

## Applicant Inquiries & Responses for RFA #SUPP1013

### Stabilization SUD System Support

1. All of our addiction services (OTP, outpatient services, and inpatient rehab services) are part of St. Mary's Healthcare which is a hospital system, so with regards to eligibility for Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant Award are we considered a hospital, as per below?

Ineligible providers/programs:

- a. Gambling programs/services.
- b. **Hospitals.**
- c. Jail-based programs/services.
- d. Public schools.
- e. Governmental entities not directly operating a SUD treatment, prevention, and/or recover service.
- f. Legislative initiative funding; and
- g. Proprietary (for-profit) providers.

**Response: As stated in the RFA, hospitals are ineligible to apply for these funds. If your services are certified and/or funded under the hospital, then you are not eligible to apply for these funds.**

2. Our program is a department of St. Peter's Hospital. We do not have our own EIN and would need to submit under the hospital's EIN. Since hospitals are ineligible would we also be excluded? We meet all other eligibility requirements.

**Response: As stated in the RFA, hospitals are ineligible to apply for these funds. If your services are certified and/or funded under the hospital, then you are not eligible to apply for these funds.**

3. What is the maximum award amount that an eligible provider can receive for the SUPP1013 Statewide SUD System Support?

**Response: Eligible applicants should request the amount of funding necessary to assist with fiscal recovery and continued safe provision of existing SUD services. Expenditures supported by these funds must be 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.**

4. In going through the NYS Office of Addition Services and Support RFA, I have a few questions in addressing the budget. Can you clarify the following items re: the RFA SUPP1013 Statewide SUD System Support?
  - a. Is the budget period to be reported March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021 through March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023? Two (2) years?
  - b. We are an FQHC providing medical, dental and mental health services in addition to OASAS services. What expenses should be reported under Attachment B column "B" All

other Services? Our total expense other than Primary Prevention “OASAS” expenses. Or OASAS expense that would not be considered “Primary Prevention”?

**Response: Yes, the budget period is expected to be March 15, 2021 to March 14, 2023. Funds are available for allowable SUD program expenses incurred during that period.**

**Expenses reported under “All Other Services” are any allowable expenses under the RFA that are not considered in support of Primary Prevention Services as defined by Federal 45 CFR § 96.125 - Primary prevention (e.g., activities reported under Consolidated Fiscal Reporting program code 5520). See also the OASAS Prevention Guidelines for OASAS Funded and/or Certified Prevention Services.**

5. Want to make sure that for profit agencies are eligible to apply?

**Response: As stated in the RFA, proprietary (for-profit) providers are ineligible for this funding opportunity.**

6. We have seven Outpatient OTP clinics – (2050 Program) and a Medically Supervised Outpatient (3520 Program). Each may have some needs and as such, we want to inquire if we can apply for each of these clinics or PRUs? Lastly, is there a maximum amount that a provider (or for each PRU) can apply for funding?

**Response: Applications should be submitted by provider, not program, however your narrative justification should be based on PRU-specific needs, including any applicable documentation to support the requested funding amount.**

**Eligible applicants should request the amount of funding necessary to assist with fiscal recovery and continued safe provision of existing SUD services. Expenditures supported by these funds must be 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.**

7. As Crouse is a hospital based program (article 28) – does this mean we do not qualify for this funding?

**Response: As stated in the RFA, hospitals are ineligible to apply for these funds. If your services are certified and/or funded under the hospital, then you are not eligible to apply for these funds.**

8. I was hoping to gather some information on what these funds are to be used for if they are received by a provider. Previously the SUPP awards came with detailed descriptions on how the money could be spent. I want to ensure that if we apply for these funds, our agency would be able to use the money as fit for our agency’s needs.

**Response: Providers may use funding for fiscal and programmatic support necessary to address the impact of COVID-19 on existing program operations and infrastructure. Allowable uses of funds and applicable programs are outlined in the RFA under Scope of Services.**

9. I am inquiring about the specific expenses that are “allowable” for the SUD support grant (past and future expenses). Would you kindly provide specifics on budget line items? Is there a threshold of total allocation? Will there be a review webinar on this RFA?

