

## Health Care Climate Challenge

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### 1. What is the Health Care Climate Challenge?

The Health Care Climate Challenge (HCCC) is an initiative of Health Care Without Harm that engages and equips health care institutions to commit to effective climate action while building collective impact around the world.

The HCCC is based on three pillars: mitigation, resilience and leadership. Each year, we recognize health care institutions for their progress and commitments with our **Health Care Climate Challenge Awards**. It's an opportunity to celebrate achievements across our three pillars and to showcase leadership in the health care sector around the world.

You may find more information about the HCCC [here](#).

### 2. Who can participate in the Health Care Climate Challenge?

All health care institutions that are members of the [Global Green and Healthy Hospitals \(GGHH\)](#) can participate in the HCCC. These include:

- Health care facilities, from small clinics, to high complexity hospitals
- Health organizations
- Health systems

If your institution is not a member of the Global Green and Healthy Hospitals network, it will receive automatic membership by joining the Health Care Climate Challenge.

### **3. What are the benefits of participating in the HCCC?**

By participating in the HCCC, institutions make a public commitment to engage in climate action and contribute to the building of a low carbon, resilient and healthy sector. Some of the benefits of joining the HCCC include:

- **Global climate leadership:** The HCCC is a global programme with over 300 participants from all over the world. Institutions participating in the HCCC demonstrate their commitment to working in the three pillars of climate action: leadership, resilience, and mitigation.
- **Global recognition:** Every year, HCWH recognises progress achieved by institutions through the HCCC and grants awards for outstanding achievements.
- **Access to resources:** HCWH provides tools, guidelines and other resources to help health care institutions engage in climate action and implement high-impact interventions to mitigate emissions and build resilience.
- **Support and shared learning:** The HCCC provides peer networking opportunities to learn from health care institutions around the world, share your strategies and success stories and network with colleagues.

### **4. What are the requirements to be considered a HCCC participant?**

Requirements to be considered an active participant of the HCCC are different for institutions joining for the first time, and those that have been participating over more than one year. All forms and tools required to participate in the HCCC are available in [GGHH Connect](#), the networking platform for GGHH members to connect, learn, and collaborate with each other to support their efforts toward reducing the environmental footprint of the health sector.

#### **Requirements for institutions joining for the first time**

Institutions joining for the first time are required to complete the following actions to be considered an active participant. :

##### **I. Sign the pledge:**

To join the HCCC, an authorized person from the institution must sign the HCCC pledge, which is organized around three pillars: Mitigation, Resilience, and Leadership.

##### **II. Complete the institution profile**

Institutions need to complete their institutional profile found in the Hippocrates Data Center on GGHH Connect.

### **III. Estimate and report baseline GHG emissions**

Complete data on baseline emissions via the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Data form **or** complete the base year's emissions data using HCWH's carbon calculator tool: Climate Impact Checkup.

### **IV. Report GHG emissions reduction targets**

Set emission reduction targets via the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Targets form\*

## **Requirements to participate for awards**

To participate for awards, institutions are required to complete the following actions:

### **V. Update the institution profile:**

Update information about the institution profile annually

### **VI. Complete data on the three HCCC pillars**

Mitigation: Complete the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Data form **or** complete the year's emissions data using HCWH's carbon calculator tool: Climate Impact Checkup.

Resilience: Complete the Resilience form

Leadership: Complete the Leadership form

\*Targets may be reviewed or updated at any time year on year.

## **5. What are the HCCC Awards categories?**

There are two categories of awards: **Health Care Climate Action Awards** and **Health Care Climate Champions Awards**.

### **Health Care Climate Action Awards**

All participants will be able to receive these awards and there is no limited number of awardees. There are two levels of awards in this category: **silver and gold**. See criteria to receive Health Care Climate Action Awards awards [here](#).

### **Health Care Climate Champions**

Three Health Care Climate Champions per region will be selected each year. Only those institutions that receive a gold award in at least one of the pillars will be considered for this recognition. See requirements to receive this award [here](#).

## 6. What are the HCCC Awards criteria?

### Health Care Climate Action Awards

There is a two step evaluation to grant Health Care Climate Action Awards.

For the **Mitigation Award**,

The first step to receiving a Mitigation Silver or Gold Award is submitting data for key sources. These are outlined in the table below.

The program then compares an institution’s emissions data from the current year with the data from the previous year to determine the reduction percentage. However, if the institution did not submit data the previous year, the reduction percentage will be divided by the number of years since the last report to obtain an average.

In the case of new data becoming available, the program has an evaluation system to prevent any disadvantage to the institution. During the first year, the new source's emissions will not be taken into account, and the facility's emissions will be compared only against the same sources as the previous year. In the second year data from the new source is submitted, it will be included in the calculations and compared to the first time it was reported. Moreover, reporting new GHG sources or completing all GHG sources in the forms provides extra points during the evaluation.

	HCCC Emissions Data form	Climate Impact Checkup tool
Scope 1	On site energy combustion	Stationary combustion
	Mobile combustion by fleet vehicles	Mobile combustion
	Medical gases and halogenated anesthetic agents	Medicinal and anesthetic gases
Scope 2	Purchased energy	Purchased electricity
Scope 3	Travel/transport related activities (Business trips)	Business trips
	Off site waste disposal	Waste

For Leadership and Resilience Awards, the first evaluation will assess if *priority actions* are reported. *Priority actions* are interventions required to be considered for receiving an Award. The second step to meeting the criteria to receive these awards is based on the number of actions reported or a minimum percentage of possible actions in case that some are not applicable in the participant institution.

### **Health Care Climate Champions**

The Health Care Climate Champions Awards are the highest recognition in the HCCC. There are up to three awardees per region which will be selected by the regional offices or partners. These awards will recognise and celebrate institutions that stood out for their ambitious, comprehensive, and consistent work throughout the year.

The Health Care Climate Champions will be chosen based on a thorough evaluation of both qualitative and quantitative data provided in the submissions. In order to assess the qualitative aspects, Health Care Without Harm has developed a guideline that outlines the main principles and features to be regarded when selecting the award recipient.

## **7. What is the usual timeline for the HCCC?**

To be considered a participant of the HCCC, institutions must submit their data at any time before September 1st\*. Awards will be announced in December of each year.

\*Please note that some regional offices and partners use the same data forms for other programs, which may result in earlier deadlines. To avoid missing participation in other programs, it's advisable to check with your regional contact whether data must be submitted before September 1st. This will help ensure that you meet all the submission deadlines and do not miss out on any other programs.

## **8. How is the data verification process?**

By completing and submitting the Emissions, Resilience and/or Leadership data forms, members declare that the data is valid, that it reflects their best efforts in monitoring their work, and is supported by relevant documentation

The evaluation of awards will rely on information submitted through data forms on the Hippocrates Data Center on GGHH Connect. If needed, Health Care Without Harm's technical team may reach out to the institutions' contact persons to verify the information submitted.

## **9. How is the information used?**

Health Care Without Harm will only use the information submitted by participants of the Health Care Climate Challenge for statistical purposes and to grant awards. For Race to Zero participants, the data will also be used to monitor and report progress. Forms submitted by members will be treated confidentially and will not be made public.

Health Care Without Harm may request express authorization from members to publish relevant information about their work experience. The aim is to disseminate good practices that can be useful for other institutions that have not yet started monitoring and reducing their carbon footprint. Members reserve the right to authorize or refuse the publication of such information.

## **10. How are the Awards presented?**

Winners of awards will receive a digital certificate by email, as well as communication materials to announce the distinction received. The list of winners will be announced on the Health Care Without Harm and GGHH websites, as well as social media.