

**State of Nevada, Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH)
Mental Health Block Grant Application Questions 20/21**

- 1. Is a public or non-profit agency that is awarded the block grant allowed to sub-contract to a for-profit for the provision of care or service that is outlined in their application?**

Pursuant to Section I.4, the primary applicant must be a public government agency or a nonprofit organization. However, government agencies and nonprofit organizations may identify subcontractors to support the primary agency in carrying out the required services. The subcontracts are not restricted to non-profit or public agencies and may include for-profit entities.

- 2. This (the NOFA) would only apply to those hospitals with distinct part psych units and the free-standing psychiatric hospitals, correct? Would those hospitals that have gero-psych units also qualify to submit an application?**

Pursuant to Section I.4, the primary applicant must be a public government agency or a nonprofit organization and meet the eligibility requirements within Section I.4.

- 3. I read through the FOA and believe it could fund the seed money to pilot a pediatric psych access program in southern nv (and/or rural NV, statewide NV....). Can you confirm whether or not the grant funding can be used as such?**

The DPBH encourages creative, evidence-based innovative programs that address the youth and adolescent target population in compliance with the allowable activities defined in the NOFA. Grant funds under the youth and adolescent target population will only pay for those with Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED).

- 4. Are the written questions you are referring to the ones on Pages 24-28 application form and Pg. 34-36 financial and internal controls questionnaire what you need? Or both?**

Potential applicant(s) are afforded the opportunity to ask clarifying questions regarding the NOFA. All questions must be in writing. These questions are for the benefit of the potential applicant(s) and do not reflect any predefined forms or information.

- 5. ...on page 15 of the NOFA letter I Priority Area. you mentioned that applicants may submit more than one application, does this mean that we would be eligible to write one application for serving priority area Y1 youth/child Juvenile Justice Diversion for up to \$600,000 and another application for Priority area Y3 Adolescent Services for \$600,000 for a total of \$1,200,000? Please clarify.**

Applicant(s) are permitted to submit more than one application for a different priority area. Applicant(s) may not submit any one application with more than one priority area

identified. The amount requested for any individual application may not exceed \$600,000.

- 6. On Page 15 of the RFP it indicates that page numbers and headings are required. I want to verify that “headings” are referring to the specific narrative sections (organization description, project design, etc.) and not to an actual header on top of the entire document.**

Yes, the headings are referring to the specific narrative sections.

- 7. In regards to the scope of work, I want to verify that we need to create a table that looks like the one in the RFP and that there is not another work plan document that we need to fill out/complete.**

Yes, you need to create a table that looks like the one in the RFP which includes the same headings. There is not another work plan document to complete.

- 8. Page 5 of the RFP indicates that we must be able to provide services within 30 days of grant award. A few questions about that:**

- a. Does the program(s) have to be fully operational within 30 days or can a portion of it be fully operational within 30 days, and another portion be rolled out in a phased approach. For example, if we are proposing to offer services at two sites, but one site will not be completely operational/open until 60-90 days after NOA, can we immediately start services at one site, and then start the services at the other site when it opens?**

The DPBH is not opposed to creative solutions to provide solutions. The operation of initial services is required to be within the 30-days. You must include details on when and how you would provide the services identified for the target population and identify the location of services. DPBH would encourage you to provide a timeline for both locations and identify activities that would be available at each site.

- b. The RFP indicates that Criminal Justice Diversion will not be eligible to begin until October 1, 2020. If we apply for two target activities/populations, does this mean that the other one would have to start within 30 days of NOA, and the Criminal Justice Diversion one would start within 30 days of October 1, 2020?**

The DPBH is planning for awards to begin on October 1, 2020, in alignment with the federal award.

However, DPBH reserves the right to review all applications for the potential of funds that may become available earlier that may need to be expended on or before September 30, 2020. In the later case, DPBH will review all

applications for consideration of funding awards and will work directly with the applicant(s).

All applicants should write to the October 1, 2020 start date.

8. Is the scope of work for one year or two years?

The DPBH scope of work is for two years. However, each scope of work should reflect activities, target population, number of people services for each respective year.

