Department of Health and Human Services

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

**Offender Reentry Program**

(Short Title: ORP)

(Initial Announcement)

Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) No. TI-18-003

**Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) No.: 93.243**

Key Dates:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Application Deadline | Applications are due by January 26, 2018. |
| Intergovernmental Review  (E.O. 12372) | Applicants must comply with E.O. 12372 if their state(s) participate(s). Review process recommendations from the State Single Point of Contact (SPOC) are due no later than 60 days after application deadline. |
| Public Health System Impact Statement (PHSIS)/Single State Agency Coordination | Applicants must send the PHSIS to appropriate state and local health agencies by the administrative deadline. Comments from the Single State Agency are due no later than 60 days after the application deadline. |

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT) is accepting applications for fiscal year (FY) 2018 Offender Reentry Program (ORP) grants. The purpose of this program is to expand substance use disorder (SUD) treatment and related recovery and reentry services to sentencedadult offenders/ex-offenders with a SUD and/or co-occurring substance use and mental disorders, who are returning to their families and community from incarceration in state and local facilities including prisons, jails, or detention centers (hereafter known as “the population of focus”).

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Funding Opportunity Title:** | Offender Reentry Program |
| **Funding Opportunity Number:** | TI-18-003 |
| **Due Date for Applications:** | January 26, 2018 |
| **Anticipated Total Available Funding:** | $6,800,000 |
| **Estimated Number of Awards:** | Up to 16 awards |
| **Estimated Award Amount:** | Up to $425,000 per year |
| **Cost Sharing/Match Required:** | No |
| **Anticipated Project Start Date:** | September 30, 2018 |
| **Length of Project Period:** | Up to five years |
| **Eligible Applicants:** | Eligible applicants are domestic public and private nonprofit entities.  [See [Section III-1](#_1._ELIGIBLE_APPLICANTS) for complete eligibility information.] |

Be sure to check the SAMHSA website periodically for any updates on this program.

**IMPORTANT APPLICATION INFORMATION:**  SAMHSA’s application procedures have changed.  **All applicants must register with NIH’s eRA Commons in order to submit an application. This process takes up to six weeks.  If you believe you are interested in applying for this opportunity, you MUST start the registration process immediately.  Do not wait to start this process.  If your organization is not registered and you do not have an active eRA Commons PI account by the deadline, the application will not be accepted.  No exceptions will be made.**

Applicants also must register with the System for Award Management (SAM) and Grants.gov (see Appendix A for all registration requirements).

# I. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

## 1. PURPOSE

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT) is accepting applications for fiscal year (FY) 2018 Offender Reentry Program (ORP) grants. The purpose of this program is to expand substance use disorder (SUD) treatment and related recovery and reentry services to sentencedadult offenders/ex-offenders with a SUD and/or co-occurring substance use and mental disorders, who are returning to their families and community from incarceration in state and local facilities including prisons, jails, or detention centers (hereafter known as “the population of focus”).

For the purpose of this FOA, sentenced adult offenders/ex-offenders are defined as persons 18 years of age or older (or adults as defined by your state or tribal law) under the jurisdiction of the criminal justice system who have been sentenced to incarceration as adults. If your state or tribe uses a different age range for adult offenders, you must document how the age of “adults” is defined in your state or tribal justice system. Applicants are expected to form stakeholder partnerships that will plan, develop and provide a transition from incarceration to community-based SUD treatment and related reentry services.

SAMHSA’s interest is to actively support offender reentry stakeholder partnerships so that clinical needs are met and clients are treated using evidence-based practices. By providing needed treatment and recovery services, this program is intended to reduce the health and social costs of substance use and dependence to the public, and increase the safety of America’s citizens by reducing substance use related crime and violence. Additional anticipated outcomes include: increased number of individuals served; increased abstinence from substance use; increased employment rates; decreased recidivism rates; increased housing stability; decreased criminal justice involvement; improved individual and family functioning and well-being; increased social connectedness; and decreased risky behaviors.

ORP grantsare authorized under the Public Health Service Act, Title V, Section 509; 42 U.S.C 290bb-2.

This announcement also addresses Healthy People 2020 Substance Abuse Topic Area HP 2020-SA.

## 2. EXPECTATIONS

ORP is one of SAMHSA’s services grant programs. SAMHSA intends that its services programs result in the delivery of services as soon as possible after award. At the latest, award recipients are expected to provide services to the population(s) of focus by the fourth month after the grant has been awarded.

SAMHSA seeks applications that will include a stakeholder partnership of institutional corrections officials with community corrections and community-based treatment and recovery services in order to plan, develop, and implement a continuum of care services from the correctional institution (prison/jail/detention center) to the community setting. Recipients must provide a coordinated approach designed to combine transition planning in the correctional institution (screening and assessment of substance use and/or co-occurring mental disorders and coordination of continued care from institution to community) with effective community-based treatment, recovery and reentry-related services to break the cycle of criminal behavior, alcohol and/or drug use and incarceration or other penalties.

Grant funds must be used to expand SUD treatment services.

**Service Expansion:** An applicant should propose to increase access and availability of services to a larger number of clients. For example, if a Reentry program currently serves 50 persons per year and has a waiting list of 50 persons (but lacks funding to serve these persons), the applicant may propose to expand service capacity to be able to admit some or all of those persons on the waiting list or add a new location.

Please see [Appendix L](#_Appendix_L–_Allowable_1):Allowable Substance Use Disorder and/or Co-Occurring Treatment and Recovery Support Services for a comprehensive, but not exhaustive, range of collaborative efforts, treatment, and peer and other recovery support services for which these grant funds may be used.

In addition, the adult offender must meet the following criteria to receive services funded under this grant program:

* Be assessed or diagnosed as having a SUD and/or co-occurring substance use and mental disorder;
* Must have been sentenced to and serving at least three months in a correctional institution (jail/prison/detention center); or have violated parole and serving at least one month in a correctional institution (jail/detention center);
* Be within four months of scheduled release to the community in order to receive services in the correctional/detention setting (See [Section I-2 - Allowable Activities](#_2._EXPECTATIONS)); and
* Upon immediate release from the correctional facility to the community, be referred to community-based treatment.

**This grant program is not designed to address the needs of individuals in custody or detention settings awaiting adjudication, or sentenced to residential treatment facilities, or in school-based programs.**

Key Personnel:

Key personnel are staff members who must be part of the project regardless of whether or not they receive a salary or compensation from the project. These staff members must make a substantial contribution to the execution of the project.

The key personnel for this program will be the Project Director. This position requires prior approval by SAMHSA after review of credentials of staff and job descriptions. The Project Director must have a level of effort of at least 20%.

**Required Activities:**

These are the activities that every grant project mustimplement. **Required activities must be reflected in the Project Narrative in** [**Section V**](#_1._EVALUATION_CRITERIA)**.**

Offender reentry is the process an offender in an adult correctional facility goes through as he/she transitions from the institution to the community. SAMHSA has a substantial interest in funding projects that provide **both treatment services and systems linkages** for the reentering offender. Applicants must propose to address both of these areas.

Recipients are required to begin providing activities/services in institutional correctional settings (see[**Section I-2. Allowable Activities**](#_2.3__)), start transitional planning in the institution as soon as possible, and provide community-based treatment services within four months of grant award.

**Services/Treatment**

You must use SAMHSA’s services grant funds to primarily support direct treatment services. Applicants must propose activities that will improve the behavioral health of the population of focus by providing comprehensive SUD treatment and recovery support services. This includes, but is not limited to, the following types of activities:

* Providing direct alcohol and drug substance use and/or co-occurring mental disorder treatment (including screening, assessment, and care management) for diverse populations at risk. Treatment must be provided in outpatient, day treatment (including outreach-based services) or intensive outpatient, or residential programs. [Note: An applicant proposing to use grant funds for any residential SUD treatment services must clearly identify these services or treatment modality as such in Section B of the Project Narrative.]
* Providing wrap-around/recovery support services (e.g., child care, vocational, educational and transportation services) designed to improve access and retention. [Note: Grant funds may be used to purchase such services from another provider.]
* Providing drug testing as required for supervision, treatment compliance, and therapeutic intervention.
* Providing case management that encompasses a team approach and includes criminal justice supervising authorities, SUD treatment professionals, existing treatment alternatives organizations (e.g., TASC or similar treatment referral and case management models), pursuit of Medicaid and health insurance eligibility, linkage to primary and dental care that support long term recovery, and law enforcement as appropriate in the community setting.

Applicants must screen and assess clients for the presence of co-occurring substance use and mental disorders and use the information obtained from the screening and assessment to develop appropriate treatment approaches for persons identified as having such co-occurring disorders. [For more information on the process of selecting screening instruments to identify co-occurring substance use and mental disorders, go to <http://www.samhsa.gov/co-occurring/>.]

**Systems Linkages**

Applicants must propose activities that support communities in their development of a comprehensive, multi-agency approach to expanding and/or enhancing SUD treatment and related reentry services in addition to criminal justice supervision to adults leaving incarceration and returning to the community and their families.

Applicants are expected to demonstrate a collaborative partnership between the institutional corrections agency(ies) and the community-based organization.

The following represents a comprehensive, but not exhaustive, range of systems linkage coordination activities to be provided, and for which funds may be used:

* Systems coordination planning and developmental activities that bring all the key stakeholder agencies/organizations together;
* Development of systems linkages and referral sources in the community for offenders/ex-offenders, to include employment and housing;
* Efforts to increase treatment capacity to provide immediate entry for offenders/ex-offenders into SUD treatment; and
* Assistance in paying for Department of Labor bonding for employment of ex-offender’s with SUD (access information at <http://www.bonds4jobs.com>).

There is an increasing interest in demonstrating the value of science-based tools to measure the criminogenic risks and behavioral health needs of offender populations in order to develop more effective interventions and criminal justice controls to reduce reoffending and to improve the behavioral health of the individual. SAMHSA is interested in promoting the use of these “Risks, Needs, and Responsivity” (RNR) tools to help prioritize scarce treatment resources for those individuals with the most acute and serious behavioral health needs and criminal justice involvement. Upon award, recipients will be required to implement the specific RNR tools, indicated in [Appendix M](#_Appendix_M_–_1),within the first four months after the grant has been awarded. Recipients will be provided guidance and technical assistance for the implementation of the RNR tools.

Allowable Activities:

* Planning activities to coordinate systems which bring together key stakeholder agencies/organizations to form partnerships that will plan, develop, and provide SUD treatment and related reentry services in the community;
* Developing systems linkages and referral processes in, and across, institutional and community settings;
* Purchasing and/or directly administering brief diagnostic and screening tools for identification of SUDs for the targeted offender population;
* Purchasing and/or directly administering SUD assessment instruments for the targeted offender population;
* Training and/or employing intake and/or case management staff with SUD treatment expertise to administer assessment instruments and assist correctional staff develop individual offender transition plans for reentry into the community; and
* Coordinating with community-based organizations, including faith-based groups, to go inside correctional institutions to initiate wrap around transition planning activities (e.g., jobs or life skills education, building connections to social support and/or educational programs, etc.)

Recognizing that Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) may be an important part of a comprehensive treatment plan, SAMHSA ORP recipients may use **up to 35 percent** of the annual grant award to pay for FDA-approved medications for the treatment of substance use disorders (e.g., methadone, buprenorphine products including buprenorphine/naloxone combination formulations and buprenorphine mono-product formulations, naltrexone products including extended-release and oral formulations, disulfiram, and acamprosate calcium) when the client has no other source of funds to do so.

Recipients are encouraged to provide HIV rapid preliminary antibody testing as part of their treatment approach. Recipients providing HIV testing must do so in accordance with state and local requirements. **Up to 5 percent** of grant funds may be used for HIV rapid testing. [Note: Grant funds may be used to purchase such services from another provider.] All clients who have a preliminary positive HIV test result must be administered a confirmatory HIV test result. Post award, recipients must develop a plan for medical case management of all clients who have a preliminary positive HIV and confirmatory HIV test result.

All clients who are considered to be at risk for viral hepatitis (B and C) must be tested for viral hepatitis (B and C) in accordance with state and local requirements, either on-site or through referral. **Up to** **5 percent** of grant funds per year (when no other funds are available) may be used for viral hepatitis (B and C) testing and services.

Applicants also have the option of providing peer recovery support services (PRSS). Grant funds allocated for treatment and recovery services may be used to provide PRSS designed and delivered by individuals, who have experience with the criminal justice system, have experienced a SUD or co-occurring substance use and mental disorders, and are in recovery. “Peers” may include but are not limited to: peer mentors, peer navigators, forensic peers, and family members of those in recovery. PRSS are provided in a variety of settings and across different models of care. They may be provided in recovery community and peer-run settings, and in agency or facility-based programs.

Applicants have the option of using **up to 30 percent** of grant funds to provide recovery housing. Recovery housing is part of the SUD treatment continuum of care. Recovery housing refers to safe, healthy and substance-free living environments that support individuals as a part of their treatment and recovery plan consisting of a structured environment with consistent peer support, ongoing connection to recovery supports, and case management services.

Applicants may use grant funds to develop and implement tobacco cessation programs, activities, and/or strategies.

Other Expectations:

If your application is funded, you will be expected to develop a behavioral health disparities impact statement no later than 60 days after your award. (See [**Appendix H,**](#_Appendix_H_–) Addressing Behavioral Health Disparities).

Although people with behavioral health conditions represent about 25 percent of the U.S. adult population, these individuals account for nearly 40 percent[[1]](#footnote-2) of all cigarettes smoked and can experience serious health consequences[[2]](#footnote-3). A growing body of research shows that quitting smoking can improve mental health and addiction recovery outcomes.  Research shows that many smokers with behavioral health conditions want to quit, can quit, and benefit from proven smoking cessation treatments.  SAMHSA strongly encourages all recipients to adopt a tobacco-free facility/grounds policy and to promote abstinence from all tobacco products (except in regard to accepted tribal traditions and practices).

Recipients must utilize third party and other revenue realized from provision of services to the extent possible and use SAMHSA grant funds only for services to individuals who are not covered by public or commercial health insurance programs, individuals for whom coverage has been formally determined to be unaffordable, or for services that are not sufficiently covered by an individual’s health insurance plan.  Recipients are also expected to facilitate the health insurance application and enrollment process for eligible uninsured clients. Recipients should also consider other systems from which a potential service recipient may be eligible for services (for example, the Veterans Health Administration or senior services), if appropriate for and desired by that individual to meet his/her needs.  In addition, recipients are required to implement policies and procedures that ensure other sources of funding are utilized first when available for that individual.

SAMHSA encourages all recipients to address the behavioral health needs of returning veterans and their families in designing and developing their programs and to consider prioritizing this population for services, where appropriate.  SAMHSA will encourage its recipients to utilize and provide technical assistance for service members, veterans and their families. This includes efforts to engage their staff in cultural competency training courses and to collaborate with key organizations in their local communities that are focused on serving this population.

