistent with 105 CMR 100.210

Some Factors will not appear depending upon the type of license you are applying for.

Text fields will expand to fit your response.

Factor 1: Applicant Patient Panel Need, Public Health Values and Operational Objectives

F1.a.i Patient Panel:

Describe your existing Patient Panel, including incidence or prevalence of disease or behavioral risk factors, acuity mix, noted health disparities, geographic breakdown expressed in zip codes or other appropriate measure, demographics including age, gender and sexual identity, race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status and other priority populations relevant to the Applicant's existing patient panel and payer mix.

See attached narrative

F1.a.ii Need by Patient Panel:

Provide supporting data to demonstrate the need for the Proposed Project. Such data should demonstrate the disease burden, behavioral risk factors, acuity mix, health disparities, or other objective Patient Panel measures as noted in your response to Question F1.a.i that demonstrates the need that the Proposed Project is attempting to address. If an inequity or disparity is not identified as relating to the Proposed Project, provide information justifying the need. In your description of Need, consider the principles underlying Public Health Value (see instructions) and ensure that Need is addressed in that context as well.

See attached narrative

F1.a.iii Competition:

Provide evidence that the Proposed Project will compete on the basis of price, total medical expenses, provider costs, and other recognized measures of health care spending. When responding to this question, please consider Factor 4, Financial Feasibility and Reasonableness of Costs.

See attached narrative

F1.b.i Public Health Value /Evidence-Based:

Provide information on the evidence-base for the Proposed Project. That is, how does the Proposed Project address the Need that Applicant has identified.

See attached narrative

F1.b.ii Public Health Value /Outcome-Oriented:

Describe the impact of the Proposed Project and how the Applicant will assess such impact. Provide projections demonstrating how the Proposed Project will improve health outcomes, quality of life, or health equity. Only measures that can be tracked and reported over time should be utilized.

See attached narrative

F1.b.iii Public Health Value /Health Equity-Focused:

For Proposed Projects addressing health inequities identified within the Applicant's description of the Proposed Project's need-base, please justify how the Proposed Project will reduce the health inequity, including the operational components (e.g. culturally competent staffing). For Proposed Projects not specifically addressing a health disparity or inequity, please provide information about specific actions the Applicant is and will take to ensure equal access to the health benefits created by the Proposed Project and how these actions will promote health equity.

See attached narrative

F1.b.iv Provide additional information to demonstrate that the Proposed Project will result in improved health outcomes and quality of life of the Applicant's existing Patient Panel, while providing reasonable assurances of health equity.

See attached narrative

F1.c Provide evidence that the Proposed Project will operate efficiently and effectively by furthering and improving continuity and coordination of care for the Applicant's Patient Panel, including, how the Proposed Project will create or ensure appropriate linkages to patients' primary care services.

See attached narrative

F1.d Provide evidence of consultation, both prior to and after the Filing Date, with all Government Agencies with relevant licensure, certification, or other regulatory oversight of the Applicant or the Proposed Project.

See attached narrative

F1.e.i Process for Determining Need/Evidence of Community Engagement: For assistance in responding to this portion of the Application, Applicant is encouraged to review *Community Engagement Standards for Community Health Planning Guideline*. With respect to the existing Patient Panel, please describe the process through which Applicant determined the need for the Proposed Project.

See attached narrative

F1.e.ii Please provide evidence of sound Community Engagement and consultation throughout the development of the Proposed Project. A successful Applicant will, at a minimum, describe the process whereby the "Public Health Value" of the Proposed Project was considered, and will describe the Community Engagement process as it occurred and is occurring currently in, at least, the following contexts: Identification of Patient Panel Need; Design/selection of DoN Project in response to "Patient Panel" need; and Linking the Proposed Project to "Public Health Value".

See attached narrative

Factor 2: Health Priorities

Addresses the impact of the Proposed Project on health more broadly (that is, beyond the Patient Panel) requiring that the Applicant demonstrate that the Proposed Project will meaningfully contribute to the Commonwealth's goals for cost containment, improved public health outcomes, and delivery system transformation.

F2.a **Cost Containment:**

Using objective data, please describe, for each new or expanded service, how the Proposed Project will meaningfully contribute to the Commonwealth's goals for cost containment.

See attached narrative

F2.b **Public Health Outcomes:**

Describe, as relevant, for each new or expanded service, how the Proposed Project will improve public health outcomes.

See attached narrative

F2.c **Delivery System Transformation:**

Because the integration of social services and community-based expertise is central to goal of delivery system transformation, discuss how the needs of their patient panel have been assessed and linkages to social services organizations have been created and how the social determinants of health have been incorporated into care planning.

