

RFA SETT-23006 Outreach and Engagement Services- Street Outreach

Questions submitted by Applicants that were due by 3/17/2023 5:00 PM

- Q1** I am reaching out about the above indicated RFP. In my system of Care, we have a provider who is funded by OASAS for primary prevention who is interested in this program, but are not sure that they qualify. The RFP states “Operate OASAS-certified, funded or otherwise authorized SUD treatment programs.” But they are not treatment, they are prevention. Would they qualify?
- A1** Yes. Prevention Providers are part of the care continuum within OASAS. As long as the agency operates an OASAS-certified or funded program (including recovery and prevention) they are eligible to apply.
- There will be an addendum to the RFA that removes the word “treatment” from this eligibility requirement.
- Q2** [Organization], a non-for-profit organization located in Auburn NY, County of Cayuga, receives OMH funding via LGU allocating State Aid to our organization for the purposes of operating a Drop In Center and non-Medicaid Care Coordination. The bulk of what our organization does is harm reduction work, overdose outreach, and linkages to services. We are working in the courts, the local hospital, and jails. Would our organization be eligible given we are in part funded by OMH state Aid? I see that applicants are eligible if they are OASAS certified or otherwise receive funding but it doesn’t outline the same for OMH funded providers.
- A2** Per the RFA under Eligible Applicants, non-profit or governmental entities that operate OMH-licensed mental health services programs; and OMH Safe Options Supports providers can apply.
- Q3** Whether companies from Outside USA can apply for this? (like, from India or Canada)
- A3** See Section 1.3 Eligible Applicants “Eligible applicants are non-profit or governmental entities that meets one of the following criteria AND have an existing program physically located in the same county in which the applicant intends to deliver outreach and engagement services.....”
- Q4** Whether we need to come over there for meetings?
- A4** OASAS reserves the right to require in person meetings with funded providers.
- Q5** Can we perform the tasks (related to RFP) outside USA? (like, from India or Canada)
- A5** No. Services must be provided in NYS.
- Q6** Can we submit the proposals via email?

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A6 See cover page of RFA SETT-23006 “ Email submission of Applications to: Grants@oasas.ny.gov with subject: RFA OASAS SETT-23006, “Provider Name”.

Q7 I’ve reviewed the glossary of terms to determine our agency’s eligibility in the “Rest of State” area. We operate licensed Article 31 clinics and other OMH funded programs. We are a non-profit organization. Would we fall into the “Voluntary Agency” definition?

A7 Yes, in addition, eligible applicants include non-profit programs that operate OMH-licensed mental health services programs and/or OMH Safe Options Supports.

Q8 I wanted to see what "other OASAS authorized SUD providers" was categorized as? We contract with OASAS agencies (at the suggestion of OASAS) to provide LGBTQQIA+ substance use services and would like to focus on harm reduction and outreach as an agency but we are not OASAS licensed.

A8 There will be an addendum to the RFA that will clarify the eligibility criteria.

Q9 Metropolitan Community Services dba Journeys is for profit 822 Outpatient Chemical Dependence Clinic 52957 program ID 49320 is it eligible to apply for this grant?

A9 No. For profit entities are not eligible to apply to this solicitation.

Q10 On page four of the RFA, the bulleted list of services includes “Provision of low-threshold medical services, including HIV/HCV testing”. Are these low threshold medical services to be delivered by directly by grant-funded nursing/provider personnel working in the locations where the targeted population naturally occurs or via linkage with referral and warm handoff to other clinic-based providers?

A10 Either. For programs that don’t provide low-threshold medical services, including HIV/HCV testing, these services would need to be provided via a linkage agreement (referral) to another agency that can provide these services.

Q11 Are non-profit agencies that operate OASAS-certified 8.20 programs eligible to apply for this funding? The glossary of terms defines "OASAS-certified" as pertaining only to Outpatient and Opioid Treatment Services as defined in 14 NYCRR Part 822.

A11 Yes. Eligible applicants must operate an OASAS-certified or funded program, this includes 820 programs. OASAS-certified providers who received funding for Outreach and Engagement Services (formerly known as Centers of Treatment Innovation) through State Targeted Response or State Opioid Response

Q12 Are non-profit agencies that operate OMH-licensed Congregate Care II programs eligible to apply for this funding? "OMH-licensed" is not defined.

