

Applicant Inquiries & Responses for RFA #SUPP1013 Part 2 – September 21, 2022

Statewide SUD System Support

1. RECAP has one addictions program with two sites (TRUST and New Life Manor) do we submit one application capturing all costs for both sites or two applications one per site?

Response: Only one application should be submitted per provider. Your narrative justification should be based on PRU-specific needs, including any applicable documentation to support the requested funding amount.

2. I am a vendor providing vocational evaluations for ACCES-VR. I have struggled to pay the rent for my vocational evaluation offices during Covid 19 quarantine periods. Can I apply for this funding?

Response: Eligible applicants are voluntary agencies or local governmental units (LGU) which provide direct care SUD treatment, prevention, and/or recovery services that (1) are OASAS-Certified and/or funded by OASAS State Aid as of the date of award; (2) were operational prior to January 31, 2020; (3) are pre-qualified in the Grants Gateway; and (4) have completed a certified Vendor Responsibility questionnaire are eligible to receive funds.

If your agency meets the above criteria, you are eligible to apply for these funds.

3. I have been unable to find the inquiry posting for this funding opportunity. Please advise where this is located.

Response: The initial FAQ document is posted here:

https://oasas.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2022/09/system_support-qa.pdf

4. Can you please forward me the FAQ's for the OASAS Project No. SUPP1013? I have been unable to find this information online that was supposed to be available today.

Response: The initial FAQ document is posted here:

https://oasas.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2022/09/system_support-qa.pdf

5. Can you please let me know where the inquiries to this project will be posted?

Response: The initial FAQ document is posted here:

https://oasas.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2022/09/system_support-qa.pdf

6. Were there any questions/answers issued for the OASAS Project # SUPP1013? I didn't see anything on your website.

Response: The initial FAQ document is posted here:

https://oasas.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2022/09/system_support-qa.pdf

7. Anchor House Inc (Provider Number 00610) would like to request the application for OASAS Project No. SUPP1013.

Response: The RFA can be found here:

<https://oasas.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2022/08/sud-suppoort-rfa-final.pdf>

8. I was wondering if funds could be used to restructure an office space so that staff could each have private workspaces rather than a more open workspace, in order to prevent the spread of COVID.

Response: Funds may not be used to purchase, construct, permanently improve, or change the structure of a building. This includes removing or adding walls, creating offices or rooms, etc. Funds may be used for cosmetic renovations only. Cosmetic renovations are any renovations that improve the appearance of a building without changing the existing structure or the electrical and plumbing systems. Examples of cosmetic renovations are painting, changing a light fixture, and replacing the flooring. Funds may also be used for minor maintenance such as replacing the air filters in an HVAC system but cannot be used to replace the entire HVAC system.

Allowable uses of funds and applicable programs are outlined in the RFA under Scope of Services and include otherwise unsupported supply and equipment needs in SUD programming.

9. I see that the FAQ was released and that any requests for clarification may be submitted by email regarding the RFP. We were wondering if fringe benefits also included vacation accrual. A result of the pandemic was the great resignation and a lot of our staff resigned during this time. Because so many didn't use their vacation days, we had to pay out significant amounts to staff that resigned. Can we include this cost in our budget? Also, a lot of our staff have not used their vacation days, and we would like to offer to pay them out if they choose to do so. Can this be included in the budget as well?

Response: If the payment of accrued vacation time, either the payment at separation or as a benefit to employees, is a currently unsupported expense, it would be an allowable cost. Actual expenses incurred may be allowable if reasonable and/or necessary for providing SUD services in both nature and amount and were not previously and will not otherwise be reimbursed by other funding or programs.

10. Would a vehicle be considered an allowable expense? A lot of our clientele do not drive/have their own vehicle and are now reluctant to take public transportation due to the risk of Covid-19.

Response: Yes, funds may be used to purchase a vehicle for use by a SUD service. Allowable uses of funds and applicable programs are outlined in the RFA under Scope of Services and include otherwise unsupported supply and equipment needs in SUD programming.

11. The entire pool for this grant is \$20 million, not a lot of money considering it is a "Statewide" initiative, and the scope of the deficits created by COVID-19. Our question is, will or can this pool be expanded in light of the recent \$1.6 billion NYS Opioid Settlement reached by our New York

Attorney General Letitia James? The push to use opioid settlement monies, locally, was part of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) Biden-Harris Administration's policy priorities.

Response: This funding initiative is under the Federal SAPT Block Grant supplemental award under the Coronavirus Relief Act and is separate and distinct from the NYS Opioid Settlement Fund. Under the SUPP1013: Statewide SUD System Support initiative, up to \$20 million is available to support reasonable, necessary, and allowable SUD program costs incurred after March 15, 2021 that were not previously and will not otherwise be reimbursed by other funding or programs, including State Aid and other grants.

OASAS has offered over \$111 million in various initiatives under the Federal SAPT Block Grant supplemental awards, including \$19.3 million for Workforce Development and over \$20 million for Stabilization to assist addiction service providers impacted by COVID-19.

Other OASAS procurement opportunities are posted on the OASAS website.

12. I have two questions regarding allowable expenses for this RFA: Would a vehicle be considered an allowable expense? A lot of our clientele do not drive/have their own vehicle and are now reluctant to take public transportation due to the risk of Covid-19. Could funds be used to restructure an office space so that staff could each have private workspaces rather than a more open workspace, in order to prevent the spread of COVID?

Response: Yes, funds may be used to purchase a vehicle for use by a SUD service. Allowable uses of funds and applicable programs are outlined in the RFA under Scope of Services and include otherwise unsupported supply and equipment needs in SUD programming.

Funds may not be used to purchase, construct, permanently improve, or change the structure of a building. This includes removing or adding walls, creating offices or rooms, etc. Funds may be used for cosmetic renovations only. Cosmetic renovations are any renovations that improve the appearance of a building without changing the existing structure or the electrical and plumbing systems. Examples of cosmetic renovations are painting, changing a light fixture, and replacing the flooring. Funds may also be used for minor maintenance such as replacing the air filters in an HVAC system but cannot be used to replace the entire HVAC system.

13. How can I get into your system to review the RFA?

Response: The RFA can be found here:

<https://oasas.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2022/08/sud-support-rfa-final.pdf>

14. For the statewide SUD System Support Initiative, would connection of Wi-Fi service in an 820 Residential Program, including cost of installation, wires, hardware, equipment, etc., be a covered expense? This Wi-Fi connection would allow internet connection of mobile telehealth stations and tablets. Also, would computers and tablets be an allowable expense, as well as cost of food for the 820 program clients (Our food expense for a 60 bed 820 program is much higher than the current funding being received by OASAS/DOHMH).

Response: Yes, these would be considered allowable costs. Allowable uses of funds and applicable programs are outlined in the RFA under Scope of Services and include otherwise unsupported supply and equipment needs in SUD programming.