

# Applying for American Rescue Plan funding for healthcare technology

A guide to HRSA's ARP-UDS+ application



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## Introduction

Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) and look-alikes may be eligible for funding to improve the collection of patient-level data, support COVID-19 response and better target the needs of the patients they serve.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), is providing \$88.4 million in additional American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding to address disparities among the patients of HRSA-supported health centers and look-alikes (HRSA-designated health centers), with funding provided through the Uniform Data System Patient-Level Submission (UDS+), HRSA's modernized data collection and reporting initiative. Grant recipients may be awarded approximately \$60,000.

Costs associated with the purchase and use of existing and new Phreesia products likely qualify as an eligible expense for funding under this program. Phreesia's products—which include a robust platform of applications that automate patient registration, scheduling, revenue cycle, clinical screening and patient activation—likely fall under at least two of the program application's expense categories: “Increase COVID-19 Vaccination Capacity” and “Improve HIT and expand analytic and/or reporting capacity” activities. If your application is accepted, funding is anticipated to be awarded on August 1, 2022.

In this guide, we outline the necessary steps for completing the application process and articulate several ways Phreesia's applications could support your organization with various activities that qualify for ARP-UDS+ funding. You should consult with your own legal counsel and consider the individual situation of your health center and intended use of our technology when completing your application. Please note that information in this document is subject to changes in the HRSA's application.

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## Overview of application

HRSA's FY 2022 American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act Uniform Data System (UDS+) Supplemental Funding for Health Centers opportunity, announced on April 21, 2022, provides additional funding to health centers to respond to and mitigate the spread of COVID-19, enhance healthcare infrastructure and support UDS+ data submissions. ARP funding can be used to reimburse permitted costs incurred from January 31, 2020, through the date of the award. ARP funding can likely reimburse costs associated with the purchase and use of existing and new Phreesia products.



The funding submission deadline is **May 23, 2022.**

For your health center to use its ARP funding, HRSA states that you must submit certain information, including the following, by May 23, 2022, at 5 PM ET:

**SSF-424A Budget Information Form  
(Sections A through C)**

**Budget Narrative with Personnel  
Justification Table (if applicable)**

**FY 2022 ARP UDS+ Activities  
Funding Request Form**

**Equipment List Forms  
(if applicable)**

The above components of the application should outline how the funding dollars will be spent. If your health center intends to use ARP funding to cover Phreesia-associated costs for a new service, service delivery method, or a service delivery site or location that is not within scope of your health center's H80, please see the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for more details on seeking a Scope Adjustment.

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# How Phreesia supports UDS+ and ARP activities

The FY 2022 ARP UDS+ Activities Funding Request Form within the application requires your health center to indicate how your center will use ARP-UDS+ funding. If your organization is requesting funding for UDS+ reporting and ARP activities, a UDS+ Activities List and an ARP Activities list must be completed.

For Phreesia products, we suggest selecting one or more of the following activities:

## UDS+ Activities List

### *Improve Health Information Technology (Health IT)*

- ✔ **Reporting:** Phreesia helps health systems gather accurate, patient-level data directly from patients using self-reported collection for race, ethnicity, language (REL), sexual orientation and gender identity (SO/GI), social risk factors and more.
- ✔ **Workflow Design:** Phreesia's social determinants of health (SDOH) solution can help systematically collect data on social risk factors and other barriers that influence patients' health outcomes and receipt of healthcare. Phreesia's SDOH solution allows health centers to identify unmet social needs for all patients who are seen for a visit in real time.
- ✔ **Data Collection:** In addition to assisting with the collection of self-reported data, Phreesia's platform can also assist health centers with capturing data for various quality measures contained in UDS+ through clinical intake and patient-reported outcome measures corresponding to quality measures.

## ARP Activities List

### *COVID-19 Vaccination Capacity*

- ✔ **Outreach:** Phreesia's patient outreach solution, Health Campaigns, can be used to engage patients with COVID-19 vaccine-related outreach and education in multiple languages to target patients who have not received a COVID-19 vaccination, providing patients with the ability to schedule their vaccination appointment directly from a message.
- ✔ **Vaccine Administration Workflows and Clinical Support:** Phreesia's COVID-19 Vaccination Status Screening and Pre-Vaccination Questionnaire helps health centers systematically and universally collect appropriate health information prior to administering the COVID-19 vaccine, including screening the patient for contraindications. Phreesia's team of clinicians regularly review the CDC's updated guidance for vaccine eligibility and administration and update these screening questions as guidance changes.