### 2.1 Using Evidence-Based Practices

SAMHSA’s services grants are intended to fund services or practices that have a demonstrated evidence base and that are appropriate for the population(s) of focus. An evidence-based practice (EBP) refers to approaches to prevention or treatment that are validated by some form of documented research evidence. Both researchers and practitioners recognize that EBPs are essential to improving the effectiveness of treatment and prevention services in the behavioral health field. While SAMHSA realizes that EBPs have not been developed for all populations and/or service settings, application reviewers will closely examine proposed interventions for evidence base and appropriateness for population to be served. If an EBP(s) exists for the types of problems or disorders being addressed, the expectation is that EBP(s) will be utilized.

In [Section C](#_1._EVALUATION_CRITERIA) of your Project Narrative, you will need to identify the evidence-based practice(s) you propose to implement for the specific population(s) of focus. In addition, you must discuss the population(s) for which the practice(s) has (have) been shown to be effective and show that it is (they are) appropriate for your population(s) of focus.

The following are examples of EBP(s) that exist/apply for/to your program/population(s) of focus: Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Motivational Interviewing, Moral Reconation Therapy (MRT), and Seeking Safety.

Applicants are encouraged to visit the National Institute of Health, National Institute on Drug Abuse website <https://www.drugabuse.gov/> for more information on EBPs.

If you determine that there is a need to make modifications to any of the EBPs you plan to implement, you must describe the modifications and explain why they are necessary. SAMHSA encourages you to consult with an expert or the program developer to complete any modifications to the chosen EBP. This is especially important when adapting EBPs for specific underserved populations for whom there are fewer EBPs.

In selecting an EBP, be mindful of how your choice of an EBP or practice may impact disparities in service access, use, and outcomes for your population(s) of focus. While this is important in providing services to all populations, it is especially critical for those working with underserved and minority populations.

[Note: See [Appendix I](#_Appendix_I_–_1) – Standard Funding Restrictions, regarding allowable costs for EBPs.]

### 2.2 Data Collection and Performance Measurement

All SAMHSA recipients are required to collect and report certain data so that SAMHSA can meet its obligations under the Government Performance and Results (GPRA) Modernization Act of 2010. You must document your plan for data collection and reporting in [Section E](#_1._EVALUATION_CRITERIA): Data Collection and Performance Measurement.

Recipients are required to report performance on the following measures:

* number of individuals served;
* abstinence from substance use;
* housing stability;
* employment status;
* social connectedness;
* access to treatment;
* retention in treatment; and
* criminal justice involvement.

This information will be gathered using SAMHSA’s Performance Accountability and Reporting System (SPARS); access will be provided upon award. Examples of the type of data collection tools required can be found [here](https://www.samhsa.gov/grants/gpra-measurement-tools/csat-gpra/csat-gpra-best-practices). In addition to these measures, recipients will be expected to collect and report data on the frequency and type of substance use 90 days prior to incarceration. Recipients will be required to collect data via a face-to-face interview using this tool at three data collection points: intake to services, six months post intake, and at discharge. Recipients will be expected to do a GPRA interview on all clients in their specified unduplicated target number and are also expected to achieve a six-month follow-up rate of 80 percent. GPRA training and technical assistance will be offered to recipients.

The collection of these data enables SAMHSA to report on key outcome measures relating to the grant program. In addition to these outcomes, data collected by recipients will be used to demonstrate how SAMHSA’s grant programs are reducing disparities in access, service use, and outcomes nationwide.

Performance data will be reported to the public as part of SAMHSA’s Congressional Justification.

### 2.3 Project Performance Assessment

Recipients must periodically review the performance data they report to SAMHSA (as required above), assess their progress, and use this information to improve the management of their grant project. Recipients are also required to report on their progress addressing the goals and objectives identified in B.1. The assessment should be designed to help you determine whether you are achieving the goals, objectives, and outcomes you intend to achieve and whether adjustments need to be made to your project. Performance assessments should also be used to determine whether your project is having/will have the intended impact on behavioral health disparities. You will be required to submit an annual report on the progress you have achieved, barriers encountered, and efforts to overcome these barriers. Refer to [Section VI.1](#_REPORTING_REQUIREMENTS) for any program specific information on the frequency of reporting and any additional requirements.

The performance assessment report should be a component of or an attachment to the annual progress report.

No more than 20 percent of the total grant award for the budget period may be used for data collection, performance measurement, and performance assessment, e.g., activities required in Sections I-[**2.2**](#_2.2_Data_) and [**2.3**](#_2.3_Project_Performance) above.

Note: See [**Appendix F**](#_Appendix_F_–) for more information on responding to Sections I-2.2 and 2.3.

### 2.4 Infrastructure Development (maximum 15 percent of total grant award for the budget period)

Although services grant funds must be used primarily for direct services, SAMHSA recognizes that infrastructure changes may be needed to implement the services or improve their effectiveness. You may use no more than **15 percent** of the total services grant award for budget period for the following types of infrastructure development, if necessary, to support the direct service expansion of the grant project. You must describe your use of grant funds for these activities in [Section B](#_Section_B:_) of your Project Narrative.

* Developing partnerships with other service providers for service delivery and stakeholders serving the population of focus.
* Adopting and/or enhancing your computer system, management information system (MIS), electronic health records (EHRs), etc., to document and manage client needs, care process, integration with related support services, and outcomes.
* Training/workforce development to help your staff or other providers in the community identify mental health or substance abuse issues or provide effective services consistent with the purpose of the grant program.
* Planning activities to coordinate systems which bring together key stakeholder agencies/organizations to form partnerships that will plan, develop, and provide SUD treatment and related reentry services in the community.
* Developing systems linkages and referral processes in and across institutional and community settings.

### 2.5 Grantee Meetings

Recipients must send a maximum of three people (including the Project Director, Clinical Supervisor and Evaluator) to at least one joint grantee meeting in every other year of the grant. For this cohort, grantee meetings will likely be held in years two and four of the grant. You must include a detailed budget and narrative for this travel in your budget. If the recipient is a community-based treatment agency, instead of a local or state corrections agency, the recipient is encouraged to send a key representative of the corrections agency involved in the ORP partnership. At these meetings, grantees will present the results of their projects and federal staff will provide technical assistance. Each meeting will be three and a half days. These meetings are usually held in conjunction with the annual National TASC Conference and attendance is mandatory. Recipients should also plan/budget to send a maximum of three staff to the national TASC Conference during the off years for training. For years attending only the National TASC conference, plan for two and one half days. Grantees may determine the current conference location by going to the national TASC website at <http://www.nationaltasc.org>. Applicants should budget per diem costs for a higher cost in geographic regions such as Washington, D.C., in order to adequately cover travel and per diem expenses. In addition to travel and per diem costs, you should include funds in your budget to cover any applicable conference registration fees since grantees will attend a joint grantee meeting and the national conference.

# II. FEDERAL AWARD INFORMATION

**Funding Mechanism:** Grant

**Anticipated Total Available Funding:** $6,800,000

**Estimated Number of Awards:** Up to 16 Awards

**Estimated Award Amount:** Up to $425,000 per year

**Length of Project Period:** Up to five years

Proposed budgets cannot exceed $425,000 in total costs (direct and indirect) in any year of the proposed project. Annual continuation awards will depend on the availability of funds, recipient progress in meeting project goals and objectives, timely submission of required data and reports, and compliance with all terms and conditions of award.

Funding estimates for this announcement are based on an annualized Continuing Resolution and do not reflect the final FY 2018 appropriation. Applicants should be aware that funding amounts are subject to the availability of funds.

# III. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

## 1. ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Eligible applicants are domestic public and private nonprofit entities. For example:

* State governments**;** the District of Columbia, Guam, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau are also eligible to apply.
* Governmental units within political subdivisions of a state, such as a county, city or town.
* Federally recognized American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) tribes and tribal organizations, Urban Indian Organizations, and consortia of tribes or tribal organizations.
* Public or private universities and colleges.
* Community- and faith-based organizations.

Tribal organization means the recognized body of any AI/AN tribe; any legally established organization of AI/ANs which is controlled, sanctioned, or chartered by such governing body, or which is democratically elected by the adult members of the Indian community to be served by such organization, and which includes the maximum participation of AI/ANs in all phases of its activities. Consortia of tribes or tribal organizations are eligible to apply, but each participating entity must indicate its approval. A single tribe in the consortium must be the legal applicant, the recipient of the award, and the entity legally responsible for satisfying the grant requirements.

Urban Indian Organization (UIO) (as identified by the Office of Indian Health Service Urban Indian Health Programs through active Title V grants/contracts) means a non-profit corporate body situated in an urban center governed by an urban Indian-controlled board of directors, and providing for the maximum participation of all interested individuals and groups, which body is capable of legally cooperating with other public and private entities for the purpose of performing the activities described in 503(a) of 25 U .S.C. § 1603. UIOs are not tribes or tribal governments and do not have the same consultation rights or trust relationship with the federal government.

**Any applications that propose to serve offenders who are currently in the Bureau of Prisons’ (BOP) institutions, or its various correctional/community corrections institutions and programs, will be screened out and will not be reviewed.**

## 2. COST SHARING and MATCH REQUIREMENTS

Cost sharing/match is not required in this program.

## 3. EVIDENCE OF EXPERIENCE AND CREDENTIALS

SAMHSA believes that only existing, experienced, and appropriately credentialed organizations with demonstrated infrastructure and expertise will be able to provide required services quickly and effectively. You must meet three additional requirements related to the provision of services.

The three requirements are:

* A provider organization for direct client substance abuse treatment services appropriate to the grant must be involved in the proposed project. The provider may be the applicant or another organization committed to the project. More than one provider organization may be involved;
* Each mental health/substance abuse treatment provider organization must have at least two years of experience (as of the due date of the application) providing relevant services in the geographic area(s) in which services are to be provided (official documents must establish that the organization has provided relevant services for the last two years); and
* Each mental health/substance abuse treatment provider organization must comply with all applicable local (city, county) and state licensing, accreditation and certification requirements, as of the due date of the application.

**[Note: The above requirements apply to all service provider organizations. A license from an individual clinician will not be accepted in lieu of a provider organization’s license. Eligible tribes and tribal organization mental health/substance abuse treatment providers must comply with all applicable tribal licensing, accreditation, and certification requirements, as of the due date of the application. See** [**Appendix C**](#_Appendix_C_–) **– Statement of Assurance.]**

Following application review, if your application’s score is within the fundable range, the GPO may contact you to request that additional documentation be sent by email, or to verify that the documentation you submitted is complete. If the GPO does not receive this documentation within the time specified, your application will not be considered for an award.

# IV. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

## REQUIRED APPLICATION COMPONENTS:

* **Budget Information SF-424** – Fill out all Sections of the SF-424. In **Line #4** (i.e., Applicant Identified), input the Commons Username of the PD/PI. In **Line #17** input the following information: (Proposed Project Date: a. Start Date: 9/30/2018; b. End Date: 9/29/2023).

**Budget Information Form** –Use **SF-424A**. Fill out all Sections of the SF-424A.

* **Section A –** Budget Summary: Use the first row only (Line 1) to report the total federal funds (e) and non-federal funds (f) requested for the **first year** of your project only.
* **Section B** – Budget Categories: Use the first column only (Column 1) to report the budget category breakouts (Lines 6a through 6h) and indirect charges (Line 6j) for the total funding requested for the **first year** of your project only.
* **Section C –** Leave blank if cost sharing/match is not required for this program. Complete if cost sharing/match is required.
* **Section D** – Forecasted Cash Needs:  Input the total funds requested, broken down by quarter, only for Year 1 of the project period. Use the first row for federal funds and the second row for non-federal funds.
* **Section E** –Budget Estimates of Federal Funds Needed for Balance of the Project: Input the total funds requested for the out years (e.g., Year 2, Year 3, Year 4 and Year 5). For example, if you are requesting funds for four years in total, you would input information in columns b, c, d and e (i.e., 4 out years).

A sample budget and justification is included in [Appendix N](#_Appendix_ON_–) of this document. **It is highly recommended that you use this sample budget format. This will expedite review of your application.**

* **Project Narrative and Supporting Documentation** – The Project Narrative describes your project. It consists of Sections A through E**. Sections A-E** together may not be longer than **10 pages**. (Remember that if your Project Narrative starts on page 5 and ends on page 15, it is 11 pages long, not 10 pages.) More detailed instructions for completing each section of the Project Narrative are provided in [Section V – Application Review Information](#_6._OTHER_SUBMISSION).

The Supporting Documentation section provides additional information necessary for the review of your application. **This supporting documentation must be attached to your application using the Other Attachments Form from the Grants.gov application package.** Additional instructions for completing these sections and page limitations for Biographical Sketches/Position Descriptions are included in [Appendix A: 3.1](#_3._WRITE_AND) Required Application Components, and [Appendix G](#_Appendix_G_–), Biographical Sketches and Position Descriptions. Supporting documentation should be submitted in black and white (no color).

* Budget Justification and Narrative – The budget justification and narrative must be submitted as a file entitled BNF when you submit your application into Grants.gov. ([See Appendix A: 3.1 Required Application Components](#_3._WRITE_AND_1).)

* You are required to complete the Assurance of Compliance with SAMHSA Charitable Choice Statutes and Regulations Form SMA 170. This form is posted on SAMHSA’s website at <http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/applying/forms-resources>.
* Attachments 1 through 4 – Use only the attachments listed below. If your application includes any attachments not required in this document, they will be disregarded. Do not use more than a total of 30 pages for Attachments 1, 3 and 4 combined. There are no page limitations for Attachment 2. Do not use attachments to extend or replace any of the sections of the Project Narrative. Reviewers will not consider them if you do. Please label the attachments as: Attachment 1, Attachment 2, etc. Use the Other Attachments Form from Grants.gov to upload the attachments.
* **Attachment 1**: (1) Identification of at least one experienced, licensed mental health/substance abuse treatment provider organization; (2) a list of all direct service provider organizations that have agreed to participate in the proposed project, including the applicant agency, if it is a treatment or prevention service provider organization; (3) letters of commitment from these direct service provider organizations; **(Do not include any letters of support. Reviewers will not consider them if you do.)** (4) the Statement of Assurance (provided in [Appendix C](#_Appendix_C_–) of this announcement) signed by the authorized representative of the applicant organization identified on the first page (SF-424) of the application, that assures SAMHSA that all listed providers have met the two-year experience requirement, are appropriately licensed, accredited and certified, and that if the application is within the funding range for an award, the applicant will send the GPO the required documentation within the specified time; and (5) a letter of support from each identified correctional facility (prison/jail/detention center) expressing their support and willingness to participate and collaborate with the project.
* **Attachment 2**: Data Collection Instruments/Interview Protocols – If you are using standardized data collection instruments/interview protocols, you do not need to include these in your application. Instead, provide a web link to the appropriate instrument/protocol. If the data collection instrument(s) or interview protocol(s) is/are not standardized, you must include a copy in Attachment 2.
* **Attachment 3**: Sample Consent Forms
* **Attachment 4**: Letter to the SSA (if applicable; see: [Appendix J](#_Appendix_J_–), Intergovernmental Review (E.O. 12372) Requirements).