9. Is the budget for one year or two years

Applicant(s) should submit proposed budgets for the two-year timeframe. Pursuant to the NOFA, there is no guarantee of carryover of funds from year one to year two. However, DPBH will consider applications for year two based on what is submitted, the performance of the applicant(s), and the availability of funds.

10. For the “target transitional age youth/children” category, do they need to have a SMI diagnosis to be eligible to be served by the program?

The transitional age youth/children must have an SED diagnosis, potentially up to age 22 but typically at age 18, and then be reevaluated to see if they continue to be eligible for the program.

11. The RFP forms are not fillable forms. When I try to complete the “Project Abstract Form” it just takes me to a signature page. I can’t actually do an editing or anything in the document. Will the state be sending out a document that we can edit/fill out?

Per Section IV, 2, A, the abstract is a “one-page” single-spaced document not to exceed 500 words. The Project Application Form will be posted on the website with the announcement for applicant(s) to use.

12. On page 5, #1, would this cover clients with a high deductible or someone who can't afford their copays several times per week?

The MHBG does cover applicants who are underinsured, or have co-pays or those with high deductibles, should they meet the criteria for services. However, for applicants that have third-party liability (other insurance providers), they must meet the 138% Federal Poverty Level (FPL) guidelines based on income to receive grant funds. No more than 5% of the total award can be used towards copays or high deductibles.

13. What does #5 on page 13 mean? When we currently submit an RFR monthly it lists the amount due to us as the provider and shows the services given and cost to deliver the service. This paragraph sounds like we have to report the income we earn from a client, on our RFR. Pls clarify and give an example.

Under Section 2 CFR §200.80, program income is defined as gross income earned by an organization that is directly generated by a supported activity or earned as result of the federal or state award during a specific period of performance. Program income includes but is not limited to income from fee-for-services performed. Pursuant to CFR 2. All participant contributions, fees or other income generated through the use of grant funds must be credited to the appropriate grant and used to support that grant. Program income may not be used to support other grant-funded programs or general operations. This requires award recipients to identify the funding that is earned based on grant activities and to utilize them in accordance to the allowable activities.

DPBH will work with each applicant to review regulations and to provide examples of reporting tools to ensure compliance with the Code of Federal Regulations and in compliance with the Grant Instructions and Requirements (GIRS).

14. On Page 26, section K- Current Mental Health Funding, does that mean Mental Health only and not co-occurring?

No, that does not mean mental health only. It does cover both mental health and co-occurring.

15. The instructions say to email a single PDF, but the application is in WORD and the Budget Form is in a separate EXCEL file. How do we combine the Budget PDF into the WORD application?

You can choose one of two options. First, the budget form could be printed out and scanned along with the narrative and attachment to ensure that it is one PDF document. Second, you can also insert the budget form as an object into the Word Document. If you choose the second option to insert, do not select "icon" only. It will add the entire workbook into the Word Document.

16. Will there be a template for the Performance Reports?

DPBH has standardized reporting tables in compliance with the SAMHSA Mental Health Block Grant and will work with each applicant on the specific performance reports and deliverables required based on the scope of work.

17. The priorities for youth listed in the strategic plan by the Behavioral Health Planning and Advisory Council, July 2018, include priorities for the full age range of youth in Nevada- birth to 17. On page 5 of the NOFO, one of the target populations is "Children with SED and their Families (Age 0-17). However, on page 10 of the NOFO and the three program activities that must be focused on are for the adolescent population only. What priority activities will be allowed to cover the entire age range of youth, birth to 18?

The Behavioral Health Planning and Advisory Council considers strategic priorities based on identified needs and is not intended to be based on one funding source. The

MHBG has specific federal guidelines that limit the availability of funding for all services and all populations.

The revision should reflect that services may **only** be provided to youth and adolescents diagnosed with SED.

18. On page 10, under excluded activities, one of the exclusions is for those “not diagnosed with a SMI”. As there is no exclusion surrounding a youth needing to have been determined SED, is serving non-SED youth an allowable activity?

The MHBG requires youth and adolescents to be diagnosed with a SED to be eligible for service. Non-SED youth is NOT an allowable activity.

19. Do we need to apply if we currently receive mental health block grant funding?

Yes. Pursuant to CFR 200.318 any agency that wants to be considered for "any future mental health block funding" must complete an application in response to the NOFO. This is including past and current recipients.