**Response: Allowable uses of funds are outlined in the RFA under Scope of Services.**

**[Attachment B – Contract Budget and Funding Summary INSTRUCTIONS](#) provides line by line instructions on completing the [Attachment B – Contract and Budget Funding Summary](#).**

**Eligible applicants should request the amount of funding necessary to assist with fiscal recovery and continued safe provision of existing SUD services. Expenditures supported by these funds must be 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.**

**Any requests for clarification may be submitted by email to [COVIDFunds@oasas.ny.gov](mailto:COVIDFunds@oasas.ny.gov).**

10. Can the SUPP1013 funding be utilized to support programmatic stability to resume, sustain and/or improve existing harm reduction services? The RFA references “SUD program services” and “SUD prevention, treatment and recovery services” but does not mention harm reduction services.

**Response: Providers may use funding for fiscal and programmatic support necessary to address the impact of COVID-19 on existing program operations and infrastructure. Allowable uses of funds and applicable programs are outlined in the RFA under Scope of Services.**

11. Would a provider with a Part 822 Outpatient Clinic and an Outpatient Rehabilitation Program would need to submit 2 separate applications? Or one combined application? Is there a limit as to the amount of funds a provider may request?

**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.**

**Eligible applicants should request the amount of funding necessary to assist with fiscal recovery and continued safe provision of existing SUD services. Expenditures supported by these funds must be 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.**

12. Under section D. Eligible Applicants, hospitals are included on the ineligible provider list. Crouse Addiction Treatment Services is a department of Crouse Hospital. Is the ATS program eligible to apply?

**Response: As stated in the RFA, hospitals are ineligible to apply for these funds. If your services are certified and/or funded under the hospital, then you are not eligible to apply for these funds.**

13. Considering that we are unable to submit for ongoing salary increases and the 5.4% COLA did not meet current inflation rates, can we request funds to subsidize increased transportation and daycare costs?

**Response: Providers may use funding for fiscal and programmatic support necessary to address the impact of COVID-19 on existing program operations and infrastructure. Allowable uses of funds and applicable programs are outlined in the RFA under Scope of Services and include fringe benefit costs. Funds should not be used for on-going costs that cannot be supported beyond the grant period.**

**Any requests for clarification may be submitted by email to [COVIDFunds@oasas.ny.gov](mailto:COVIDFunds@oasas.ny.gov).**

14. HR issues including but not limited to hiring, terminations, employee benefits, etc. are at an all-time high - can we use the funds to temporarily hire an HR person who can manage and set up systems that can help us going forward?

**Response: Yes, providers may use funding for fiscal and programmatic support necessary to address the impact of COVID-19 on existing program operations and infrastructure. Allowable uses of funds and applicable programs are outlined in the RFA under Scope of Services. Any payments made with these funds must be a SUD program-related expenditure and not attributable to non-OASAS services.**

15. Can we use the funds to hire consultants for special projects?

**Response: Yes if special projects are in support of existing SUD program operations. Allowable uses of funds and applicable programs are outlined in the RFA under Scope of Services. Awardees must comply with OASAS Purchasing Guidelines as outlined in the Administrative and Fiscal Guidelines for OASAS-Funded Providers, which includes guidance on consultants.**

16. I'm hoping you could provide me with more information on what this grant could be used for. I am looking to apply for some funds to assist in purchasing some additional evidenced based curriculums for the coming year. Also, I read that hospitals are not included in those allowed to apply for this particular grant. Is that true?

**Response: Allowable uses of funds and applicable programs are outlined in the RFA under Scope of Service and include SUD program supplies.**

**As stated in the RFA, hospitals are ineligible to apply for these funds. If your services are certified and/or funded under the hospital, then you are not eligible to apply for these funds.**

17. Is it allowable to apply for funding to cover projected COVID-related deficits in quarter 1 (Jan-Mar) 2023?

**Response: The budget period is expected to be March 15, 2021, to March 14, 2023. Funds are available for allowable expenses incurred during that period. Providers may use funding for fiscal and programmatic support necessary to address the impact of COVID-19 on existing program operations and infrastructure. Allowable uses of funds and applicable programs are outlined in the RFA under Scope of Services and must be 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. Awardees must maintain supporting documentation for all claimed expenses. Claims for reimbursement of actual costs must be submitted no later than 45 days after the end of the contract period.