A12 Yes.

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Q13 In addition to being a prevention provider, we also provide recovery support services and harm reduction services through our Recovery Community Center. Would we be an eligible entity?

A13 See response to Q1.

Q14 Our agency, [organization] currently receives funding through both the SORs and Harm Reduction grant that allows us to do street outreach, engagement and has allowed us to procure a mobile unit van. I am wondering however, if we would still be able to apply for this grant as it would give us more opportunity to bring more harm reduction related services that we are not able to pursue at this time.

A14 A provider who receives SOR funding is eligible as long as the same provider did not receive funding for Outreach and Engagement Services (formerly known as Centers of Treatment Innovation) through State Targeted Response or State Opioid Response grants are not eligible applicants under this RFA.

Q15 I am with [organization] and maybe interested in applying for this RFA. The information states that the award is for Kings and Queens counties and the rest of state. Are Westchester County service providers eligible to apply for this funding?

A15 Yes. See Section 1.4 – Glossary of Terms “Rest of State: Includes all areas of New York State except Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan, Queens, and Staten Island.”

Q16 I run a second-tier SSP program under the Onondaga County Health Department. Are Second-tier SSP's eligible for this?

A16 Yes. Both First Tier and Second Tier Syringe Service Programs are eligible for this funding opportunity.

Q17 Peer Staff Certification Requirements: Are we allowed to hire Peer staff who are not certified at the beginning of the program, with the intention of supporting them in working toward CPRA certification?

A17 Yes, as long as a timeline is provided on when the peers will become CRPAs.

Q18 Peer Staff Certification Requirements: To facilitate and support integration with our harm reduction and mental health services, could we hire Peer staff who have certification from other agencies? i.e. NYSDOH AIDS Institute or NYS OMH peer certification.

A18 Yes.

Q19 Amount of Billable Services: What are your expectations of us billing for outreach and engagement services? We are estimating that only 20% of people we engage through this initiative may end up in any kind of billable service

A19 There is no set expectation on billable vs. non-billable services.

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- Q20** Vehicle Expenses: In the \$75,000 vehicle purchase budget, are costs for garage storage space, vehicle maintenance, and insurance allowed in addition to the vehicle purchase cost?
- A20** The \$75,000 can only be used for the purchase of a vehicle(s). However, the costs for garage storage space, vehicle maintenance, and insurance expenses are allowed in Column B under the Non-Personal Services category of the budget.
- Q21** Is an OASAS- certified provider, that has received funding for Outreach and Engagement Services (COTI) through State Targeted Response, eligible to apply if we are applying for a different region than where our O&E (COTI) currently serves?
- A21** No, OASAS-certified providers who received funding for Outreach and Engagement Services (formerly known as Centers of Treatment Innovation) through State Targeted Response are not eligible applicants under this RFA.
- Q22** Are the Regions determined by the applicant or is OASAS using the Empire State Development Regions?
- A22** See Section 1.3 Eligible Applicants, Geographic Areas and Section 1.4 Glossary of Terms, Rest of State definition. Rest of State: Includes all areas of New York State except Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan, Queens and Staten Island.
- Q23** Under Section 1.3 Eligible Applicants – Do Federal Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) as a standard Article 28 count as an eligible applicant for this RFA?
- A23** Yes, Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) are one of the eligible applicant categories.
- Q24** In the application narrative, p. 15, section 1b is an exact duplicate of section 2b. Is this in error, especially since section 1 deals with experience, not with the program plan?
- A24** Section 1b is asking for the applicant's history in providing OES. Section 2b. details the applicant's plan to provide these services in the Project.
- Q25** In the application narrative, p. 16, section 3a, the 2nd and fourth bullets, how do you see us tracking unique individuals, given that street outreach is very informal and people may choose to remain nameless or give incorrect names? Unique individuals cannot be counted unless we have names for all, which we will not have. Shouldn't our tracking be focused on encounters?
- A25** The reporting requirements for this initiative are still yet to be determined. We are asking that you demonstrate that your project has a plan on how it will track encounters with individuals and outreach events.
- Q26** I have a question about the funding for a vehicle under this grant. I am wondering if we can use the \$75,000 to purchase two vehicles under State Bid.

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- A26** OASAS will allow the purchase of multiple vehicles as long as the total costs for all vehicles charged to the grant does not exceed \$75,000.