## 2. APPLICATION SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applications are due by **11:59 PM** (Eastern Time) on January 26, 2018.

|  |
| --- |
| **IMPORTANT APPLICATION INFORMATION:**  SAMHSA’s application procedures have changed.  **All applicants must register with NIH’s eRA Commons in order to submit an application. This process takes up to six weeks.  If you believe you are interested in applying for this opportunity, you MUST start the registration process immediately.  Do not wait to start this process.  If your organization is not registered and you do not have an active eRA Commons PI account by the deadline, the application will not be accepted.  No exceptions will be made.**  Applicants also must register with the System for Award Management (SAM) and Grants.gov (see Appendix A for all registration requirements). |

## 3. FUNDING LIMITATIONS/RESTRICTIONS

Applicants responding to this announcement may request funding for a project period of up to five years, at no more than $425,000 per year. Awards to support projects beyond the first budget year will be contingent upon Congressional appropriation, satisfactory progress in meeting the project’s objectives, and a determination that continued funding would be in the best interest of the Federal Government.

The funding restrictions for this project are as follows:

* No more than 15 percent of the total grant award for the budget period may be used for developing the infrastructure necessary for expansion of services.
* No more than 20 percent of the total grant award for the budget period may be used for data collection, performance measurement, and performance assessment, including incentives for participating in the required data collection follow-up.
* Up to 5 percent of grant funds may be used for HIV rapid testing. [Note: Grant funds may be used to purchase such services from another provider.]
* Up to 35 percent of the annual grant award may be used to pay for FDA-approved medications as part of MAT, which includes methadone, injectable naltrexone, non-injectable naltrexone, disulfiram, acamprosate calcium, and buprenorphine when the client has no other source of funds to do so.
* Up to 5 percent of grant funds per year (when no other funds are available) may be used for viral hepatitis (B and C) testing, including purchasing test kits and other required supplies (e.g., gloves, bio hazardous waste containers, etc.) and training for staff related to viral hepatitis (B and C) testing, for applicants electing to develop and implement plans for viral hepatitis testing and services.
* Up to 30 percent of grant funds may be used to pay for recovery housing.

Be sure to identify these expenses in your proposed budget.

SAMHSA recipients must also comply with SAMHSA’s standard funding restrictions, which are included in [**Appendix I**](#_Appendix_I_–_1)**, Standard Funding Restrictions.**

## 4. INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW (E.O. 12372) REQUIREMENTS

All SAMHSA grant programs are covered under Executive Order (EO) 12372, as implemented through Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) regulation at 45 CFR Part 100. Under this Order, states may design their own processes for reviewing and commenting on proposed federal assistance under covered programs. See [Appendix J](#_Appendix_J_–) for additional information on these requirements as well as requirements for the Public Health System Impact Statement.

# V. APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

## 1. EVALUATION CRITERIA

The Project Narrative describes what you intend to do with your project and includes the Evaluation Criteria in Sections A-E below. Your application will be reviewed and scored according to the quality of your response to the requirements in Sections A-E.

In developing the Project Narrative section of your application, use these instructions, which have been tailored to this program.

* The Project Narrative (Sections A-E) together may be no longer than **10 pages**.
* You must use the five sections/headings listed below in developing your Project Narrative. **You must indicate the Section letter and number in your response**, **i.e**., type “A-1”, “A-2”, etc., before your response to each question. You may not combine two or more questions or refer to another section of the Project Narrative in your response, such as indicating that the response for B.2 is in C.1. **Only information included in the appropriate numbered question will be considered by reviewers.** Your application will be scored according to how well you address the requirements for each section of the Project Narrative.
* The number of points after each heading is the maximum number of points a review committee may assign to that section of your Project Narrative. Although scoring weights are not assigned to individual questions, each question is assessed in deriving the overall Section score.

**Section A: Population of Focus and Statement of Need (10 points – approximately 1 page)**

1. Identify your population(s) of focus and the geographic catchment area where services will be delivered.
2. Describe the extent of the problem in the catchment area, including service gaps, and document the extent of the need (i.e., current prevalence rates or incidence data) for the population(s) of focus identified in your response to A.1. Identify the source of the data.

**Section B: Proposed Implementation Approach (30 points – approximately 5 pages)**

1. Describe the goals and objectives (see [Appendix](#_Appendix_F:_) E) of the proposed project and align them with the Statement of Need described in A.2. State the unduplicated number of individuals you propose to serve (annually and over the entire project period) with grant funds. You must also clearly state the number of additional clients to be served by program expansion. **Note:** Identify any residential treatment services that will be funded within this project and include the number of individuals that you propose will be served with residential treatment slots.
2. Describe how you will implement the Required Activities as stated in [Section I.2](#_2._EXPECTATIONS).
3. Provide a chart or graph depicting a realistic timeline for the entire five **years** of the project period showing dates, key activities, and responsible staff. These key activities must include the requirements outlined in [Section I-2: Expectations](#_2._EXPECTATIONS). [NOTE: Be sure to show that the project can be implemented and service delivery can begin as soon as possible and no later than four months after grant award. The timeline must be part of the Project Narrative. It must not be placed in an attachment.]

Section C: Proposed Evidence-Based Service/Practice (25 points approximately 2 pages)

1. Identify the Evidence-Based Practice(s) (EBPs) that will be used. Discuss how each EBP chosen is appropriate for your population(s) of focus and the outcomes you want to achieve. Describe any modifications that will be made to the EBP(s) and the reason the modifications are necessary. If you are not proposing any modifications, indicate so in your response.

**Section D: Staff and Organizational Experience (15 points – approximately 1 page)**

1. Describe the experience of your organization with similar projects and/or providing services to the population(s) of focus for this FOA. Identify other organization(s) that you will partner with in the proposed project. Describe their experience providing services to the population(s) of focus, and their specific roles and responsibilities for this project. If applicable, Letters of Commitment from each partner must be included in **Attachment 1** of your application. If you are not partnering with any other organization(s), indicate so in your response.
2. Provide a complete list of staff positions for the project, including the Key Personnel (Project Director) and other significant personnel. Describe the role of each, their level of effort, and qualifications, to include their experience providing services to the population(s) of focus and familiarity with their culture(s) and language(s).

**Section E: Data Collection and Performance Measurement (20 points – approximately 1 page)**

1. Provide specific information about how you will collect the required data for this program and how such data will be utilized to manage, monitor and enhance the program.

**Budget Justification, Existing Resources, Other Support (other federal and non-federal sources)**

You must provide a narrative justification of the items included in your proposed budget, as well as a description of existing resources and other support you expect to receive for the proposed project. Other support is defined as funds or resources, whether federal, non-federal or institutional, in direct support of activities through fellowships, gifts, prizes, in-kind contributions, or non-federal means. (This should correspond to Item #18 on your SF-424, Estimated Funding.) Other sources of funds may be used for unallowable costs, e.g., meals, sporting events, entertainment.

An illustration of a budget and narrative justification is included in [Appendix N](#_Appendix_N_–): Sample Budget and Justification. **It is highly recommended that you use this sample budget format.** Your budget must reflect the funding limitations/restrictions specified in [Section IV-3](#_3._FUNDING_LIMITATIONS/RESTRICTIONS_1). Specifically identify the items associated with these costs in your budget.

**The budget justification and narrative must be submitted as a file entitled BNF when you submit your application into Grants.gov.**

### 1. REQUIRED SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

**Biographical Sketches and Position Descriptions**

See [Appendix G](#_Appendix_G_–) for information on completing biographical sketches and job descriptions.

**Confidentiality and SAMHSA Participant Protection/Human Subjects**

See [Appendix D](#_Appendix_D_–) for documentation that **mus**t be included in your application related to Confidentiality, Participant Protection, and the Protection of Human Subjects Regulations. Even if your project will be evaluated by an Institutional Review Board (IRB), all of the Participant Protection elements must be addressed.

## 2. REVIEW AND SELECTION PROCESS

SAMHSA applications are peer-reviewed according to the evaluation criteria listed above.

Decisions to fund a grant are based on:

* The strengths and weaknesses of the application as identified by peer reviewers;
* When the individual award is over $150,000, approval by the CSAT National Advisory Council;
* Availability of funds;
* Equitable distribution of awards in terms of geography (including urban, rural and remote settings) and balance among populations of focus and program size;
* Submission of any required documentation that must be submitted prior to making an award; and
* In accordance with 45 CFR 75.212, SAMHSA reserves the right not to make an award to an entity if that entity does not meet the minimum qualification standards as described in section 75.205(a)(2). If SAMHSA chooses not to award a fundable application, SAMHSA must report that determination to the designated integrity and performance system accessible through the System for Award Management (SAM) [currently the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIIS)].

# VI. FEDERAL AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

## REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

**Program Specific:**

Recipients must comply with the data reporting requirements listed in Section I-2.2 and Section I-2.3.

Data Collection – GPRA data will be collected via a face-to-face interview using the GPRA tool at three data collection points: intake to services, six months post intake, and discharge.

Progress Reports – recipients will be expected to submit an annual report.

**Grants Management:**

Successful applicants must also comply with the following standard grants management reporting and schedules at <https://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grants-management/reporting-requirements>, unless otherwise noted in the FOA or Notice of Award.

## 2. FEDERAL AWARD NOTICES

You will receive an email from SAMHSA, via NIH’s eRA Commons, that will describe the process for how you can view the general results of the review of your application, including the score that your application received.

If you are approved for funding, a Notice of Award (NoA) will be emailed to the Business Official’s (BO) and Project Director/Principal Investigator’s (PD/PI) email address identified on the HHS Checklist form submitted with the application.  Hard copies of the NoA will no longer be mailed via postal service.  The NoA is the sole obligating document that allows you to receive federal funding for work on the grant project.  Information about what is included in the NoA can be found at:  <https://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grants-management/notice-award-noa>.

If you are not funded, you will receive a notification from SAMHSA, via NIH’s eRA Commons.

# VII. AGENCY CONTACTS

For questions about program issues contact:

Jon D. Berg

Center for Substance Abuse Treatment, Division of Service Improvement

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

(240) 276-1609

[jon.berg@samhsa.hhs.gov](mailto:jon.berg@samhsa.hhs.gov)

For questions on grants management and budget issues contact:

Eileen Bermudez  
Office of Financial Resources, Division of Grants Management  
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration   
(240) 276-1412  
[FOACSAT@samhsa.hhs.gov](mailto:FOACSAT@samhsa.hhs.gov)

# Appendix A – Application and Submission Requirements

**IMPORTANT APPLICATION INFORMATION:**  SAMHSA’s application procedures have changed.  **All applicants must register with NIH’s eRA Commons in order to submit an application.  This process takes up to six weeks.  If you believe you are interested in applying for this opportunity, you MUST start the registration process immediately.  Do not wait to start this process.  If your organization is not registered and you do not have an active eRA Commons PI account by the deadline, the application will not be accepted.  No exceptions will be made.**

Applicants also must register with the System for Award Management (SAM) and Grants.gov (see below for all registration requirements).

## GET REGISTERED

You are required to complete **four (4) registration processes:**

* 1. Dun & Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (to obtain a DUNS number);
  2. System for Award Management (SAM);
  3. Grants.gov; and
  4. eRA Commons.

If this is your first time submitting an application, you must complete all four registration processes. If you have already completed registrations for DUNS, SAM, and Grants.gov, you need to ensure that your accounts are still active, and then register in **eRA Commons**. If you have not registered in Grants.gov, the registration for Grants.gov and eRA Commons can be done concurrently. You must register in eRA Commons and receive a Commons Username in order to have access to electronic submission, receive notifications on the status of your application, and retrieve grant information. **If your organization is not registered and does not have an active eRA Commons PI account by the deadline, the application will not be accepted.**

The organization must maintain an active and up-to-date SAM and DUNS registrations in order for SAMHSA to make an award. If your organization is not compliant when SAMHSA is ready to make an award, SAMHSA may determine that your organization is not qualified to receive an award and use that determination as the basis for making an award to another applicant.

### 1.1 Dun & Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) Registration

SAMHSA applicants are required to obtain a valid DUNS Number, also known as the Unique Entity Identifier, and provide that number in the application. Obtaining a DUNS number is easy and there is no charge.

To obtain a DUNS number, access the Dun and Bradstreet website at: <http://www.dnb.com> or call 1-866-705-5711. To expedite the process, let Dun and Bradstreet know that you are a public/private nonprofit organization getting ready to submit a federal grant application. The DUNS number you use on your application must be registered and active in the System for Award Management (SAM).

### 1.2 System for Award Management (SAM) Registration

You must also register with the System for Award Management (SAM) and continue to maintain active SAM registration with current information during the period of time your organization has an active federal award or an application under consideration by an agency (unless you are an individual or federal agency that is exempted from those requirements under 2 CFR § 25.110(b) or (c), has an exception approved by the agency under 2 CFR § 25.110(d)). To create a SAM user account, Register/Update your account, and/or Search Records, go to <https://www.sam.gov>.

It is also highly recommended that you renew your account prior to the expiration date. SAM information must be active and up-to-date, and should be updated at least every 12 months to remain active (for both recipients and sub-recipients). Once you update your record in SAM, it will take 48 to 72 hours to complete the validation processes. Grants.gov rejects electronic submissions from applicants with expired registrations.

If your SAM account expires, the renewal process requires the same validation with IRS and DoD (Cage Code) as a new account requires. The renewal process can take up to one month.

### 1.3 Grants.gov Registration

[Grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov/) is an online portal for submitting federal grant applications. It requires a one-time registration in order to submit applications. While Grants.gov registration is a one-time only registration process, it consists of multiple sub-registration processes (i.e., DUNS number and SAM registrations) before you can submit your application. [Note: eRA Commons registration is separate].

You can register to obtain a Grants.gov username and password at <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html>.

If you have already completed Grants.gov registration and ensured your Grants.gov and SAM accounts are up-to-date and/or renewed, please skip this section and focus on the eRA Commons registration steps noted below. If this is your first time submitting an application through Grants.gov, registration information can be found at the Grants.gov “[Applicants](http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants.html)” tab.