18. Is there a limit on the number of applications a provider may submit?

**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.**

19. Is there a funding limit per application?

**Response: Eligible applicants should request the amount of funding necessary to assist with fiscal recovery and continued safe service provision of existing SUD services. Expenditures supported by these funds must be 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.**

20. Will lost revenue in Parts 820 and 816.7 programs as a direct result of census restrictions due to COVID be reimbursed (when compared with prior years', non-COVID revenue)?

**Response: If your agency has eligible SUD-related expenses without another source of reimbursement, they may be claimed. Comparative revenue losses are only applicable insofar as they result in unsupported allowable expenses within the funding period.**

21. Are increased internal new-hire training costs resulting from COVID-related staff turnover reimbursable?

**Response: Allowable uses of funds and applicable programs are outlined in the RFA under Scope of Services and include otherwise unsupported SUD staff training costs.**

22. I would like to ask if there is a maximum amount of funding that can be requested or what the potential range of awards amounts will be.

**Response: Eligible applicants should request the amount of funding necessary to assist with fiscal recovery and continued safe service provision of existing SUD services. Expenditures supported by these funds must be 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.**

23. We are reaching out for clarification of eligibility for our New Dawn program. Under the ineligible section it lists "hospitals." While New Dawn is under an umbrella of Arnot Health Hospital, the program is stationed at the old St. Joseph's Hospital site which is no longer a "functioning" hospital. Any clarification you can provide us would be much appreciated.

**Response: As stated in the RFA, hospitals are ineligible to apply for these funds. If your services are certified and/or funded under the hospital, then you are not eligible to apply for these funds. Hospital inpatient services are not an allowable use of SAPT funds.**

24. We are interested in applying for the above-listed project. First, I would like to know if there is a minimum or maximum amount we can request. And secondly, is the eligible period for this grant from 3/15/22 to 3/14/23?

**Response: Eligible applicants should request the amount of funding necessary to assist with fiscal recovery and continued safe service provision of existing SUD services. Expenditures supported by these funds must be 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.**

**Yes, the budget period is expected to be March 15, 2021, to March 14, 2023. Funds are available for allowable expenses incurred during that period.**

25. Are client incentives for our SOR II program an allowable use of these funds?

**Response: Eligible programs are outlined in the RFA under Scope of Services. Monetary incentives to program participants are not an allowable use of SAPT funds.**

26. Is there a funding ceiling, or dollar amount maximum, that an applicant can request?

**Response: Eligible applicants should request the amount of funding necessary to assist with fiscal recovery and continued safe service provision of existing SUD services. Expenditures supported by these funds must be 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.**

27. Our health system has several different eligible SUD programs that we'd like to submit on behalf of. Do we need to submit multiple applications, or can we submit one application that encompasses every program?

**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.**

28. Can we submit a proposal on behalf of an otherwise eligible SUD program that has since closed, but which did experience eligible COVID-related expenses during the eligible time?

**Response: If your agency has eligible SUD-related expenses incurred within the grant period without another source of reimbursement, they may be requested for reimbursement under this RFA, regardless of whether the program remains operational, as long as your agency is still OASAS-certified and/or OASAS State Aid-funded for SUD services as of the date of award. Your narrative justification should be based on PRU-specific needs, including any applicable documentation to support the requested funding amount and how these funds will assist with fiscal recovery and continued safe service provision of remaining SUD services.**

29. The RFP lists hospitals as ineligible applicants. Can hospitals apply if they're applying on behalf of an eligible SUD program that is an affiliate of the hospital?

**Response: If your services are certified and/or funded under the hospital, then you are not eligible to apply for these funds.**

30. On the RFA, it lists hospitals as ineligible providers/programs. Does that apply to an OASAS-certified outpatient treatment program operated by the hospital?

**Response: If your services are certified and/or funded under the hospital, then you are not eligible to apply for these funds.**

31. The RFA states that the organization must have been operational prior to January 31, 2020. Is this meant to say that the organization must have been operational as an OASAS-certified site since January 2020? Or does this mean that the organization was incorporated before January 2020?