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- ✔ **Develop and Deploy Digital Tools:** Phreesia's Online Appointments and Self-Scheduling applications simplify the process of scheduling a COVID-19 vaccine. Links to self-scheduling or appointment requests can be sent out to patients, offered on a health center's public website or posted on social media, thereby expanding access to COVID-19 vaccinations to the widest population possible.

## *COVID-19 Response and Treatment Capacity*

- ✔ **Develop and Deploy Digital Tools:** In addition to supporting COVID-19 vaccine appointment scheduling, Phreesia's Online Appointments and Self-Scheduling applications can also be used for other COVID-related services, such as screening and testing.
- ✔ **Care Coordination:** Phreesia's Connect platform allows for coordination of care between providers. Connect offers seamless referral management between providers to ensure continuity of care, including two-way provider chat and the ability to send and receive patient documents.
- ✔ **Outreach:** Health centers can use Health Campaigns to target certain populations who may be at increased risk of severe illness from COVID-19, such as patients with type 2 diabetes. Our platform offers tailored communication templates regarding testing, treatment options and health insurance information, among a wide variety of health-related content.

## *Maintaining and Increasing Capacity*

- ✔ **Immunization (other than COVID-19 vaccination):** Using Health Campaigns, health centers can engage patients who are not up to date on routine immunizations, including both adult patients and pediatric patients. Health centers can also use Phreesia to screen for contraindications to immunizations prior to the patient's visit.
- ✔ **Equipment and Supplies:** Phreesia's solutions support comprehensive primary care by enhancing data collection and reporting. Our applications enable the digital collection of demographic, clinical and social data, among other key information.
- ✔ **Access for Families:** In addition to its use cases for in-person care, Phreesia can optimize remote care for families by digitizing the collection of critical patient information prior to virtual visits and home visits. Health centers can use Phreesia to collect critical patient information and complete developmental screening tools, behavioral health screening tools and SDOH screening tools prior to a visit. The results of these screeners can be transmitted to the EHR for providers to review prior to the patient encounter. Phreesia can also be used to engage patients with information and resources about childhood developmental delays and social risk factors.

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### *Maintaining and Increasing Capacity*

- ✔ **Outreach:** Phreesia's patient outreach solution, Health Campaigns, can be implemented within health centers to facilitate targeted outreach to known patients. Health centers can customize messaging and educational content to target certain populations, including patients who have been out of care or those who may be in need of a medical home.
- ✔ **Population Health and Social Determinants:** Phreesia's social determinants of health (SDOH) solution can be implemented to collect social risk data and address disparities in access, care delivery and clinical quality measures. Phreesia offers commonly used SDOH screening tools such as PRAPARE, AHCM and Health Leads. For patients screening positive for any social needs, proper follow up can be conducted during the visit by the patient's care team, as well as between visits by leveraging Health Campaigns to connect patients with resources to address their social needs.
- ✔ **Patient Engagement:** Phreesia's subsidiary Insignia Health is the exclusive worldwide license holder for the Patient Activation Measure® (PAM®), an evidence-based tool that assesses patients' knowledge, skill and confidence for self-management. PAM scores can be used to improve risk identification, align resources, target patient support and evaluate impact. Additionally, health centers can use Phreesia's Health Campaigns to outreach to patients to engage them in their care. Phreesia's team of clinical content experts creates engaging content to activate patients to take action for their health.

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## How Phreesia can help

Phreesia's platform of applications can play a key role in supporting health centers' efforts to achieve the major objectives of the ARP-UDS+ program, including improving the collection of patient-level data, supporting COVID-19 response and helping health centers better target the needs of the patients they serve.

Schedule a meeting with a Phreesia representative to learn more about this grant opportunity and see how Phreesia's platform can help healthcare organizations respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and address healthcare disparities.



Don't wait to apply! Eligible healthcare organizations should apply soon—the deadline for applications is May 23, 2022. **Schedule a meeting with a Phreesia representative today.**

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