The person submitting your application must be properly registered with Grants.gov as the Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) for the specific DUNS number cited on the SF-424 (first page). See the Organization Registration User Guide for details at the following Grants.gov link: <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/organization-registration.html>.

### 1.4 eRA Commons Registration

eRA Commons is an online interface managed by NIH that allows applicants, recipients, and federal staff to securely share, manage, and process grant-related information. Organizations applying for SAMHSA funding must register in eRA Commons. This is a one-time registration, separate from Grants.gov registration. In addition to the organization registration, Business Officials and Program Directors listed as key personnel on SAMHSA applications must also register in eRA Commons and receive a Commons ID in order to have access to electronic submission and retrieval of application/grant information. It is strongly recommended that you start the eRA Commons registration process **at least six (6) weeks** prior to the application due date. **If your organization is not registered and does not have an active eRA Commons PI account by the deadline, the application will not be accepted.**

For organizations registering with eRA Commons for the first time, either the Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) from the SF-424 or the Business Official (BO) from the HHS Checklist must complete the online [Institution Registration Form](https://public.era.nih.gov/commons/public/registration/registrationInstructions.jsp). Instructions on how to complete the online Institution Registration Form is provided on the eRA Commons Online Registration Page.

[Note: You must have a valid and verifiable DUNS number to complete the eRA Commons registration.]

After the organization’s representative (AOR or BO) completes the online Institution Registration Form and clicks Submit, the eRA Commons will send an e-mail notification from [era-notify@mail.nih.gov](mailto:era-notify@mail.nih.gov) with the link to confirm the email address. Once the e-mail address is verified, the registration request will be reviewed and confirmed via email. If your request is denied, the representative will receive an email detailing the reason for the denial. If the request is approved, the representative will receive an email with a Commons User ID (with the Signing Official ‘SO’ role) and temporary password. The representative will need to log into Commons with the temporary password, at which time the system will provide prompts to change the temporary password to one of their choosing. Once the designated contact Signing Official (SO) signs the registration request, the organization will be active in Commons and any user with the SO role will be able to create and maintain additional accounts for the organization’s staff, including accounts for those designated as Program Directors.

**Important**: The eRA Commons requires organizations to identify at least one SO, who can be either the AOR from the SF-424 or the BO from the HHS Checklist, and at least one Program Director/Principal Investigator (PD/PI) account in order to submit an application. The primary SO must create the account for the PD/PI listed as the PD/PI role on the HHS Checklist assigning that person the ‘PI’ role in Commons. Note that you must enter the PD/PI’s Commons Username into the ‘Applicant Identifier’ field of the SF-424 document.

You can find additional information about the eRA Commons registration process at <https://era.nih.gov/reg_accounts/register_commons.cfm>.

## 2. APPLICATION COMPONENTS

You must complete your application using eRA ASSIST, Grants.gov Workspace or another system to system provider. You will also need to go to the SAMHSA website to download the required documents you will need to apply for a SAMHSA grant or cooperative agreement. (**PDF application packages used in previous years will not be supported by Grants.gov after December 31, 2017.)**

### 2.1 How to Download the Application Package (Grants.gov)

On the Grants.gov site (<http://www.Grants.gov>), select the ‘Apply for Grants’ option from the ‘Applicants’ Tab at the top of the screen. You will be directed to the ‘[Apply for Grants](http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/apply-for-grants.html)’ page. Click on the ‘Get Application Package’ tab located on the right of the Grants.gov ‘Apply for Grants’ page. You will be directed to the ‘Get [Application](https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/download-application-package.html) Package’ page where you will search for the appropriate funding announcement number (called the funding opportunity number) or the Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number. You can find the funding announcement number and CFDA number on the cover page of the FOA.

For more information on the application download process, go to the Grants.gov ‘Apply for Grants’ page. Download both the Application Instruction and Application Package on the ‘Apply for Grants’ page. You can view, print, or save all the forms in the Application Package and then complete them for electronic submission to Grants.gov. Completed forms can also be saved and printed for your records.

### 2.2 Additional Documents for Submission (SAMHSA Website)

You will find additional materials you will need to complete your application on the SAMHSA website at <http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/applying/forms-resources>.

For a **full list of required application components**, refer to [Section II-3.1, Required Application Components](#_3.1_Required_Application).

## 3. WRITE AND COMPLETE APPLICATION

After downloading and retrieving the required application components and completing the registration processes, it is time to write and complete your application. With SAMHSA’s transition to NIH’s eRA grants system, there are **new application formatting requirements and validations.** All files uploaded with the Grants.gov application **MUST** be in **Adobe PDF** file format. Directions for creating PDF files can be found on the Grants.gov website. Please see[**Appendix B**](#_Validation) **for all** application formatting and validation requirements**. Applications that do not comply with these requirements will be screened out and will not be reviewed.**

**SAMHSA strongly encourages you to sign up for Grants.gov email notifications regarding this FOA. If the FOA is cancelled or modified, individuals who sign up with Grants.gov for updates will be automatically notified.**

### 3.1 Required Application Components

**Standard Application Components**

Applications must include the following required application components listed in the table below. This table consists of a full list of standard application components, a description of each required component, and its source for application submission.

| **#** | **Standard Application Components** | **Description** | **Source** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | SF-424 (Application for Federal Assistance) Form | This form must be completed by applicants for all SAMHSA grants and cooperative agreements. | Grants.gov |
| 2 | SF-424 A (Budget Information – Non-Construction Programs) Form | Use SF-424A. Fill out Sections A, B, D and E of the SF-424A. Section C should only be completed if applicable. **It is highly recommended that you use the sample budget format in the FOA.** | Grants.gov |
| 3 | HHS Checklist Form | |  | | --- | | The HHS Checklist ensures that you have obtained the proper signatures, assurances, and certifications**.** You are not required to complete the entire form, but please include the top portion of the form (“**Type of Application**”) indicating if this is a new, noncompeting continuation, competing continuation, or supplemental application; the Business Official and Program Director/Project Director/Principal Investigator contact information (**Part C**); and your organization’s nonprofit status (**Part D, if applicable**). All SAMHSA Notices of Award (NoAs) will be emailed by SAMHSA via NIH’s eRA Commons to the Project Director/Principal Investigator (PD/PI), and Signing Official/Business Official (SO/BO). | | Grants.gov |
| 4 | Project/Performance Site Location(s) Form | The purpose of this form is to collect location information on the site(s) where work funded under this grant announcement will be performed. | Grants.gov |
| 5 | Project Abstract Summary | Your total abstract must not be longer than 35 lines. It should include the project name, population(s) to be served (demographics and clinical characteristics), strategies/interventions, project goals and measurable objectives, including the number of people to be served annually and throughout the lifetime of the project, etc. In the first five lines or less of your abstract, write a summary of your project that can be used, if your project is funded, in publications, reports to Congress, or press releases. | Grants.gov |
| 6 | Project Narrative Attachment | The Project Narrative describes your project. The application must address how your organization will implement and meet the goals and objectives of the program. You must attach the Project Narrative file (Adobe PDF format only) inside the Project Narrative Attachment Form. | Grants.gov |
| 7 | Budget Justification and Narrative Attachment | You must include a detailed Budget Narrative in addition to the Budget Form SF-424A. In preparing the budget, adhere to any existing federal grantor agency guidelines which prescribe how and whether budgeted amounts should be separately shown for different functions or activities within the program. The budget justification and narrative must be submitted as file **BNF** when you submit your application into Grants.gov | Grants.gov |
| 8 | SF-424 B (Assurances for Non-Construction) Form | You must read the list of assurances provided on the SAMHSA website and check the box marked ‘I Agree’ before signing the first page (SF-424) of the application. | [SAMHSA Website](http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/applying/forms-resources) |
| 9 | Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL) Form | Federal law prohibits the use of appropriated funds for publicity or propaganda purposes or for the preparation, distribution, or use of the information designed to support or defeat legislation pending before Congress or state legislatures. You must sign and submit this form, if applicable. | Grants.gov |
| 10 | Other Attachments Form | Refer to the Supporting Documents below. Use the Other Attachments Form to attach all required additional/supporting documents listed in the table below. | Grants.gov |

**Supporting Documents**

In addition to the Standard Application Components listed above, the following supporting documents are necessary for the review of your application. Supporting documents must be attached to your application. **For each of the following application components, attach each document (Adobe PDF format only) using the Other Attachments Form from the Grants.gov application package.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **#** | **Supporting Documents** | **Description** | **Source** |
| 1 | HHS 690 Form | Every grant applicant must have a completed [HHS 690 form (PDF | 291 KB)](http://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/forms/hhs-690.pdf) on file with the Department of Health and Human Services. | [SAMHSA Website](http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/applying/forms-resources) |
| 2 | Charitable Choice Form SMA 170 | See Section IV-1 of the FOA to determine if you are required to submit Charitable Choice Form SMA 170. If you are, you can upload this form to Grants.gov when you submit your application. | [SAMHSA Website](http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/applying/forms-resources) |
| 3 | Biographical Sketches and Job Descriptions | See [Appendix G](#_Appendix_G_–) of this document for additional instructions for completing these sections. | [Appendix G](#_Appendix_G_–) of this document. |
| 4 | Confidentiality and SAMHSA Participant Protection/Human Subjects | See the FOA or requirements related to confidentiality, participant protection, and the protection of human subject’s regulations. | FOA: See [Appendix D](#_Appendix_E_–) |
| 5 | Additional Documents in the FOA | The FOA will indicate the attachments you need to include in your application. | [FOA: Section IV-1.](#_IV._APPLICATION_AND) |

## 4. SUBMIT APPLICATION

### 4.1 Electronic Submission (Grants.gov, ASSIST)

After completing all required registration and application requirements, SAMHSA requires applicants to **electronically submit** using eRA ASSIST, Grants.gov Downloadable Forms, Grants.gov Workspace or another system to system provider. Information on each of these options is below:

1. **ASSIST** – The Application Submission System and Interface for Submission Tracking (ASSIST) is an NIH sponsored online interface used to prepare applications using the SF424 form set, submit electronically through Grants.gov to SAMHSA and other participating agencies, and track grant applications. [Note: ASSIST requires an eRA Commons ID to access the system]
2. **Grants.gov Downloadable Forms** – You can download an application package from Grants.gov, complete the forms offline, submit the completed forms to Grants.gov, and track your application in eRA Commons. **Note that this option is only available until December 31, 2017.**
3. **Grants.gov Workspace –** You can use the shared, online environment of the Grants.gov Workspace to collaboratively work on different forms within the application package.

The specific actions you need to take to submit your application will vary by submission method as listed above. The steps to submit your application are as follows:

To submit to Grants.gov using ASSIST: [eRA Modules, User Guides, and Documentation | Electronic Research Administration (eRA)](https://era.nih.gov/modules_user-guides_documentation.cfm)

To submit to Grants.gov using downloadable forms are available at: [STEP 3: Submit an Application Package | GRANTS.GOV](https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/apply-for-grants/step-3-submit-your-application-package.html)

To submit to Grants.gov using the Grants.gov Workspace:

<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/workspace-overview.html>

Regardless of the option you use, your application will be subject to the same registration requirements, completed with the same data items, routed through Grants.gov, validated against the same agency business rules, assembled in a consistent format for review consideration, and tracked in eRA Commons. All applications that are successfully submitted must be validated by Grants.gov before proceeding to the NIH eRA Commons system and validations.

On-time submission requires that electronic applications be error-free and made available to SAMHSA for processing from the NIH eRA system on or before the application due date and time. Applications must be submitted to and validated successfully by Grants.gov and eRA Commons no later than **11:59 PM** Eastern Time on the application due date.

You are strongly encouraged to allocate additional time prior to the submission deadline to submit your application and to correct errors identified in the validation process. You are also encouraged to check the status of your application submission to determine if the application is complete and error-free.

If you encounter problems when submitting their applications in Grants.gov, you must attempt to resolve them by contacting the Grants.gov Help Desk at:

* By e-mail: [support@grants.gov](mailto:support@grants.gov)
* By phone: (toll-free) 1-800-518-4726 (1-800-518-GRANTS). \The Grants.gov Contact Center is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, excluding federal holidays.

**Make sure you receive a case/ticket/reference number that documents the issues/problems with Grants.gov.**

Additional support is also available from the NIH eRA Service desk at:

* By e-mail: <http://grants.nih.gov/support/index.html>
* By phone: 301-402-7469 or (toll-free) 1-866-504-9552. The NIH eRA Service desk is available Monday – Friday, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern Time, excluding federal holidays.

If you experience problems accessing or using ASSIST (see below), you can:

* Access the ASSIST Online Help Site at: <https://era.nih.gov/erahelp/assist/>
* Or contact the eRA Help Desk

SAMHSA highly recommends that you submit your application 24-72 hours before the submission deadline. Many submission issues can be fixed within that time and you can attempt to re-submit.

### 4.2 Waiver of Electronic Submission

SAMHSA will not accept paper applications except under very special circumstances. If you need special consideration, SAMHSA must approve the waiver of this requirement in advance.

If you do not have the technology to apply online, or your physical location has no Internet connection, you may request a waiver of electronic submission. You must send a written request to the Division of Grant Review at least 15 calendar days before the application's due date.

Direct any questions regarding the submission waiver process to the Division of Grant Review at 240-276-1199.

## 5. AFTER SUBMISSION

### 5.1 System Validations and Tracking

After you complete and comply with all registration and application requirements and submit your application, the application will be validated by Grants.gov. You will receive a notification that your application is being processed. You will receive two additional e-mails from Grants.gov within the next 24-48 hours (one notification email will confirm receipt of the application in Grants.gov, and the other notification email will indicate that the application was either successfully validated by the Grants.gov system or rejected due to errors). It is important that you retain this Grants.gov tracking number. Receipt of the Grants.gov tracking number is the only indication that Grants.gov has successfully received and validated your application. If you do not receive a Grants.gov tracking number, you may want to contact the Grants.gov help desk for assistance (see resources for assistance in [4.1](#_4.__)).

If Grants.gov identifies any errors and rejects your application with a “Rejected with Errors” status, you must address all errors and submit again. If no problem is found, Grants.gov will allow the eRA system to retrieve the application and check it against its own agency business rules (eRA Commons Validations).

After you successfully submit your application through Grants.gov, your application will go through eRA Commons validations. You must check your application status in eRA Commons. You must have an eRA Commons ID in order to have access to electronic submission and retrieval of application/grant information.

If no errors are found, the application will be assembled in the eRA Commons. At this point, you can view your application in eRA commons. It will then be forwarded to SAMHSA as the receiving institution for further review. If errors are found, you will receive a System Error and/or Warning notification regarding the problems found in the application. You must take action to make the required corrections, and re-submit the application through Grants.gov before the application due date and time.