**Response: To be eligible, the direct care SUD treatment, prevention, and/or recovery services must have been operational prior to January 31, 2020 and your agency must still be operating certified and/or OASAS State Aid-funded SUD services as of the date of the award, even if not the same services. This includes agencies that may have since taken over a direct care SUD program that was operational prior to January 31, 2020.**

32. If the eligible expense period beginning date is March 16, 2021, when would the period end date be? Would that be the date of the application submission?

**Response: The budget period is expected to be March 15, 2021 to March 14, 2023. Funds are available for allowable expenses incurred during that period.**

33. How will funds be issued? Will they roll into our current OASAS contract?

**Response: Funding provided under the SAPT Supplemental awards will be separate from any other OASAS funding the agency may receive, under a contract between OASAS and the awardee. As stated in the RFA, OASAS will make one advance payment to the Contractor, in the amount of 50% of the amount reflected on the Attachment B funding summary of the Contract within 30 days of OASAS approval. The Contractor must submit claims detailing expenses against the initial advance amount and will receive reimbursement for allowable expenses claimed against the remaining balance.**

34. Is there any specific reporting required after funds are issued?

**Response: An Expense Report related to this initiative will be posted to the OASAS website. You must submit claims for reimbursement using this report and include any supporting documentation required by OASAS as described in the Expense Report instructions. Final expense reports are due no later than 45 days after the end of the budget period. As always, ongoing required program and client reporting must be completed and OASAS may request additional information as part of program oversight and monitoring.**

35. We are applying for these funds and are wondering if there is a specific amount we should be requesting for Total Funds Requested or if that can just be the entire Total Gross Expense Budget for the program?

**Response: Your narrative justification should be based on PRU-specific needs, including any applicable documentation to support the requested funding amount and how these funds will assist with fiscal recovery and continued safe service provision of remaining SUD services.**

**Eligible applicants should request the amount of funding necessary to assist with fiscal recovery and continued safe service provision of existing SUD services. Expenditures supported by these funds must be 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.**

36. Can you please tell us what the end date is for the eligible expenses we are requesting funding for?

**Response: The budget period is expected to be March 15, 2021, to March 14, 2023. Funds are available for allowable expenses incurred during that period.**

37. I'm curious of the maximum amount a provider could request.

**Response: Eligible applicants should request the amount of funding necessary to assist with fiscal recovery and continued safe service provision of existing SUD services. Expenditures supported by these funds must be 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.**

38. Several agencies that I work with have difficulty recruiting for CASACs and in particular the recruitment of CASACs who are bilingual. Would creating an internal CASAC training program and the expenses associated with training of staff members seeking to obtain this credential be an allowable expense? Doing so would provide an opportunity for staff to move up within the organization and would also decrease the cost of outside recruitment. Please advise

**Response: Allowable uses of funds and applicable programs are outlined in the RFA under Scope of Services and include otherwise unsupported SUD staff training costs. These funds should not be used for on-going costs that cannot be supported beyond the grant period.**

39. I know the questions for this opportunity aren't scheduled to be posted until 9/12, I'm wondering if you could fast-track the highlighted question below for me and provide an answer now. Our health system's SUD programs are housed under the 501c3 of Unity Hospital, and they meet all the criteria listed in the RFP; OASAS-certified, operational prior to 1/31/2020, etc. When we submit grants to NYS on behalf of these programs, we're usually submitting under the 501c3/Grants Gateway account of Unity Hospital. Just looking for some clarity as to whether this will be allowable before we start doing work on this opportunity. Thank you!

**Response: If your services are certified and/or funded under the hospital, then you are not eligible to apply for these funds.**

40. Based on the information we have provided, are we eligible to submit an application for funding under the project No. Supp1013?



Attachments will inform you as to the National Recovery Month events occurring at Jonesville United Methodist Church's STAHL Ministry (Stigma Takes Away Hope and Life). The JUMC STAHL Ministry has completed many events like this to support our mission which is:

"Jonesville United Methodist Church celebrates the miracle of recovery and serves as a beacon of hope and support for individuals and families struggling with the disease of Alcohol or Substance Use Disorders."

STAHL is a German word that means steel. Steel is made up with layers of alloys to make it strong...almost impenetrable. Stigmas are like steel in many ways...layers of untruths handed down by generations to make the disease's cure appear "as a matter of choice and common sense." That stigma hovers over the families of alcoholics or addicts and STAHL addresses that important issue which is often an afterthought.

