



MS RHTP PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD

PSYCHIATRIC EMERGENCY SERVICES (PES)

APPLICATION OPENS: JULY 15, 2026 AT 2PM CST | DEADLINE TO APPLY: AUGUST 17, 2026 AT 5PM CST

Questions	Answers
What components must be identified in the start-up budget?	The start-up budget should include one-time costs associated with planning, developing, and launching the EmPATH Unit. Examples include facility renovations or construction, furniture and equipment, technology/EHR modifications, staff recruitment and initial training, licensing or regulatory expenses, etc. Please also refer to the recommended supply list linked here for additional guidance.
What components must be identified in the operating budget?	The operating budget should include the ongoing expenses required to operate the EmPATH Unit after it opens. This typically includes personnel costs (clinical and support staff), benefits, supplies, medications, contracted services like EVS, maintenance, and utilities.
Can the state please elaborate on “billing strategy”? Is this just a detailed version of the project patient population or payor mix?	Since they should be able to bill observation codes for all payors, we’d recommend just collecting their patient volumes and payor mix.