**You are responsible for viewing and tracking your applications in the eRA Commons after submission through Grants.gov to ensure accurate and successful submission.** Once you are able to access your application in the eRA Commons, be sure to review it carefully as this is what reviewers will see.

### 5.2 eRA Commons: Warning vs. Error Notifications

You may receive a System Warning and/or Error notification after submitting an application. Take note that there is a distinction between System Errors and System Warnings.

**Warnings** – If you receive a Warningnotification after the application is submitted, you are not required to resubmit the application. The reason for the Warning will be identified in the notification. It is at your discretion to choose to resubmit, but if the application was successfully received, it does not require any additional action.

**Errors** – If you receive an Error notification after the applications is submitted, you must correct and resubmit the application. The word Error is used to characterize any condition which causes the application to be deemed unacceptable for further consideration.

### 5.3 System or Technical Issues

If you encounter a system error that prevents you from completing the application submission process on time, the BO from your organization will receive an email notification from eRA Commons. SAMHSA highly recommends contacting the eRA Help Desk and submitting a web ticket to document your good faith attempt to submit your application, and determining next steps. See [4.1](#_3._SUBMISSION_DATES) for more information on contacting the eRA Help Desk.

### 5.4 Resubmitting a Changed/Corrected Application

If SAMHSA does not receive your application by the application due date as a result of a failure in the SAM, Grants.gov, or NIH’s eRA Commons systems, you must contact the Division of Grant Review within **one business day after the official due date at:** [dgr.applications@samhsa.hhs.gov](mailto:dgr.applications@samhsa.hhs.gov) and provide the following:

* A case number or email from SAM, Grants.gov, and/or NIH’s eRA system that allows SAMHSA to obtain documentation from the respective entity for the cause of the error.

SAMHSA will consider the documentation to determine **if** you followed Grants.gov and NIH’s eRA requirements and instructions, met the deadlines for processing paperwork within the recommended time limits, met FOA requirements for submission of electronic applications, and made no errors that caused submission through Grants.gov or NIH’s eRA to fail. No exceptions for submission are allowed when user error is involved. Please note that system errors are extremely rare.

[Note: When resubmitting an application, please ensure that the **Project Title is identical to the Project Title in the originally submitted application** (i.e., no extra spacing) as the Project Title is a free-text form field.]

# Appendix B - Formatting Requirements and System Validation

## SAMHSA FORMATTING REQUIREMENTS

SAMHSA’s goal is to review all applications submitted for grant funding. However, this goal must be balanced against SAMHSA’s obligation to ensure equitable treatment of applications. For this reason, SAMHSA has established certain formatting requirements for its applications. See below for a list of formatting requirements required by SAMHSA:

* Text must be legible. Pages must be typed in black, single-spaced, using a font of Times New Roman 12, with all margins (left, right, top, bottom) at least one inch each. You may use Times New Roman 10 only for charts or tables.
* You must submit your application and all attached documents in Adobe PDF format or your application will not be forwarded to eRA Commons and will not be reviewed.
* To ensure equity among applications, page limits for the Project Narrative cannot be exceeded.
* Black print should be used throughout your application, including charts and graphs (no color).
* The page limits for Attachments stated in the FOA: [Section IV-1](#_3._REQUIRED_APPLICATION) should not be exceeded.

If you are submitting more than one application under the same announcement number, you must ensure that the Project Title in Field 15 of the SF-424 is unique for each submission.

## GRANTS.GOV FORMATTING AND VALIDATION REQUIREMENTS

* Grants.gov allows the following list of UTF-8 characters when naming your attachments: A-Z, a-z, 0-9, underscore, hyphen, space, and period. Other UTF-8 characters should not be used as they will not be accepted by NIH’s eRA Commons, as indicated in item #10 in the table below.
* Scanned images must be scanned at 150-200 dpi/ppi resolution and saved as a PDF file. Using a higher resolution setting or different file type will result in a larger file size, which could result in rejection of your application.
* Any files uploaded or attached to the Grants.gov application must be PDF file format and must contain a valid file format extension in the filename. In addition, the use of compressed file formats such as ZIP, RAR or Adobe Portfolio will not be accepted.

## eRA COMMONS FORMATTING AND VALIDATION REQUIREMENTS

The following table is a list of formatting requirements and system validations required by eRA Commons and will result in errors if not met. The application must be ‘error free’ to be processed through the eRA Commons. There may be additional validations which will result in Warnings but these will not prevent the application from processing through the submission process.

If you do not adhere to these requirements, you will receive an email notification from [era-notify@mail.nih.gov](mailto:era-notify@mail.nih.gov) to take action and adhere to the requirements so that your application can be processed successfully. It is highly recommended that you submit your application 24-72 hours before the submission deadline to allow for sufficient time to correct errors and resubmit the application. If you experience any system validation or technical issues after hours on the application due date, contact the eRA Help Desk and submit a Web ticket to document your good-faith attempt to submit your application.

| # | **eRA Validations** | **Action if the Validation is not met** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Applicant Identifier: The Commons Username provided in the PD/PI Credential field for the PD/PI must be valid and affiliated with the organization (matching on the Org Primary DUNS). | If the PD/PI Credentials are not provided, the applicant will receive the following error message from eRA Commons:  "The Commons Username must be provided in the PD/PI Credential field for the PD/PI."  If the Username provided is not a valid Commons account, the applicant will receive the following error message from eRA Commons:  "The Commons Username provided in the PD/PI Credential field for is not a recognized Commons account."  If the Username is not affiliated with the organization submitting the application and have the PI role, the applicant will receive the following error message from eRA Commons:  "The Commons account provided in the Credential field for the PD/PI is either not affiliated with the applicant organization or does not hold the PI role. Check with your Commons Account Administrator to make sure your account affiliation and roles are set-up correctly." |
| 1  2 | DUNS numbers: The DUNS number provided on any forms must have valid characters (9 or 13 numbers with or without dashes). | If the DUNS number provided has invalid characters (other than 9 or 13 numbers) after stripping of dashes, the applicant will receive the following error message from eRA Commons:  “The DUNs number for <insert form name > is not in the valid format of DUNS or DUNS+4 number (DUNS should be 9 or 13 digits; no letters or special characters).” |
| 22  3 | Submit required documentation for the FOA.  [Note: We recommend you use the latest package from Grants.gov, which will have the latest forms and templates required.] | If you do not submit the documentation required for the FOA, the applicant will receive the following error message from eRA Commons:  “The format of the application does not match the format of the FOA. Please contact the eRA [Help Desk](#_eRA_Commons_Registration) for assistance.” |
| 3  4 | Check the “Changed/Corrected Application” box in the SF424 form after making changes/corrections to resubmit an application.  Refer to [Section II-5.4](#_5.4_Resubmitting_a) for more information on resubmission criteria. | If you change/correct an error in your application, any subsequent submissions for the same FOA will result in an error, and the applicant will receive the following error message from eRA Commons:  “This application has been identified as a duplicate of a previous submission. The ‘Type of Submission’ should be set to Changed/Corrected if you are addressing errors/warnings.” |
| 4  5 | Applications cannot be larger than 1.2GB | If the application exceeds 1.2GB, the applicant will receive the following error message from eRA Commons:  “The application did not follow the agency-specific size limit of 1.2 GB. Please resize the application to be no larger than 1.2GB before submitting.” |
| 5  6 | The Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) number must exist. | If you enter an FOA number that does not exist, the applicant will receive the following error message from eRA Commons:  “The Funding Opportunity Announcement number does not exist.” |
| 6  7 | All documents and attachments must be in PDF format. | If you submit attachments which are not in PDF format, the applicant will receive the following error message from eRA Commons:  *“*The <attachment> attachment is not in PDF format. All attachments must be provided to the agency in PDF format with a .pdf extension. Help with PDF attachments can be found at <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/ElectronicReceipt/pdf_guidelines.htm>.” |
| 7  8 | All attachments should comply with the following formatting requirement:   * PDF attachments cannot be empty (0 bytes). | If you submit attachments which do not comply with the stated formatting requirement, the applicant will receive the following error message from eRA Commons:  “The {attachment} attachment was empty. PDF attachments cannot be empty, password protected or encrypted. Please submit a changed/corrected application with the correct PDF attachment. Help with PDF attachments can be found at <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/ElectronicReceipt/pdf_guidelines.htm>.” |
| 8  9 | All attachments should comply with the following formatting requirement:   * PDF attachments cannot have Meta data missing, cannot be encrypted, password protected or secured documents. | If you submit attachments which do not comply with the stated formatting requirement, the applicant will receive the following error message from eRA Commons:  “The <attachment> attachment contained formatting or features not currently supported by NIH: <condition returned>. Help with PDF attachments can be found at <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/ElectronicReceipt/pdf_guidelines.htm>.” |
| 9  10 | All attachments should comply with the following formatting requirement:   * Size of PDF attachments cannot be larger than 8.5 x 11 inches (horizontally or vertically).   [Note: It is recommended that you limit the size of attachments to 35 MB.] | If you submit attachments that do not comply with the stated formatting requirement, the applicant will receive the following error message from eRA Commons:  “Filename <file> cannot be larger than U.S. standard letter paper size of 8.5 x 11 inches. See the PDF guidelines at [http://grants.nih.gov/grants/ElectronicReceipt/pdf\_guidelines.htm for additional information.”](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/ElectronicReceipt/pdf_guidelines.htm%20for%20additional%20information.) |
| 10  11 | All attachments should comply with the following formatting requirement:   * PDF attachments should have a valid file name. Valid file names must include the following UTF-8 characters: A-Z, a-z, 0-9, underscore (\_), hyphen (-), space, period. | If you submit attachments which do not comply with the stated formatting requirement, the applicant will receive the following error message from eRA Commons:  “The <attachment> attachment filename is invalid. Valid filenames may only include the following characters: A-Z, a-z, 0-9, underscore ( \_ ), hyphen (-), space, or period. No special characters (including brackets) can be part of the filename.” |
| 11  12 | The contact person’s email in the SF-424 Section F, must contain a ‘@’, with at least 1 and at most 64 chars preceding and following the ‘@’. Control characters (ASCII 0 through 31 and 127), spaces and special chars < > ( ) [ ] \ , ; : are not valid. | If the contact person’s email address does not comply with the stated formatting requirement, the applicant will receive the following error message from eRA Commons:  “The submitted e-mail address for the person to be contacted {email address}, is invalid. Must contain a ‘@’, with at least 1 and at most 64 chars preceding and following the ‘@’. Control characters (ASCII 0 through 31 and 127), spaces and special chars < > ( ) [ ] \ , ; : are not valid.” |
| 12  13 | Congressional district code of applicant (after truncating) must be valid.  [Note: Applies to form SF-424, items 16a and 16b] | If the Congressional district code of the applicant is not valid, the applicant will receive the following error message from eRA Commons:  “Congressional district <Congressional District> is invalid. To locate your district, visit <http://www.house.gov/>” |
| 13  14 | Authorized Representative email must contain a ‘@’, with at least 1 and at most 60chars preceding and following the ‘@’. Control characters (ASCII 0 through 31 and 127), spaces and special chars < > ( ) [ ] \ , ; : are not valid. | If the Authorized Representative email address does not comply with the stated formatting requirement, the applicant will receive the following error message from eRA Commons:  “Must contain a ‘@’, with at least 1 and at most 64 chars preceding and following the ‘@’. Control characters (ASCII 0 through 31 and 127), spaces and special chars < > ( ) [ ] \ , ; : are not valid. The Person to be contacted email address also provided on the SF 424 will be used instead.” |
| 15 | Budget Validations | If the budget form fields below do not comply with the form guidelines, the applicant will receive the following error message from eRA Commons: |
| 16 | SF424-A: Section A – Budget Summary  There are total fields at the end of rows or at the bottom of columns that must equal the sum of the elements for that row or column | Ensure that the sum of Grant Program Function or Activity (a) elements entered equals the total amounts in the Total field |
| 17 | SF424-A: Section B – Budget Categories  The TOTALS Total in Column 5 - Row k does not equal to SECTION A – Budget Summary: 5.Totals Total (g). | Ensure that the TOTALS Total (row k, column 5) equals the Budget Summary Totals in section A, row 5 column g. |
| 18 | SF424-A: Section D – Forecasted Cash Needs  The Federal amount for the 1st Year sun does not equal to Section A Total for 1st Year Federal Totals  The Non-Federal Total for 1st Year sum does not equal to Estimated Unobligated Funds Non-Federal Totals (d-5) + New or Revised Budget Non-Federal Totals (f-5)  The Total for 1st Year TOTAL in Section D does not equal to the Totals Total (Column 5, Row G) in Section A | Ensure that the Federal Total for 1st year, in Section D- Forecasted Needs equals the Section A, New or Revised Budget Federal Totals (e-5) amount.  Ensure that the Non-Federal Total for 1st year equals the sum of Estimated Unobligated Funds Non-Federal Totals (d-5) and New or Revised Budget Non-Federal Totals (f-5) on Section A.  Ensure that the Forecasted Cash Needs: 15. TOTAL equals to SECTION A – Budget Summary: 5.Totals Total (g). |
| 19 | SF424-A: Section E – Budget Estimates Of Federal Funds Needed For Balance of The project  The number of budget years/periods does not match the span of the project | Ensure that the project period years on the SF 424 block 17 matches the provided budget periods in the SF 424 A. Enter data for the first budget period in Section D and enter future budget periods in Section E. Please refer to agency guidance if applicable. |

# Appendix C – Statement of Assurance

As the authorized representative of [*insert name of applicant organization*] \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, I assure SAMHSA that all participating service provider organizations listed in this application meet the two-year experience requirement and applicable licensing, accreditation, and certification requirements. If this application is within the funding range for a grant award, we will provide the SAMHSA Government Project Officer (GPO) with the following documents. I understand that if this documentation is not received by the GPO within the specified timeframe, the application will be removed from consideration for an award and the funds will be provided to another applicant meeting these requirements.

* Official documentation that all mental health/substance abuse treatment provider organizations participating in the project have been providing relevant services for a minimum of two years prior to the date of the application in the area(s) in which services are to be provided. Official documents must definitively establish that the organization has provided relevant services for the last two years; and
* Official documentation that all mental health/substance abuse treatment provider organizations: 1) comply with all local (city, county) and state requirements for licensing, accreditation and certification; OR 2) official documentation from the appropriate agency of the applicable state, county, or other governmental unit that licensing, accreditation, and certification requirements do not exist.[[3]](#footnote-4) (Official documentation is a copy of each service provider organization’s license, accreditation, and certification. Documentation of accreditation will not be accepted in lieu of an organization’s license. A statement by, or letter from, the applicant organization or from a provider organization attesting to compliance with licensing, accreditation, and certification or that no licensing, accreditation, certification requirements exist does not constitute adequate documentation.)
* For tribes and tribal organizations only, official documentation that all participating mental health/substance abuse treatment provider organizations: 1) comply with all applicable tribal requirements for licensing, accreditation, and certification; OR 2) documentation from the tribe or other tribal governmental unit that licensing, accreditation, and certification requirements do not exist.

