

FY26 Community Grant Application Questions and Responses

1. **Question:** We are planning to apply for a grant from the Opioid Settlement Funds on behalf of our counseling program, Prevention Resource Center, and Prevention Coalition. Each program would have a different focus. Should we submit three separate applications or combine them? If we combine them, we can only select one option below. Can you advise us how to determine which option to select?

Answer: Yes, your organization can submit more than one application if the scope of each request is distinctly different in its alignment with the Opioid Settlement Memorandum of Agreement and its Approved Uses.

2. **Question:** Is support for transportation for youth and families to attend OUD prevention-related activities and events an allowable expense (e.g., cost of gas or mileage for organization or partnering agencies vehicles, etc.)?

Answer: If the expenses are necessary to the applicant's ability to effectively abate and alleviate the impacts of the opioid crisis within the proposed cities and/or counties and are in alignment with the Opioid Settlement Memorandum of Agreement and its Approved Uses, it can be included in the budget for consideration.

3. **Question:** Is food an allowable expense when provided as part of an activity on the approved uses list (e.g., snacks at a youth event, lunch for an educational meeting, etc.)?

Answer: If the expenses are necessary to the applicant's ability to effectively abate and alleviate the impacts of the opioid crisis within the proposed cities and/or counties and are in alignment with the Opioid Settlement Memorandum of Agreement and its Approved Uses, it can be included in the budget for consideration.

4. **Question:** Under the FAQ the following: *Can my organization submit more than one application? Yes, if the scope of each is distinctly different in its alignment with the Opioid Settlement Memorandum of Agreement and its Approved Uses. Multiple applications from the same organization seeking funding for components of one large initiative will be reviewed as one application.* The issue is that all three components of our request add up to more than \$35,000. Can you please advise us on how we proceed with the application process?

Answer: The Review Committee reserves the right to consider higher award amounts than the range stated above if the proposed project is determined to show strong alignment with the Opioid Settlement Memorandum of Agreement and its Approved Uses.

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5. **Question:** I am curious whether the program might consider funding arts-based initiatives. Specifically, we are interested in exploring projects such as:
- a. Art Therapy Programs – Offering creative outlets for individuals affected by opioid misuse to support emotional expression and healing.
 - b. Community Arts Projects – Developing collaborative art installations or performances that foster community engagement and raise awareness about opioid misuse.
 - c. Educational Workshops – Combining artistic expression with educational content to inform and engage diverse community groups.

We have noted that similar approaches have been implemented in other regions, such as the Overdose Prevention and Community Healing Fund in Philadelphia, which supports arts-focused programs aimed at community healing and substance use prevention. Given the growing recognition of the arts as a powerful tool in addressing trauma and promoting recovery, we believe these initiatives could be a valuable component of the broader strategy to combat opioid misuse in our community. Would the grant program consider applications for arts-based initiatives? We would appreciate any guidance on how best to align such projects with the objectives of the grant.

Answer: All proposals will be considered if the applicant able to demonstrate that their requested project has a strong alignment with the Opioid Settlement Memorandum of Agreement and its Approved Uses.