

Day Space RFP – FAQs

1. Will you accept oral applications?

If you prefer to submit an oral application, please contact CHF at Funding@calgaryhomeless.com before the application deadline on March 3, 2025, to discuss this option further. We encourage proponents to refer to the RFP ask and Response form documentation when preparing for their oral application.

2. What was the reason to fund one larger space as opposed to several smaller ones?

The funding from The City of Calgary is intended to help address safety concerns downtown, in conjunction with recommendations from the Downtown Safety Leadership Table (2024) and Vibrant Communities Calgary's 2024 No Place To Go Report. A Day Space downtown will need more capacity/space to provide support due to the higher need in the downtown area. The long-term vision is to build a network of small day spaces across the city, with the downtown location serving as a central hub. We also anticipate more demand downtown than at other locations in the city given the concentration of emergency shelters, supports and services in the area.

3. Would a proposal from outside of the downtown boundaries be considered?

Yes, a proposal from outside the area on the map in the RFP will be considered. Priority will be given to applications in the designated area, but all proposals will be reviewed.

4. Are construction/capital costs eligible? What would be the limit on the percentage of total budget that can be dedicated towards capital startup costs/upgrades to the space?

Yes, construction/capital costs will be eligible. There is not a set percentage, but rationale would need to be given on overall use by the day space program and benefit to the participants.

5. Is there any flexibility on the timeline to allow for securing space and/or the completion of upgrades to the space?

Yes, we understand that construction can impede timelines. Priority will be given to applications who are operational by July 1, 2025, but all proposals will be reviewed.

6. What is meant by "low-barrier"? What level of client acuity is expected?

We define “low-barrier” as minimal expectations for individuals who can access the space. We expect that people who are under the influence will be able to access the space and that identification will not be required for entry.

7. How many clients are expected to be served annually?

There is no specific number of individuals we expect to access the space. Data from warming spaces shows that a 100 visits a day could occur. We expect these numbers to fluctuate based on time of day, season and weather among other factors.