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Signature of Authorized Representative Date

# Appendix D – Confidentiality and SAMHSA Participant Protection/Human Subjects Guidelines

**Confidentiality and Participant Protection:**

Because of the confidential nature of the work in which many SAMHSA recipients are involved, it is important to have safeguards protecting individuals from risks associated with their participation in SAMHSA projects. All applicants (including those who plan to obtain Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval) must address the seven elements below. Be sure to discuss these elements as they pertain to on-line counseling (i.e., telehealth) if they are applicable to your program. If some are not applicable or relevant to the proposed project, simply state that they are not applicable and indicate why. In addition to addressing these seven elements, read the section that follows entitled “Protection of Human Subjects Regulations” to determine if the regulations may apply to your project. If so, you are required to describe the process you will follow for obtaining IRB approval. While you are encouraged you to keep your responses brief, there are no page limits for this section and no points will be assigned by the Review Committee. Problems with confidentiality, participant protection, and the protection of human subjects identified during peer review of the application must be resolved prior to funding.

1. **Protect Clients and Staff from Potential Risks**

* Identify and describe any foreseeable physical, medical, psychological, social and legal risks or potential adverse effects as a result of the project itself or any data collection activity.
* Describe the procedures you will follow to minimize or protect participants against potential risks, including risks to confidentiality.
* Identify plans to provide guidance and assistance in the event there are adverse effects to participants.
* Where appropriate, describe alternative treatments and procedures that may be beneficial to the participants. If you choose not to use these other beneficial treatments, provide the reasons for not using them.

1. **Fair Selection of Participants**

* Describe the population(s) of focus for the proposed project. Include age, gender, and racial/ethnic background and note if the population includes homeless youth, foster children, children of substance abusers, pregnant women, or other targeted groups.
* Explain the reasons for including groups of pregnant women, children, people with mental disabilities, people in institutions, prisoners, and individuals who are likely to be particularly vulnerable to HIV/AIDS.
* Explain the reasons for including or excluding participants.
* Explain how you will recruit and select participants. Identify who will select participants.

1. **Absence of Coercion**

* Explain if participation in the project is voluntary or required. Identify possible reasons why participation is required, for example, court orders requiring people to participate in a program.
* If you plan to compensate participants, state how participants will be awarded incentives (e.g., gift cards, bus passes, gifts, etc.). Provide justification that the use of incentives is appropriate, judicious and conservative and that incentives do not provide an “undue inducement” that removes the voluntary nature of participation. Incentives should be non-cash and the minimum amount necessary to meet the programmatic and performance assessment goals of the grant. Applicants should determine the minimum amount that is proven effective by consulting with existing local programs and reviewing the relevant literature. In no case may the value of an incentive paid for with SAMHSA discretionary grant funds exceed $30.
* State how volunteer participants will be told that they may receive services intervention even if they do not participate in or complete the data collection component of the project.

1. **Data Collection**

* Identify from whom you will collect data (e.g., from participants themselves, family members, teachers, others). Describe the data collection procedures and specify the sources for obtaining data (e.g., school records, interviews, psychological assessments, questionnaires, observation or other sources). Where data are to be collected through observational techniques, questionnaires, interviews, or other direct means, describe the data collection setting.
* Identify what type of specimens (e.g., urine, blood) will be used, if any. State if the material will be used just for evaluation or if other use(s) will be made. Also, if needed, describe how the material will be monitored to ensure the safety of participants.
* Provide in Attachment 2, “Data Collection Instruments/Interview Protocols,” copies of all available data collection instruments and interview protocols that you plan to use (unless you are providing the web link to the instrument(s)/protocol(s)).

1. **Privacy and Confidentiality**

* Explain how you will ensure privacy and confidentiality. Include who will collect data and how it will be collected.
* Describe:
* How you will use data collection instruments.
* Where data will be stored.
* Who will or will not have access to information.
* How the identity of participants will be kept private, for example, through the use of a coding system on data records, limiting access to records, or storing identifiers separately from data.

NOTE: If applicable, recipients must agree to maintain the confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse client records according to the provisions of Title 42 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part II.

1. **Adequate Consent Procedures**

* List what information will be given to people who participate in the project. Include the type and purpose of their participation. Identify the data that will be collected, how the data will be used and how you will keep the data private.
* State:
* Whether or not their participation is voluntary.
* Their right to leave the project at any time without problems.
* Possible risks from participation in the project.
* Plans to protect clients from these risks.
* Explain how you will obtain consent for youth, the elderly, people with limited reading skills, and people who do not use English as their first language.

NOTE: If the project poses potential physical, medical, psychological, legal, social or other risks, you must obtain written informed consent.

* Indicate if you will obtain informed consent from participants or assent from minors along with consent from their parents or legal guardians. Describe how the consent will be documented. For example: Will you read the consent forms? Will you ask prospective participants questions to be sure they understand the forms? Will you give them copies of what they sign?
* Include, as appropriate, sample consent forms that provide for: (1) informed consent for participation in service intervention; (2) informed consent for participation in the data collection component of the project; and (3) informed consent for the exchange (releasing or requesting) of confidential information. The sample forms must be included in Attachment 3, “Sample Consent Forms”, of your application. If needed, give English translations.

NOTE: Never imply that the participant waives or appears to waive any legal rights, may not end involvement with the project, or releases your project or its agents from liability for negligence.

* Describe if separate consents will be obtained for different stages or parts of the project. For example, will they be needed for both participant protection in treatment intervention and for the collection and use of data?
* Additionally, if other consents (e.g., consents to release information to others or gather information from others) will be used in your project, provide a description of the consents. Will individuals who do not consent to having individually identifiable data collected for evaluation purposes be allowed to participate in the project?

1. **Risk/Benefit Discussion**

* Discuss why the risks are reasonable compared to expected benefits and importance of the knowledge from the project.

**Protection of Human Subjects Regulations**

SAMHSA expects that most recipients funded under this announcement will not have to comply with the Protection of Human Subjects Regulations (45 CFR 46), which requires Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval. However, in some instances, the applicant’s proposed performance assessment design may meet the regulation’s criteria for research involving human subjects.

In addition to the elements above, applicants whose projects must comply with the Human Subjects Regulations must fully describe the process for obtaining IRB approval. While IRB approval is not required at the time of grant award, these recipients will be required, as a condition of award, to provide documentation that an Assurance of Compliance is on file with the Office for Human Research Protections (OHRP). IRB approval must be received in these cases prior to enrolling participants in the project. General information about Human Subjects Regulations can be obtained through OHRP at <http://www.hhs.gov/ohrp> or (240) 453-6900. SAMHSA–specific questions should be directed to the program contact listed in [Section VII](#_VII._AGENCY_CONTACTS)of this announcement.

# Appendix E – Developing Goals and Measureable Objectives

To be able to effectively evaluate your project, it is critical that you develop realistic goals and measurable objectives. This appendix provides information on developing goals and objectives. It also provides examples of well-written goals and measurable objectives.

**GOALS**

**Definition** − a goal is a broad statement about the long-term expectation of what should happen as a result of your program (the desired result). It serves as the foundation for developing your program objectives. Goals should align with the statement of need that is described. Goals should only be one sentence.

The characteristics of effective goals include:

* Goals address outcomes, not how outcomes will be achieved;
* Goals describe the behavior or condition in the community expected to change;
* Goals describe who will be affected by the project;
* Goals lead clearly to one or more measurable results; and
* Goals are concise.

**Examples**

| **Unclear Goal** | **Critique** | **Improved Goal** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Increase the substance abuse and HIV/AIDS prevention capacity of the local school district | This goal could be improved by *specifying an expected program effect in reducing a health problem* | Increase the capacity of the local school district to reduce high-risk behaviors of students that may contribute to substance abuse and/or HIV/AIDS |
| Decrease the prevalence of marijuana, alcohol, and prescription drug use among youth in the community by increasing the number of schools that implement effective policies, environmental change, intensive training of teachers, and educational approaches to address high-risk behaviors, peer pressure, and tobacco use. | This goal is not concise | Decrease youth substance use in the community by implementing evidence-based programs within the school district that address behaviors that may lead to the initiation of use. |

**OBJECTIVES**

**Definition** – Objectives describe the results to be achieved and the manner in which they will be achieved. Multiple objectives are generally needed to address a single goal. Well-written objectives help set program priorities and targets for progress and accountability. It is recommended that you avoid verbs that may have vague meanings to describe the intended outcomes, like “understand” or “know” because it may prove difficult to measure them. Instead, use verbs that document action, such as: “By the end of 2018, 75% of program participants will be *placed* in permanent housing.”

In order to be effective, objectives should be clear and leave no room for interpretation. **SMART** is a helpful acronym for developing objectives that are ***specific, measurable, achievable,* *realistic, and time-bound*:**

***Specific*** – Includes the “who” and “what” of program activities. Use only one action verb to avoid issues with measuring success. For example, “Outreach workers will administer the HIV risk assessment tool to at least 100 injection drug users in the population of focus” is a more specific objective than “Outreach workers will use their skills to reach out to drug users on the street.”

***Measurable*** – How much change is expected. It must be possible to count or otherwise quantify an activity or its results. It also means that the source of and mechanism for collecting measurement data can be identified and that collection of the data is feasible for your program. A baseline measurement is required to document change (e.g., to measure the percentage of increase or decrease). If you plan to use a specific measurement instrument, it is recommended that you incorporate its use into the objective. Example: By 9/18 increase by 10% the number of 8th, 9th, and 10th grade students who disapprove of marijuana use as measured by the annual school youth survey.

***Achievable*** *–* Objectives should be attainable within a given time frame and with available program resources. For example, “The new part-time nutritionist will meet with seven teenage mothers each week to design a complete dietary plan” is a more achievable objective than “Teenage mothers will learn about proper nutrition.”

***Realistic*** *–* Objectives should be within the scope of the project and propose reasonable programmatic steps that can be implemented within a specific time frame. For example, “Two ex-gang members will make one school presentation each week for two months to raise community awareness about the presence of gangs” is a more realistic objective than “Gang-related violence in the community will be eliminated.”

***Time-bound*** – Provide a time frame indicating when the objective will be measured or a time by when the objective will be met. For example, “Five new peer educators will be recruited by the second quarter of the first funding year” is a better objective than “New peer educators will be hired.”

**Examples:**

| **Non-SMART Objective** | **Critique** | **SMART Objective** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Teachers will be trained on the selected evidence-based substance abuse prevention curriculum. | The objective is not SMART because it is not *specific, measurable*, or *time-bound*. It can be made SMART by *specifically* indicating who is responsible for training the teachers, how many will be trained, who they are, and by when the trainings will be conducted. | ***By June 1, 2018****,* ***LEA supervisory staff*** will have trained ***75% of******health education*** teachers ***in the local* *school******district*** on the selected, evidence-based substance abuse prevention curriculum. |
| 90% of youth will participate in classes on assertive communication skills. | This objective is not SMART because it is not *specific* or *time-bound.* It can be made SMART by indicating *who* will conduct the activity, *by when*, and *who* will participate in the lessons on assertive communication skills. | By the ***end of the 2018 school year****,* ***district health educators*** will have conducted classes on assertive communication skills for 90% of youth ***in******the middle* *school*** receiving the ***substance abuse and HIV prevention curriculum.*** |
| Train individuals in the community on the prevention of prescription drug/opioid overdose-related deaths. | This objective is not SMART as it is not *specific, measurable* or *time-bound.* It can be made SMART by specifically indicating *who* is responsible for the training, *how many* people will be trained, *who* they are, and by *when* the training will be conducted. | ***By the end of year two of the project***, the ***Health Department*** will have trained ***75% of EMS staff*** ***in the* *County Government***on the selected curriculum addressing the prevention of prescription drug/opioid overdose-related deaths. |

# Appendix F – Developing the Plan for Data Collection, Performance Assessment, and Quality Improvement

Information is provided in this Appendix about points that you should consider in responding to the criteria in Section E.

**Data Collection:**

In describing your plan for data collection, consider addressing the following points:

* The electronic data collection software that will be used;
* How often data will be collected;
* The organizational processes that will be implemented to ensure the accurate and timely collection and input of data;
* The staff that will be responsible for collecting and recording the data;
* The data source/data collection instruments that will be used to collect the data;
* How well the data collection methods will take into consideration the language, norms and values of the population(s) of focus;
* How will the data be kept secure;
* If applicable, how will the data collection procedures ensure that confidentiality is protected and that informed consent is obtained; and
* If applicable, how data will be collected from partners, sub-awardees.

It is not necessary to provide information related to data collection and performance measurement in a table but the following samples may give you some ideas about how to display the information.

*Table 1 provides an example of how information for the required performance measures could be displayed.*

**Table 1**

| **Performance Measures** | **Data Source** | **Data Collection Frequency** | **Responsible Staff for Data Collection** | **Method of Data Analysis** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

*Table 2 provides an example of how information could be displayed for the data that will be collected to measure the objectives that are included in B.1*

**Table 2**

| **Objective** | **Data Source** | **Data Collection Frequency** | **Responsible Staff for Data Collection** | **Method of Data Analysis** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Objective 1.a |  |  |  |  |
| Objective 1.b |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

**Data Management, Tracking, Analysis, and Reporting:**

Points to consider:

Data management:

* How data will be protected, including information about who will have access to data;
* How will data be stored.

Data tracking:

* The staff member who will be responsible for tracking the performance measures and measurable objectives.

Data analysis:

* Who will be responsible for conducting the data analysis, including the role of the Evaluator;
* What data analysis methods will be used.

Data reporting:

* Who will be responsible for completing the reports;
* How will the data be reported to staff, stakeholders, SAMHSA, Advisory Board, and other relevant project partners.

**Performance Assessment:**

Points to consider:

* Information on how frequently performance data will be reviewed;
* How you will use this data to monitor and evaluate activities and processes and to assess the progress that has been made achieving the goals and objectives; and
* Who will be responsible for conducting the performance assessment.

**Quality Improvement:**

Points to consider:

* If applicable, the QI model that will be used;
* How will the QI process be used to track progress;
* The staff members who will be responsible for overseeing these processes;
* How you will implement any needed changes in project implementation and/or project management;
  + What decision-making processes will be used;
  + When and by whom will decisions be made concerning project improvement;
  + What are the thresholds for determining that changes need to be made;
* Will the Advisory Board have a role in the QI process; and
* How will the changes be communicated to staff and/or partners/sub-awardees.

# Appendix G – Biographical Sketches and Position Descriptions

Include position descriptions for the Project Director and all key personnel. Position descriptions should be no longer than one page each.

