

CCBHC Evidence-based Implementation Science Pilot Overview of Partner Participation Expectations

The [CCBHC Implementation Science Pilot](#) creates partnerships between providers and researchers that draw on implementation science to advance the quality of clinical care and behavioral health system performance and health outcomes for the patients being served. This one-pager is a reference for CCBHC-Expansion Program grantees participating in the pilot to clarify expectations and considerations for CCBHCs and their research partners as they establish relationships and move forward with their projects.

ESTABLISHING THE RESEARCH PARTNERSHIP

A strong research-practice partnership is essential. To assess alignment and fit between organizations and researchers, consider:

- Shared values, goals, and interest in a population of focus;
- Transparency and open communication;
- Content and population expertise with a proven track record of similar or related research; and
- Experience leading development and implementation of equitable and person- and family-centered evaluations.

EXPECTATIONS OF CCBHC GRANTEE PILOT PARTICIPANTS

CCBHC grantees are **not** expected to be experts in developing research projects or securing research funding, as that is the role of the researcher. Grantees **are** expected to:

- Work to secure a research partner. SAMHSA, NIH, and the CCBHC-E National Training and Technical Assistance Center will support opportunities for engagement and partnership with researchers. Consider leveraging existing relationships or other connections (such as local universities or research centers).
- Contribute to development and support implementation of the research project. This includes identifying a primary point of contact for activities and a dedicated level of effort (you may be able to use your CCBHC grant funding for this purpose) to engage with your research partner. Initial research partnership activities may include:
 - Sharing information on your organization's programs and services, identifying meaningful areas of focus;
 - Establishing shared goals, transparent processes, and mutually understood language; and
 - Supporting development of the research proposal.

CCBHC-E National Training and Technical Assistance Center

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EXPECTATIONS OF A RESEARCH PARTNER

Researchers interested in partnering with CCBHCs in this pilot are expected to:

- Conduct outreach and engagement with CCBHCs to explore partnership opportunities.
- Co-lead work with CCBHCs in shaping research, including the development of research questions tailored to each agency, population, and community that can produce meaningful and applicable results, and supporting completion of project templates.
- Drive funding activities, from proposal development, submission, to start-up.
 - Identify potential funding opportunities.
 - If needed, lead grant writing and submission processes in partnership with the CCBHC.
 - Regularly engage with the CCBHC throughout the process.
- Develop/implement the research study.
 - Create the analytical plan.
 - Conduct the data analysis.
 - Disseminate findings (for internal and/or external use).
- Share data in a manner that practitioners and agencies can use to improve practice.

Researchers may also play additional roles, as determined with the CCBHC. Examples include:

- Provide training or guidance to CCBHC staff on research topics or approaches such as formulating research questions, developing logic models, research processes and terminology, data collection, presentation and data-informed decision-making, and developing client and family education materials on research participation;
- Supporting the readiness and assessment processes; and
- Participating in the development of mutually understood language.

The information in this document has been adapted from webinars, documents, and resources created for the [CCBHC Evidence-Based Practice Implementation Science Pilot \(EBP ISP\) Learning Community](#).

See also:

- [SAMHSA Overview of the CCBHC Evidence-based Practice Implementation Science Pilot](#)
- [CCBHC-E NTTAC Implementation Science Pilot Participant Database](#)
- [National Institutes of Health Notice of Special Interest](#)

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