Proposition 64 Youth Substance Use Disorder Prevention Program
Frequently Asked Questions

ELIGIBILITY

Q: Can an organization apply for this grant if it already was awarded the MAT grant?

A: Yes. This grant is through a different funding source and organizations that already received a MAT award can apply for the Youth SUD funding opportunity.

Q: Can we apply if we recently were awarded an Opioid Use Disorder Prevention and Education in Communities of Color planning grant?

A: Yes. This funding opportunity is through a different funding source and organizations that received a MAT award are eligible to apply.

Q: Can a school or school district apply for funding?

A: No. A school or school district cannot apply for this funding opportunity as a lead agency. They can apply in partnership with a 501(c)(3) community-based organization or Tribal organization as the lead agency/entity. Only 501(c)(3) community-based organizations or Tribal organizations with established and trusted community relationships are eligible to apply. However, fiscal sponsorships\(^1\) are eligible. The opportunity is open to coalitions of organizations and collaboratives, as long as one eligible organization is the applicant.

Q: Can we partner with school districts, prevention departments and/or alternative schools?

A: We welcome partnerships with organizations you believe will lead to project and work plan success.

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\(^1\) A fiscal sponsor is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with the capacity, structure and experience to provide administrative services, oversight and guidance to start-up or new organizations and assume some financial responsibility related to the sponsored organization and/or project.
Q: Would a school district, in a small community where there is not a nonprofit organization, be eligible to apply?

A: No. A school or school district cannot apply for this opportunity. Only 501(c)(3) community-based organizations or Tribal organizations with established and trusted community relationships are eligible to apply. However, fiscal sponsorships are eligible. The opportunity is open to coalitions of organizations and collaboratives, as long as one eligible organization is the applicant.

Q: Can local educational agencies apply as the lead agency?

A: 501(c)(3) community-based organizations or Tribal organizations with established and trusted community relationships are eligible to apply. Fiscal sponsorships are eligible. The opportunity is open to coalitions of organizations and collaboratives, as long as one eligible organization is the applicant.

Q: If a CBO is both a charter high school and a 501c3, can it apply as lead?

A: 501(c)(3) community-based organizations or Tribal organizations with established and trusted community relationships are eligible to apply. Fiscal sponsorships are eligible. The opportunity is open to coalitions of organizations and collaboratives, as long as one eligible organization is the applicant.

Q: Is there a limit on the number of subcontracting organizations a lead agency can work with?

A: There is no limit to the number of subcontractor organizations and there is no requirement. It has to make sense for the local project. The application needs to convey the support and commitment the partners are making toward the project. If applying as a collaborative/coalition, The Center requires letters of support from the partner organizations.

Q: Can an eligible applicant submit multiple proposals to serve different communities or populations in the state?

A: No. There can be only one application per organization. If an organization is acting as a fiscal sponsor, it can apply as a fiscal sponsor and on its own behalf.

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2 Tribal organizations may be a 501(c)(3) nonprofit or a public entity.
Q: Do collaborations have to be pre-existing prior to the grant application or can partnerships form to fulfill a work plan?

A: Collaboratives or coalitions do not need to be pre-existing.

Q: Can you apply as a collaborative and on your own?

A: Through this opportunity, only one application may be submitted per organization. However, an organization can apply on its own behalf while also participating as a partner in a different application.

Q: What are the conflict of interest rules with applicant organizations that have representation on the Prop. 64 Advisory Committee? Are they eligible to apply and/or receive funding through this RFA?

A: Organizations that have formal representation on the Prop. 64 Advisory Committee are not eligible to pursue these funds. The Department of Health Care Services has provided guidance that can be found on the Prop. 64 Advisory Committee web page: https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/provgovpart/Pages/Prop-64-Advisory-Group.aspx.

Q: If someone from the fiscal agency is on the Advisory Committee, are other programs at that agency disallowed from applying either as prime or included as a sub?

A: Organizations with representation on the Prop. 64 Advisory Committee are not eligible to apply for this opportunity. However, an organization with representation may act as a fiscal sponsor for another organization/project and apply, with the stipulation that the fiscally sponsored organization/project does not have representation on the Prop. 64 Advisory Committee.

Q: Are subcontractors allowed? Are county public health departments eligible to apply?

A: Subcontractors are allowed. 501(c)(3) community-based organizations or Tribal organizations with established and trusted community relationships are eligible to apply. Fiscal sponsorships are eligible. The opportunity is open to coalitions of organizations and collaboratives, as long as one eligible organization is the applicant.

Q: Can a government agency (public health agency) apply for the grant if it is a part of a coalition?