Please let us know if we are eligible and we will be happy to submit an application

**Response: 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. Unless your not-for-profit organization is OASAS-certified and/or State Aid funded under another name/entity, you are not eligible to apply for these funds.**

41. 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-support-rfa-final.pdf>**

**Details regarding the application format and content are found on pages six and seven.**

42. I was wondering if you have had a chance to review my question below and clarify? (reference question from 8/23 at 8:3am - Crouse is a hospital based program (article 28) – does this mean we do not qualify for this funding?

**Response: If your services are certified and/or funded under the hospital, then you are not eligible to apply for these funds.**

43. I work for an agency that has multiple programs funded by OASAS. In regard to the RFA, if multiple programs wanted to apply for this funded, would each individual program submit an application? Or should the agency submit one application on behalf of all of the OASAS-funded programs interested in this funding?

**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.**

44. Below are questions pertaining to the RFA referenced:

1. Will this RFA reimburse for SBA loan payments?
2. What is a maximum award or ask?
  - It is centered around SUD Recovery and Prevention – is there a percentage looked at from that aspect? Say we receive \$500,000 from OASAS for these services and another \$250,000 for SOR funding to do these services - is there a % that we can ask for?
3. Can we ask to update our Electronic Health Record to better bill and track Core Services?
4. I think the % question is the key to the total ask.

**Response: Within the period of the award, OASAS will reimburse any principal repayment of a line of credit or other loan incurred to support reasonable, necessary, and allowable SUD program costs that were not previously and will not otherwise be reimbursed by other funding or programs and within the approved budget amount as identified on the Attachment B (Budget) form. OASAS expects to receive a copy of the loan documentation and payment thereof as supporting documentation for reimbursement under this initiative.**

**Eligible applicants should request the amount of funding necessary to assist with fiscal recovery and continued safe service provision of existing SUD services. Expenditures supported by these funds must be 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.**

**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. These funds should not be used for on-going costs that cannot be supported beyond the grant period.**

45. I am on the grants team of a nonprofit organization called The Phoenix who is interested in applying for the 2022 Statewide SUD System Support grant.

We just wanted to clarify a few questions before applying:

1. Our organization began operating in New York state in Fall 2021, but the organization was established in 2006 and we have been operating in many other parts of the country since then. Does this fit the eligibility requirement of being operational prior to January 31, 2020?
2. Is the OASAS certification necessary for **all** applicants, including organizations who are not providing clinical or medical substance use treatment services? Our organization falls under the following Program Types:
  - 3970 Recovery Community Centers
  - 3980 Recovery Community Organizing Initiative
  - 3100 Prevention Resource Centers
  - 5550 Other Prevention Services

**Response: 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.**

**As your agency was not OASAS-certified and/or OASAS State Aid-funded as of January 31, 2020, it is not eligible to apply for these funds.**

**The services you identified are primarily not OASAS-certified services (excepting 5550-Other Prevention Services). In the case of non-certified services, the program(s) must be OASAS State Aid funded.**

46. We have the following questions:

1. Can funds be used to help an organization pay back an EIDL loan that was used to sustain operations? What sort of evidence would you need to justify that it was used for SUD operations?
2. Does staff recruitment include fees to recruitment agencies?
3. Due to staffing shortages, we have had to rely on hiring locum tenens. Will this cover the additional costs?
4. Is there a max amount of money we can request?

**Response: Within the period of the award, OASAS will reimburse any principal repayment of a line of credit or other loan incurred to support reasonable, necessary, and allowable SUD program costs that were not previously and will not otherwise be reimbursed by other funding or programs and within the approved budget amount as identified on the Attachment B (Budget) form. OASAS expects to receive a copy of the loan documentation and payment thereof as supporting documentation for reimbursement under this initiative.**

**Allowable uses of funds and applicable programs are outlined in the RFA under Scope of Services and include staff recruitment costs, even if paid to a third party, and temporary staffing costs. Any expenses covered under this grant cannot have been previously and will not otherwise be reimbursed by other funding or programs.**

**Eligible applicants should request the amount of funding necessary to assist with fiscal recovery and continued safe service provision of existing SUD services. Expenditures supported by these funds must be 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.**