For staff members, who have been identified, include a biographical sketch for the Project Director and other key positions. Each sketch should be two pages or less.

**Biographical Sketch**

Existing curricula vitae of project staff members may be used if they are updated and contain all items of information requested below. You may add any information items listed below to complete existing documents. For development of new curricula vitae include items below in the most suitable format:

1. Name of staff member
2. Educational background: school(s), location, dates attended, degrees earned (specify year), major field of study
3. Professional experience
4. Honors received and dates
5. Recent relevant publications

**Position Description**

1. Title of position
2. Description of duties and responsibilities
3. Qualifications for position
4. Supervisory relationships
5. Skills and knowledge required
6. Amount of travel and any other special conditions or requirements
7. Salary range
8. Hours per day or week

# Appendix H – Addressing Behavioral Health Disparities

SAMHSA expects recipients to utilize their data to: (1) identify the number of individuals to be served during the grant period and identify subpopulations (i.e., racial, ethnic, sexual, and gender minority groups) vulnerable to behavioral health disparities; (2) implement a quality improvement plan for the use of program data on access, use, and outcomes to support efforts to decrease the differences in access to, use, and outcomes of service activities; and (3) identify methods for the development of policies and procedures to ensure adherence to the National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) in Health and Health Care.

**Definition of Health Disparities**:

Healthy People 2020 defines a health disparity as a “particular type of health difference that is closely linked with social, economic, and/or environmental disadvantage. Health disparities adversely affect groups of people who have systematically experienced greater obstacles to health based on their racial or ethnic group; religion; socioeconomic status; gender; age; mental health; cognitive, sensory, or physical disability; sexual orientation or gender identity; geographic location; or other characteristics historically linked to discrimination or exclusion.”

**Subpopulations**

SAMHSA grant applicants are routinely asked to define the population they intend to serve given the focus of a particular grant program (e.g., adults with serious mental illness [SMI] at risk for chronic health conditions; young adults engaged in underage drinking; populations at risk for contracting HIV/AIDS, etc.). Within these populations of focus are *subpopulations* that may have disparate access to, use of, or outcomes from provided services. These disparities may be the result of differences in language, beliefs, norms, values, and/or socioeconomic factors specific to that subpopulation. For instance, Latino adults with SMI may be at heightened risk for metabolic disorder due to lack of appropriate in-language primary care services; Native American youth may have an increased incidence of underage drinking due to coping patterns related to historical trauma within the Native American community; and African American women may be at greater risk for contracting HIV/AIDS due to lack of access to education on risky sexual behaviors in urban low-income communities. While these factors might not be pervasive among the general population served by a recipient, they may be predominant among subpopulations or groups vulnerable to disparities. It is imperative that recipients understand who is being served within their community in order to provide care that will yield positive outcomes, per the focus of that grant. In order for organizations to attend to the potentially disparate impact of their grant efforts, recipients are asked to address access, use and outcomes for subpopulations, which can be defined by the following factors:

* By race
* By ethnicity
* By gender (including transgender populations)
* By sexual orientation (including lesbian, gay and bisexual populations)

The ability to address the quality of care provided to subpopulations served within SAMHSA’s grant programs is enhanced by programmatic alignment with the federal CLAS standards.

**National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) in Health and Health Care**

The National CLAS standards were initially published in the Federal Register on December 22, 2000. Culturally and linguistically appropriate health care and services, broadly defined as care and services that are respectful of and responsive to the cultural and linguistic needs of all individuals, is increasingly seen as essential to reducing disparities and improving health care quality. The National CLAS Standards have served as catalyst and conduit for the evolution of the field of cultural and linguistic competency over the course of the last 12 years. In recognition of these changes in the field, the HHS Office of Minority Health undertook the National CLAS Standards Enhancement Initiative from 2010 to 2012.

The enhanced National CLAS Standards seek to set a new bar in improving the quality of health to our nation’s ever diversifying communities. Enhancements to the National CLAS Standards include the broadening of the definitions of health and culture, as well as an increased focus on institutional governance and leadership. The enhanced National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services in Health and Health Care are comprised of 15 Standards that provide a blueprint for health and health care organizations to implement culturally and linguistically appropriate services that will advance health equity, improve quality, and help eliminate health care disparities.

You can learn more about the CLAS mandates, guidelines, and recommendations at: [http://www.ThinkCulturalHealth.hhs.gov](http://www.thinkculturalhealth.hhs.gov/).

Examples of a Behavioral Health Disparity Impact Statement are available on the SAMHSA website at <http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grants-management/disparity-impact-statement>.

# Appendix I – Standard Funding Restrictions

HHS codified the *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for HHS Awards*, 45 CFR Part 75. In Subpart E, cost principles are described and allowable and unallowable expenditures for HHS recipients are delineated. 45 CFR Part 75 is available at <http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grants-management/policies-regulations/requirements-principles>. Unless superseded by program statute or regulation, follow the cost principles in 45 CFR Part 75 and the standard funding restrictions below.

SAMHSA grant funds must be used for purposes supported by the program and may not be used to:

* Exceed Salary Limitation: The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016 (Pub. L.113-76) signed into law on January 10, 2016, limits the salary amount that may be awarded and charged to SAMHSA grants and cooperative agreements. Award funds may not be used to pay the salary of an individual at a rate in excess of Executive Level II. The Executive Level II salary can be found in SAMHSA’s standard terms and conditions for all awards at <https://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grants-management/notice-award-noa/standard-terms-conditions>. This amount reflects an individual’s base salary exclusive of fringe and any income that an individual may be permitted to earn outside of the duties to the applicant organization. This salary limitation also applies to sub awards/subcontracts under a SAMHSA grant or cooperative agreement.
* Pay for any lease beyond the project period.
* Pay for the purchase or construction of any building or structure to house any part of the program. (Applicants may request up to $75,000 for renovations and alterations of existing facilities, if necessary and appropriate to the project.)
* Provide residential or outpatient treatment services when the facility has not yet been acquired, sited, approved, and met all requirements for human habitation and services provision. (Expansion or enhancement of existing residential services is permissible.)
* Provide inpatient treatment or hospital-based detoxification services. Residential services are not considered to be inpatient or hospital-based services.
* Cover unallowable costs associated with the use of federal funds are permitted to fund evidence-based practices (EBPs). Other sources of funds may be used for unallowable costs (e.g., meals, sporting events, entertainment). Other support is defined as funds or resources, whether federal, non-federal or institutional, in direct support of activities through fellowships, gifts, prizes, or in-kind contributions.
* Make direct payments to individuals to induce them to enter prevention or treatment services. However, SAMHSA discretionary grant funds may be used for non-clinical support services (e.g., bus tokens, child care) designed to improve access to and retention in prevention and treatment programs.
* Make direct payments to individuals to encourage attendance and/or attainment of prevention or treatment goals.

Note: SAMHSA discretionary grant funds may be used for non-cash incentives up to $30. Incentives should be the minimum amount necessary to meet the programmatic and performance assessment goals of the grant. Applicants should determine the minimum amount that is proven effective by consulting with existing local programs and reviewing the relevant literature.

SAMHSA policy allows an individual participant to receive more than one incentive over the course of the program. A recipient or treatment or prevention provider may provide up to $30 non-cash incentive to individuals to participate in required data collection follow up. This amount may be paid for participation in each required follow up interview.

* Meals are generally unallowable unless they are an integral part of a conference grant or specifically stated as an allowable expense in the FOA. Grant funds may be used for light snacks, not to exceed $3.00 per person.
* Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016, Division H states, SEC. 520, notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, no funds appropriated in this Act shall be used to purchase sterile needles or syringes for the hypodermic injection of any illegal drug. Provided, that such limitation does not apply to the use of funds for elements of a program other than making such purchases if the relevant state or local health department, in consultation with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, determines that the state or local jurisdiction, as applicable, is experiencing, or is at risk for, a significant increase in hepatitis infections or an HIV outbreak due to injection drug use, and such program is operating in accordance with state and local law. Contact the GPO for further guidance.
* Pay for pharmaceuticals for HIV antiretroviral therapy, sexually transmitted diseases (STD)/sexually transmitted illnesses (STI), tuberculosis (TB), and hepatitis B and C, or for psychotropic drugs.
* Outside individuals or companies that prepare or participate in the preparation of grant applications may not be contractors on those grants per 45 CFR 75.328, which addresses full and open competition.

# Appendix J – Intergovernmental Review (E.O. 12372) Requirements

**States with SPOCs**

All SAMHSA grant programs are covered under Executive Order (EO) 12372, as implemented through Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) regulation at 45 CFR Part 100. Under this Order, states may design their own processes for reviewing and commenting on proposed federal assistance under covered programs. Certain jurisdictions have elected to participate in the EO process and have established State Single Points of Contact (SPOCs). A current listing of SPOCs can be downloaded from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) website at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants_spoc>.

Check the list to determine whether your state participates in this program. You do not need to do this if you are an American Indian/Alaska Native tribe or tribal organization. If your state participates, contact your SPOC as early as possible to alert him/her to the prospective application(s) and to receive any necessary instructions on the state’s review process. For proposed projects serving more than one state, you are advised to contact the SPOC of each affiliated state.

The SPOC should send any state review process recommendations to the following address within 60 days of the application deadline: Director, Division of Grants Management, Office of Financial Resources, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Room 17E18, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857. ATTN: SPOC – Funding Announcement No. TI-18-003.

**States without SPOCs**

If your state does not have a SPOC and you are a community-based, non-governmental service provider, you must submit a Public Health System Impact Statement (PHSIS)[[4]](#footnote-5) to the head(s) of appropriate state and local health agencies in the area(s) to be affected no later than the application deadline. The PHSIS is intended to keep state and local health officials informed of proposed health services grant applications submitted by community-based, non-governmental organizations within their jurisdictions. If you are a state or local government or American Indian/Alaska Native tribe or tribal organization, you are not subject to these requirements.

The PHSIS consists of the following information:

* A copy of the first page of the application (SF-424); and
* A summary of the project, no longer than one page in length that provides: 1) a description of the population to be served; 2) a summary of the services to be provided; and 3) a description of the coordination planned with appropriate state or local health agencies.

For SAMHSA grants, the appropriate state agencies are the Single State Agencies (SSAs) for substance abuse and mental health. A listing of the SSAs for substance abuse and the SSAs for mental health can be found on SAMHSA’s website at <http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/applying/forms-resources>. If the proposed project falls within the jurisdiction of more than one state, you should notify all representative SSAs.

Review the FOA: Section IV-1, carefully to determine if you must include an attachment with a copy of a letter transmitting the PHSIS to the SSA. The letter must notify the state that, if it wishes to comment on the proposal, its comments should be sent no later than 60 days after the application deadline to the following address: Christopher Craft, Director of Grant Review, Office of Financial Resources, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Room 17E06, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857. ATTN: SSA – Funding Announcement No. TI-18-003.

In addition, applicants may request that the SSA send them a copy of any state comments. The applicant must notify the SSA within 30 days of receipt of an award.

# Appendix K – Administrative and National Policy Requirements

If your application is funded, you must comply with all terms and conditions of the NoA. SAMHSA’s standard terms and conditions are available on the SAMHSA website at <http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grants-management/notice-award-noa/standard-terms-conditions>.

**HHS Grants Policy Statement (GPS)**

If your application is funded, you are subject to the requirements of the HHS Grants Policy Statement (GPS) that are applicable based on recipient type and purpose of award. This includes any requirements in Parts I and II of the HHS GPS that apply to the award. The HHS GPS is available at <http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grants-management/policies-regulations/hhs-grants-policy-statement>. The general terms and conditions in the HHS GPS will apply as indicated unless there are statutory, regulatory, or award-specific requirements to the contrary (as specified in the NoA).

**HHS Grant Regulations**

If your application is funded, you must also comply with the administrative requirements outlined in 45 CFR Part 75. For more information see the SAMHSA website at <http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grants-management/policies-regulations/requirements-principles>.

**Additional Terms and Conditions**

Depending on the nature of the specific funding opportunity and/or your proposed project as identified during review, SAMHSA may negotiate additional terms and conditions with you prior to grant award. These may include, for example:

* actions required to be in compliance with confidentiality and participant protection/human subjects requirements;
* requirements relating to additional data collection and reporting;
* requirements relating to participation in a cross-site evaluation;
* requirements to address problems identified in review of the application; or revised budget and narrative justification.

**Performance Goals and Objectives**

If your application is funded, you will be held accountable for the information provided in the application relating to performance targets. SAMHSA program officials will consider your progress in meeting goals and objectives, as well as your failures and strategies for overcoming them, when making an annual recommendation to continue the grant and the amount of any continuation award. Failure to meet stated goals and objectives may result in suspension or termination of the grant award, or in reduction or withholding of continuation awards.

**Accessibility Provisions for All Grant Application Packages and Funding Opportunity Announcements**

Recipients of federal financial assistance (FFA) from HHS must administer their programs in compliance with federal civil rights law. This means that recipients of HHS funds must ensure equal access to their programs without regard to a person’s race, color, national origin, disability, age and, in some circumstances, sex and religion. This includes ensuring your programs are accessible to persons with limited English proficiency. HHS provides guidance to recipients of FFA on meeting their legal obligation to take reasonable steps to provide meaningful access to their programs by persons with limited English proficiency. See <http://www.hhs.gov/civil-rights/for-individuals/special-topics/limited-english-proficiency/index.html>. The HHS Office for Civil Rights also provides guidance on complying with civil rights laws enforced by HHS. See <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/civilrights/understanding/section1557/index.html>; and <http://www.hhs.gov/civil-rights/for-providers/index.html>.  Recipients of FFA also have specific legal obligations for serving qualified individuals with disabilities. See <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/civilrights/understanding/disability/index.html>. Contact the HHS Office for Civil Rights for more information about obligations and prohibitions under federal civil rights laws at <https://www.hhs.gov/ocr/about-us/contact-us/index.html> or call 1-800-368-1019 or TDD 1-800-537-7697. Also note it is an HHS Departmental goal to ensure access to quality, culturally competent care, including long-term services and supports, for vulnerable populations. For further guidance on providing culturally and linguistically appropriate services, recipients should review the National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) in Health and Health Care at <https://minorityhealth.hhs.gov/omh/browse.aspx?lvl=2&lvlid=53>.

**Cultural and Linguistic Competence**

Recipients of federal financial assistance (FFA) from HHS serve culturally and linguistically diverse communities that are not just defined by race or ethnicity, but also socio-economic status, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical and mental ability, age, and other factors. Organizational behaviors, practices, attitudes, and policies across all SAMHSA-supported entities respect and respond to the cultural diversity of communities, clients and students served.