See attached narrative

Factor 3: Compliance

Applicant certifies, by virtue of submitting this Application that it is in compliance and good standing with federal, state, and local laws and regulations, including, but not limited to M.G.L. c. 30, §§ 61 through 62H and the applicable regulations thereunder, and in compliance with all previously issued notices of Determination of Need and the terms and conditions attached therein .

F3.a Please list all previously issued Notices of Determination of Need

Add/Del Rows	Project Number	Date Approved	Type of Notification	Facility Name
<input type="button" value="+"/> <input type="button" value="-"/>	Not applicable			

F4.a.ii For each Category of Expenditure document New Construction and/or Renovation Costs.

	Category of Expenditure	New Construction	Renovation	Total (calculated)
	Land Costs			
	Land Acquisition Cost			
	Site Survey and Soil Investigation			
	Other Non-Depreciable Land Development			
	Total Land Costs			
	Construction Contract (including bonding cost)			
	Depreciable Land Development Cost			
	Building Acquisition Cost			
	Construction Contract (including bonding cost)			
	Fixed Equipment Not in Contract			
	Architectural Cost (Including fee, Printing, supervision etc.) and Engineering Cost			
	Pre-filing Planning and Development Costs			
	Post-filing Planning and Development Costs			
Add/Del Rows	Other (specify)			
<input type="button" value="+"/> <input type="button" value="-"/>				
	Net Interest Expensed During Construction			
	Major Movable Equipment			
	Total Construction Costs			
	Financing Costs:			
	Cost of Securing Financing (legal, administrative, feasibility studies, mortgage insurance, printing, etc			
	Bond Discount			
Add/Del Rows	Other (specify)			
<input type="button" value="+"/> <input type="button" value="-"/>				
	Total Financing Costs			
	Estimated Total Capital Expenditure			

Factor 5: Relative Merit

F5.a.i Describe the process of analysis and the conclusion that the Proposed Project, on balance, is superior to alternative and substitute methods for meeting the existing Patient Panel needs as those have been identified by the Applicant pursuant to 105 CMR 100.210(A)(1). When conducting this evaluation and articulating the relative merit determination, Applicant shall take into account, at a minimum, the quality, efficiency, and capital and operating costs of the Proposed Project relative to potential alternatives or substitutes, including alternative evidence-based strategies and public health interventions.

Proposal:

See attached narrative

Quality:**Efficiency:****Capital Expense:****Operating Costs:**

List alternative options for the Proposed Project:

Alternative Proposal:**Alternative Quality:****Alternative Efficiency:****Alternative Capital Expense:****Alternative Operating Costs:**

Add additional Alternative Project

Delete this Alternative Project

F5.a.ii Describe the process of analysis and the conclusion that the Proposed Project, on balance, is superior to alternative and substitute methods for meeting the existing Patient Panel needs as those have been identified by the Applicant pursuant to 105 CMR 100.210(A)(1). When conducting this evaluation and articulating the relative merit determination, Applicant shall take into account, at a minimum, the quality, efficiency, and capital and operating costs of the Proposed Project relative to potential alternatives or substitutes, including alternative evidence-based strategies and public health interventions.

Documentation Check List

The Check List below will assist you in keeping track of additional documentation needed for your application. Once you have completed this Application Form the additional documents needed for your application will be on this list. E-mail the documents as an attachment to: DPH.DON@state.ma.us

- ☒ Copy of Notice of Intent
- ☒ Affidavit of Truthfulness Form
- ☒ Scanned copy of Application Fee Check
- ☒ Affiliated Parties Table Question 1.9
- ☒ Change in Service Tables Questions 2.2 and 2.3
- ☐ Certification from an independent Certified Public Accountant
- ☐ Notification of Material Change
- ☒ Articles of Organization / Trust Agreement
- ☒ Current IRS Form, 990 Schedule H CHNA/CHIP and/or Current CHNA/CHIP submitted to Massachusetts AGO's Office
- ☐ Community Engagement Stakeholder Assessment form
- ☐ Community Engagement-Self Assessment form

Document Ready for Filing

When document is complete click on "document is ready to file". This will lock in the responses and date and time stamp the form.

To make changes to the document un-check the "document is ready to file" box. Edit document then lock file and submit

Keep a copy for your records. Click on the "Save" button at the bottom of the page.

To submit the application electronically, click on the "E-mail submission to Determination of Need" button.

This document is ready to file:



Date/time Stamp: 08/15/2023 2:06 pm

E-mail submission to
Determination of Need

Application Number: BHS-23072710-OL

Use this number on all communications regarding this application.

☐ Community Engagement-Self Assessment form