A: This funding opportunity is for 501(c)(3) community-based organizations or Tribal organizations (they can be public entities) with established and trusted community
relationships as the lead agency. Public health departments may participate as part of a coalition or collaborative, but are not eligible to be a lead organization.

Q: Can an applicant submit a proposal and be listed as a fiscal sponsor in another application with a lead agency?

A: A fiscal sponsor can submit an application on behalf of itself. For example, Organization A submits an application as Organization A, and then can also apply under Organization A as a fiscal sponsor for Organization B. This is allowable because they are technically two different lead agencies.

Q: Can you be a part of a collaborative as a sub-recipient and also apply on your own?

A: It is possible since the organization will not be an applicant and can be included as a subcontractor.

Q: Can a project already pre-exist to apply or need to expand the project already being done?

A: The project that is presented is the applicant’s. Existing projects are eligible. The funding opportunity is open to innovative projects and also existing projects, if the applicant already knows what works, then there is no need to reinvent the wheel and present something new.

**FUNDING**

Q: How many grants will be awarded? Is there a minimum grant award?

A: $20 million is available to be awarded. Organizations are able to apply for up to $1 million, and The Center expects to fund a cohort of 20 to 40 organizations depending on what activities applicants propose.

Q: Will you award more than 20 contracts if applicants apply for less than the $1 million maximum?

A: Yes, the number of contracts awarded for this funding opportunity depends on what activities applicants propose. If everyone requests $1 million and are awarded the amount, the cohort will be 20. However, we are estimating to have a cohort range of 20 to 40 organizations.

Q: What if an organization has a federally negotiated and documented indirect rate above 20% that we are legally required to use across all contracts and grants?

A: Indirect is limited to 20% of direct costs for this opportunity.
Q: If we ask for a certain amount, can we be awarded less than we requested?

A: Yes. The final awarded amount will be approved by The Center at Sierra Health Foundation and can differ from the requested amount.

Q: Are we allowed to buy snacks for youth participants or pay for ride share if wanting to transport to meetings with city officials?

A: Food for meetings and convening are a reasonable expense. Be sure to include justification in the proposal that will make sense for reviewers. When allocating financial resources to an item, make sure that item is included in the justification.

Q: Will out-of-state travel for social justice training be allowed for youth?

A: Travel needs to fit within the guidelines of the program. It is incumbent upon the applicant to explain why the travel is necessary for success and to make it clear in the narrative and budget justification.

Q: What are some items that the funding cannot be used for? I run a youth center that may need upgrades to conduct programs we are planning.

A: In the RFA, there is list of what cannot be funded under this opportunity, including, but not limited to, debt retirement, operational deficits, partisan activities, religious organizations for religious explicit activities, etc. Include a clear explanation for infrastructure support.

Q: Just to clarify, is it up to $1 million for the total of the three years?

A: Yes. This funding opportunity is up to $1 million for three years. Each year will have its own work plan and budget, but will be from the same awarded amount.

APPLICATION

Q: Does the application need to include a service delivery component/partner?

A: We want organizations to balance between services and systems change. What is required is mentorship-relationship building service delivery as well as peer-led support and leadership programs service delivery. Additionally, we do expect all proposed projects to have a clear and demonstrated screening and referral pathway with the ability to navigate youth to a higher level of substance use care or mental health care if needed so that those policies and procedures are in place.
Q: The RFA states the agreement will be fixed price and deliverable-based. Does this mean there will be no financial reporting on actual costs? Will the submitted budget simply be an estimation or must all spending align exactly with the submitted budget?

A: Quarterly financial reports based on actual spending will be a requirement of this award. If there is a variation from the approved budget, budget modifications are allowed.

Q: When does the application period close?

A: The application timeline can be found in the RFA. The deadline to apply is Thursday, February 6, 2020, at 1:00 p.m. (Pacific Time).

Q: Can you tell us about the reviewers/agency/experience?

A: Applications will be reviewed by a review team composed of internal and external reviewers. The Center is working in partnership with the Department of Health Care Services to use the criteria that will guide the decision making for who is funded. Each application will receive multiple reviews.

Q: Do subcontractors/partners need to provide their own detailed budgets or can they simply be a "Subcontractor" line item in the project budget?

A: It is The Center’s expectations that the grantee organization/lead agency will collect all of its partners’ detailed budgets, but they will roll up into the subcontractors budget line on The Center’s Proposed Budget Form. However, the grantee organization will need to go into detail on the budget justification on partners’ expenses. There needs to be explanation why a specific subcontractor/partner is receiving funding and what it will be used for.

Q: Where are coalition partner costs to be entered?

