

**The Koop Award Q&A:**

- On what basis are Koop Award applicants evaluated?

Adherence to evidence based practices, comprehensiveness, participation rates, health improvement/risk reduction, and cost savings.
- Are there minimum requirements for application?

There are no specific requirements set regarding participation rates, risk reduction, and cost outcomes because of unique challenges that may face any given applicant. However, it would benefit the applicant to demonstrate high participation in a program, which is comprehensive in nature (not single focus), demonstrates net risk reduction and cost savings that exceed program expenses. Longer-term programs (3+ years) are generally higher rated than those in their beginning stages.
- Are there different health improvement/risk reduction and cost savings analyses requirements for small and large organizations?

Organizations for the Koop Award are held to the upmost analysis and reporting standards. Given the unavailability of claims data for smaller organizations, a sophisticated claims analysis is not a prerequisite for winning the Award. If an organization can document cost stabilization over 3-5 years without significant benefit plan design changes or other utilization management measures, an applicant may be competitive for the Koop Award.
- Is financial impact required or is change in risk status and healthcare utilization sufficient?

Health behavior change/risk reduction plus cost savings are required. If the organization claims a positive return-on-investment (ROI), then both savings and program costs need to be documented. Reduced utilization translated into financial impact may be considered as long as this is not achieved through benefit plan design, rationing, outsourcing, or utilization review. There needs to be a link to health improvement and risk reduction.
- Does a published article serve as a gold standard?

Yes, if it is informative of evaluation results demonstrating health improvement and cost savings. But, it is not a requirement.

- Is any preference given to applicants working with vendors, universities, or independent third parties?

No preference is given. In all cases, reviewers are looking for the use of well-documented statistical methodologies.

- How are Winners determined?

Applications are independently reviewed and scored by The Health Project's Board of Directors. Reviewers score applications using their best judgment, and specific criteria, with most emphasis placed on program evaluation and results. Final determinations are made by the Board of Directors following a robust discussion of an applicant's program. *In the event of a conflict of interest, individual Board of Directors members recuse themselves from scoring or commenting on an application.*

If you have questions related to The Koop Award application process, evaluation criteria or any other topic related to The Koop Award, please email [healthproject@emory.edu](mailto:healthproject@emory.edu).