Applicant Inquiries & Answers for (RFA) #SUPP 1009 OTP Additional Locations Q&A

1. Would you accept grant applications to establish two new OTP locations in Essex and Franklin Counties both of which do not have any certified OTP?

Response: No. Funding will only be awarded for Additional Locations. All proposed Additional Locations must be connected to a pre-existing OTP.

2. In reviewing the application under eligibility requirements, I noticed the following:

Voluntary Agencies: As defined in New York State Mental Hygiene Law, section 41.03 paragraph 11, a voluntary agency means a corporation organized or existing pursuant to the not-for-profit law for the purpose of providing local services.

Would a "For Profit" agency be considered a voluntary agency?

Response: No, a for-profit agency is not a voluntary agency and is not eligible to apply.

3. Can funds be used to support salaries of new employees providing required services for an initial startup period?

Response: Yes, pages 3 and 4 of the RFA provide information on allowable uses of the funding which include: one calendar quarter payroll and fringe benefits for either an additional nurse practitioner or physician's assistant; and any or all of the following: a nurse, clinician, and peers.

4. Can funding be utilized for personnel in the startup period?

Response: Yes

5. Can funding be utilized for other than personnel items not explicitly listed on page 3 of the RFA, such as rent, phones and agency administration?

Response: Yes

6. Is it acceptable to subcontract funding to another OASAS certified provider for the provision of required or additional services (i.e., peer supports)?

Response: No, all services should be provided by employees of the applicant.

7. Would the installation of dosing windows or a safe room be considered allowable cosmetic renovations and therefore eligible expenses?

Response: SAPT funds may not be used to purchase, construct, permanently improve, or change the structure of the building. This includes removing or adding walls, creating offices or rooms, etc. The installation of a dosing window is likely allowable if it doesn't permanently change the structure of the building but building a safe room may not meet the definition if it requires the building of a room with permanent walls.

8. What is the budget period (From what date to what date) for the RFA?

Response: 3/15/21 – 3/14/23

9. After the award is made, can the original RFP budget be refined later in the process prior to starting operations? For example, if an amount for Furniture is entered as a total, can this amount later be refined or edited to include more specific items and the total for that budget category (Equipment) does not exceed what was originally proposed?

Response: Yes, expense lines of the proposed budgets may be modified to reflect actual costs as long as the total gross budget does not increase.

10. If a provider is awarded \$75,000 for renovations of a site from another grant (e.g., SOR II Regional Grant), can an additional \$75,000 be requested and approved in this RFP for the same Additional Location?

Response: Funds awarded under any Federal Grant or solicitation must be used for the purposes it was awarded and within the terms of the grant for allowable costs.

11. If an Additional Location has been identified and built/renovated prior to the end of 2022 but the certification process has not been completed by OASAS, SAMHSA and DEA by the end of the year, would the CO from OASAS be withheld? The certification process for this type of program is long and arduous. If the agency is able to get everything ready but is waiting for all the approvals that are necessary to start operating, are you saying on page 3 that the OASAS CO would not be awarded? Please clarify (page 3 - 1. INTRODUCTION and BACKGROUND; C. Funding restrictions and core objectives.) Would OASAS consider extending the deadline for completion because of the difficult approval process?

Response: It is the expectation that all approvals will be obtained by the end of calendar year 2022. However, OASAS does reserve the right to extend the deadline on a case-by-case basis.