A: They are to be entered in the budget justification section and can be rolled up into a subcontractor budget line on the Proposed Budget form.

Q: Is this the complete budget justification template? BUDGET JUSTIFICATION: For each item explain how the funds will be used for the project, including other funding committed to the project and the source of other funding. Describe in-kind resources.

A: Yes. The form you see in the RFA is the form The Center requests applicants to use. Additionally, please describe in-kind resources. The attachments, budget form and budget justification form need to be submitted. The Budget Justification template is blank, but what is
required in a budget justification is a description of each budget line item and why the line item needs the requested amount.

**Q: Is the work plan requested for one year or all three years of the project?**

A: The work plan is cumulative and outcome-based so that the applicant will be speaking to the outcomes that will result from the project and then dive into some of the specific activities that will roll up into the objectives. The goal is what you hope to accomplish by the end of the project, November 2022. The work plan is broken down into objectives and under each of those objectives there may be activities dedicated to each individual year.

**Q: Do you want to see the value of in-kind goods and services included in the third column of the budget pages where other committed sources of funding are to be listed?**

A: The in-kind resources do not need to be included in the third column of the budget pages, but you will need to describe in the budget justification. The other committed funding are other financial resources that are specific to this project if your total budget is larger than the applicant is requesting.

**Q: Is an external evaluator recommended?**

A: The Center is not directing applicants on how to engage in evaluation activities or require the use of external evaluators.

**Q: Please repeat where the application can be found.**

A: The application can be found on page 9 in the RFA – the third bullet on the “Important Application Guidelines” box. [https://www.shfcenter.org/youth-sud-prevention](https://www.shfcenter.org/youth-sud-prevention)

**OTHER**

**Q: Is there a definition of urban?**

A: The definition of urban and rural is in the RFA on page 7, and can be found on the [California Health and Human Services Agency](http://www.chhs.ca.gov) web site. You can enter your county and region and it will let you know if it is urban or rural.

**Q: Will there be any match required?**

A: No. There will be no need to demonstrate matching funds.
Q: How late can we start since we will not hear until March 15?

A: If the awards are announced or made after March 15, the contract/grant will be back-dated to March 15. Therefore, you can propose your activities beginning on March 15.

Q: How long after March 15 are we allowed to start?

A: Contracts will be backdated to March 15. Organizations may begin their activities as soon as awarded and include costs beginning March 15.

Q: Is the grant strictly for youth who have been targeted, or may this apply to all age groups of color who have been targeted and have issues with substance abuse?

A: The focus community are those disproportionately impacted by the war on drugs. The organization will have to demonstrate data on that along with its established relationship with the community. The community may vary depending on the geography and region.

Q: Is there a set or capped number of youth we need to serve in the three-year project period?

A: No, there is no minimum or maximum of youth that need to be served. The applicant just needs to present a project that is cohesive and moves the work forward and ties in all the various components following all of the implementation strategies and the guiding principles.

Q: Are you specifically looking for organizations that have already worked with SUD issues?

A: No, a history of SUD work is not a requirement. However, the application will ask organizations to demonstrate their history and work with youth.

Q: Can we serve multiple cities within California?

A: Yes, an organization that serves multiple cities may apply to serve multiple cities. Please provide detail and description in the narrative questions of the application.

Q: Will you e-mail the webinar presentation slides to participants of the webinar?

A: The webinar slides and recording will be posted on the web site: https://www.shfcenter.org/youth-sud-prevention.
Q: Will selection of proposals include consideration of DHCS/Center goals for statewide geographic distribution?

A: Up to 15% of funding will be set aside for organizations serving rural areas of California. Factors such as geographic diversity, underserved youth population or service area, and prevalence of youth with substance use disorder in populations served will be considered to determine the awardees.

Q: Is there a specific breakdown you’re looking for between direct service strategies vs. policy change strategies/initiatives?

A: No. The opportunity is for organizations that provide both direct services as well as policy/system change activities.

Q: Are there statewide goals for this project, like reduced youth substance use, or something we should all work toward?

A: No, but awarded organizations will work closely with DHCS on the evaluation and implementation of projects.

Q: Does the policy/systems change have to be only about SUD? Is there a public grading rubric for the review committee?

A: The policy/systems change must be related to substance use disorders, but we recognize there may be some policies that move beyond SUD. In the RFA, there are some examples of projects that demonstrate relations to SUD, but also focuses on trauma and healing-centered programs for communities that are hardest hit by the war on drugs. The Center encourages applicants to review the project list to better understand what this funding opportunity is looking for.

Q: Is there a timeline for the next funding cycle?

A: No, that has not been determined yet.