If your application is funded, you must ensure access to quality health care for all. Quality care means access to services, information, and materials delivered by trained providers in a manner that factor in the language needs, health literacy, culture, and diversity of the populations served. Quality also means that data collection instruments used should adhere to culturally and linguistically appropriate norms. For additional information and guidance, refer to the National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) published by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services at <https://www.thinkculturalhealth.hhs.gov/>. Additional cultural/linguistic competency and health literacy tools, and resources are available online at <http://www.samhsa.gov/capt/applying-strategic-prevention/cultural-competence>

**Acknowledgement of Federal Funding**

As required by HHS appropriations acts, all HHS recipients must acknowledge Federal funding when issuing statements, press releases, requests for proposals, bid invitations, and other documents describing projects or programs funded in whole or in part with Federal funds. Recipients are required to state (1) the percentage and dollar amounts of the total program or project costs financed with Federal funds and (2) the percentage and dollar amount of the total costs financed by nongovernmental sources

**DOMA: Implementation of United States v. Windsor and Federal Recognition of**

**Same-Sex Spouses/Marriages**

A special term of award may be included in the final NoA that states: “On June 26, 2013, in United States v. Windsor, the Supreme Court held that section 3 of the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), which prohibited federal recognition of same-sex marriages, was unconstitutional. As a result of that decision and consistent with HHS policy, SAMHSA recognizes same-sex marriages and same-sex spouses on equal terms with opposite sex-marriages and opposite-sex spouses, regardless of where the couple resides. On June 26, 2015, in Obergefell v. Hodges, the Court held that the Fourteenth Amendment requires a State to license a marriage between two people of the same sex and to recognize a marriage between two people of the same sex when their marriage was lawfully licensed and performed out-of-state. Consistent with both of these decisions, you must treat as valid the marriages of same- sex couples. This policy does not apply to registered domestic partnerships, civil unions or similar formal relationships recognized under state law as something other than a marriage.”

**Supplement Not Supplant**

Grant funds may be used to supplement existing activities. Grant funds may not be used to supplant current funding of existing activities. “Supplant” is defined as replacing funding of a recipient’s existing program with funds from a federal grant.

**Mandatory Disclosures**

A term may be added to the NoA which states: Consistent with 45 CFR 75.113, applicants and recipients must disclose in a timely manner, in writing to the HHS awarding agency, with a copy to the HHS Office of Inspector General (OIG), all information related to violations of federal criminal law involving fraud, bribery, or gratuity violations potentially affecting the federal award. Sub-recipients must disclose, in a timely manner, in writing to the prime recipient (pass through entity) and the HHS OIG, all information related to violations of federal criminal law involving fraud, bribery, or gratuity violations potentially affecting the federal award. Disclosures must be sent in writing to the awarding agency and to the HHS OIG at the following addresses:

SAMHSA

Attention: Office of Financial Advisory Services

5600 Fishers Lane

Rockville, MD 20857

**AND**

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General

ATTN: Mandatory Grant Disclosures, Intake Coordinator

330 Independence Avenue, SW, Cohen Building

Room 5527

Washington, DC 20201

Fax: (202) 205-0604 (Include “Mandatory Grant Disclosures” in subject line) or email: [MandatoryGranteeDisclosures@oig.hhs.gov](mailto:MandatoryGranteeDisclosures@oig.hhs.gov)

Failure to make required disclosures can result in any of the remedies described in 45 CFR 75.371 Remedies for noncompliance; including suspension or debarment (See 2 CFR parts 180 & 376 and 31 U.S.C. 3321).”

**System for Award Management (SAM) Reporting**

A term may be added to the NoA that states: “In accordance with the regulatory requirements provided at 45 CFR 75.113 and Appendix XII to 45 CFR Part 75, recipients that have currently active federal grants, cooperative agreements, and procurement contracts with cumulative total value greater than $10,000,000, must report and maintain information in the System for Award Management (SAM) about civil, criminal, and administrative proceedings in connection with the award or performance of a federal award that reached final disposition within the most recent five-year period. The recipient also must make semiannual disclosures regarding such proceedings.  Proceedings information will be made publicly available in the designated integrity and performance system (currently the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIIS)). Full reporting requirements and procedures are found in Appendix XII to 45 CFR Part 75.”

**Drug-Free Workplace**

A term may be added to the NoA that states: “You as the recipient must comply with drug-free workplace requirements in Subpart B (or Subpart C, if the recipient is an individual) of part 382, which adopts the Government-wide implementation (2 CFR part 182) of section 5152-5158 of the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 (Pub. L. 100-690, Title V, Subtitle D; 41 U.S.C. 701-707).”

**Smoke-Free Workplace**

The Public Health Service strongly encourages all award recipients to provide a smoke-free workplace and to promote the non-use of all tobacco products. Further, Public Law (P.L.) 103-227, the Pro-Children Act of 1994, prohibits smoking in certain facilities (or in some cases, any portion of a facility) in which regular or routine education, library, day care, health care or early childhood development services are provided to children.

**Standards for Financial Management**

Recipients are required to meet the standards and requirements for financial management systems set forth in 45 CFR part 75. The financial systems must enable the recipient to maintain records that adequately identify the sources of funds for federally assisted activities and the purposes for which the award was used, including authorizations, obligations, unobligated balances, assets, liabilities, outlays or expenditures, and any program income. The system must also enable the recipient to compare actual expenditures or outlays with the approved budget for the award.

SAMHSA funds must retain their award-specific identity − they may not be commingled with state funds or other federal funds. [“Commingling funds” typically means depositing or recording funds in a general account without the ability to identify each specific source of funds for any expenditure.]

**Trafficking in Persons**

Awards issued by SAMHSA are subject to the requirements of Section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, as amended (22 U.S.C. 7104). For the full text of the award term, go to <http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grants-management/notice-award-noa/standard-terms-conditions>.

NOTE: The signature of the AOR on the application serves as the required certification of compliance for your organization regarding the administrative and national policy requirements.

**Publications**

Recipients are required to notify the Government Project Officer (GPO) and SAMHSA’s Publications Clearance Officer (240-276-2130) of any materials based on the SAMHSA-funded grant project that are accepted for publication. In addition, SAMHSA requests that recipients:

* Provide the GPO and SAMHSA Publications Clearance Officer with advance copies of publications
* Include acknowledgment of the SAMHSA grant program as the source of funding for the project.
* Include a disclaimer stating that the views and opinions contained in the publication do not necessarily reflect those of SAMHSA or the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and should not be construed as such.

SAMHSA reserves the right to issue a press release about any publication deemed by SAMHSA to contain information of program or policy significance to the substance abuse treatment/substance abuse prevention/mental health services community.

# Appendix L– Allowable Substance Use Disorder and/or Co-Occurring Treatment and Recovery Support Services

Applicants must propose to **expand** substance abuse treatment and recovery support services.

**1)** **Service Expansion:**  An applicant may propose to **increase access and availability of services to a larger number of clients**. Expansion applications should propose to increase the number of clients receiving services as a result of the award. For example: if a treatment facility currently serves 50 persons per year and has a waiting list of 50 persons (but no funding to serve these persons), the applicant may propose to expand service capacity to be able to admit some or all of those persons on the waiting list or add a new location. **Applicants must clearly state in** [**Section B: Proposed Implementation Approach**](#_Section_B:_Proposed) **the number of additional clients to be served each year of the grant over the number you are currently serving.**

**Substance Abuse and/or Co-Occurring Treatment and Recovery Services:**

The following represents core services/treatment to be provided, and for which funds may be used:

* Screening and a comprehensive individual assessment for substance use and/or co-occurring mental disorders, case management, program management, and referrals related to substance abuse treatment for clients.
* SUD treatment in outpatient, day treatment (including outreach-based services) or intensive outpatient, or residential treatment programs. [Note**:** If you are proposing to use grant funds for any residential SUD treatment services you must clearly identify these services or treatment modality as such in [Section B](#_Section_B:_Proposed) of the Project Narrative.]
* In addition to the core services/treatment to be provided, wraparound services supporting the access to and retention in SUD treatment or to address the treatment-specific needs of clients during or following a SUD treatment episode (See below under “Recovery Support Services”) may be funded. Wraparound services may include the following as long as these services are directly tied to the treatment and recovery of the treatment drug court clients:
* Individualized services planning directly related to treatment and recovery.
* Science-based drug testing as part of treatment compliance, and therapeutic intervention. The use of funds for drug testing is limited to that testing that is directly related to treatment and recovery of the individual. Drug testing for the purposes of judicial/correctional supervision with the sole intent of ‘administration of justice’ such as punishment or sanctions without therapeutic intervention may not be funded.

**Community Linkages:**

Applicants must demonstrate that they have developed linkages with community-based organizations with experience in providing services to families. Examples of possible community linkages include, but are not limited to:

* Primary medical and dental care;
* SUD treatment services and where appropriate integrated mental health treatment services for individuals with co-occurring disorders;
* Private industry-supported work placements for recovering persons;
* Faith-based organizational support;
* Mentoring programs;
* Community service;
* Support for the homeless;
* HIV/AIDS community-based outreach projects;
* Opioid treatment programs;
* Health education and risk reduction information; and
* Access/referral to STD, hepatitis B (including immunization) and C, and TB testing in public health clinics.

**Examples of Recovery Support Services:**

Recovery support services (RSSs) are non-clinical services that assist individuals and families to recover from alcohol or drug problems. They include social support, linkage to and coordination among allied service providers, and a full range of human services that facilitate recovery and wellness contributing to an improved quality of life. These services can be flexibly staged and may be provided prior to, during, and after treatment. RSSs must be provided in conjunction with treatment, and as separate and distinct services, to individuals and families who desire and need them. RSSs may be delivered by peers, professionals, faith-based and community-based groups, and others. RSSs are a key component of recovery-oriented systems of care.

RSSs are typically provided by paid staff or volunteers familiar with how their communities can support people seeking to live free of alcohol and drugs, and are often peers of those seeking recovery. Some of these services may require reimbursement while others may be available in the community free of charge.

Examples of RSSs include the following:

* Transportation to and from treatment, recovery support activities, employment, etc.;
* Employment services and job training;
* Case management/individual services coordination, providing linkages with other services (legal services, TANF, social services, food stamps, etc.);
* Outreach;
* Relapse prevention;
* Referrals and assistance in locating housing;
* Child care;
* Family/marriage education;
* Peer-to-peer services, mentoring, coaching;
* Life skills;
* Education;
* Parent education and child development; and
* Substance abuse education.

**Definitions for RSSs:**

**Transportation:** Commuting services are provided to clients who are engaged in treatment- and/or recovery support-related appointments and activities and who have no other means of obtaining transportation. Forms of transportation services may include public transportation or a licensed and insured driver who is affiliated with an eligible program provider.

**Employment Services and Job Training:** These activities are directed toward improving and maintaining employment. Services include skills assessment and development, job coaching, career exploration or placement, job shadowing or internships, résumé writing, interviewing skills, and tips for retaining a job. Other services include training in a specific skill or trade to assist individuals to prepare for, find, and obtain competitive employment such as skills training, technical skills, vocational assessment, and job referral.

**Case Management:** Comprehensive medical and social care coordination is provided to clients to identify their needs, plan services, link the services system with the client, monitor service delivery, and evaluate the effort.

**Relapse Prevention:** These services include identifying a client’s current stage of recovery and establishing a recovery plan to identify and manage the relapse warning signs.

**Referrals and Assistance in Locating Housing:** This includes referral to local sober houses, access to housing databases, and assistance in locating housing.

**Child Care:** These services include care and supervision provided to a client’s child(ren), less than 14 years of age and for less than 24 hours per day, while the client is participating in treatment and/or recovery support activities. These services must be provided in a manner that complies with state laws regarding child care facilities.

**Family/Marriage Counseling and Education:** Services provided to engage the whole family system to address interpersonal communication, codependency, conflict, marital issues and concerns, parenting issues, family re-unification, and strategies to reduce or minimize the negative effects of substance use on the relationship.

**Peer-to-Peer Services, Mentoring, and Coaching:** Mutual assistance in promoting recovery may be offered by other persons who have experienced similar substance abuse challenges. These services focus more on wellness than illness. Peer mentoring or coaching refers to a one-on-one relationship in which a peer leader with more recovery experience motivates, supports, and encourages another peer in establishing and maintaining his/her recovery. Mentors/coaches may help peers develop goals and action plans, as well as helps them find resources. Recovery support includes an array of activities, resources, relationships, and services designed to assist an individual’s integration into the community, participation in treatment and/or recovery support services, and improved functioning in recovery.

**Life Skills:** Life skills services address activities of daily living, such as budgeting, time management, interpersonal relations, household management, anger management, and other issues.

**Education:** Supported education services are defined as educational counseling and may include academic counseling, assistance with academic and financial applications, and aptitude and achievement testing to assist in planning services and support. Vocational training and education also provide support for clients pursuing adult basic education, i.e., general education development (GED) and college education.

**Parent Education and Child Development:** An intervention or treatment provided in a psycho-educational group setting that involves clients and/or their families and facilitates the instruction of evidence-based parenting or child development knowledge skills. Parenting assistance is a service to assist with parenting skills; teach, monitor, and model appropriate discipline strategies and techniques; and provide information and advocacy on child development, age appropriate needs and expectations, parent groups, and other related issues.

# Appendix M – The Risk, Needs, and Responsivity Simulation Tool

Applicants are expected to implement a Risk, Needs, and Responsivity (RNR) Simulation Tool that was developed by George Mason University’s Center for Advancing Correctional Excellence (ACE!) with support from SAMHSA and the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The model has three main features: 1) Individual Assessment, 2) Program Assessment, and 3) Jurisdiction Capacity Assessment.

**RNR Background Information**

For people involved in the criminal justice system, assessment and programming should involve not only behavioral health needs but also criminal justice-related issues. Addressing both behavioral health needs/risks and risks of criminal justice involvement in assessment and treatment services is an evidence-based practice[[5]](#footnote-6). The notion is that by assessing for criminal and behavioral health factors (i.e. substance abuse, mental health, HIV/AIDS risk factors, trauma, and so forth), the criminal justice system and/or treatment system can be better informed as to the most effective treatment and recovery interventions and criminal justice controls to reduce reoffending and to improve the behavioral health of the individual. The assessment should also include other factors that are referred to as criminogenic needs such as antisocial peers, antisocial cognitions, and, antisocial values/thinking. This evidence-based practice is referred to as the RNR Model since it is grounded in evidence that targeting people with certain criminal justice risk and behavioral health needs for certain programs is more likely to improve outcomes[[6]](#footnote-7).

Another component of the evidence-based practice model for those involved in the justice system is the nature of the program and interventions offered to the individual. Essentially, effective programs must be able to address the criminal justice, behavioral health, and criminogenic needs to achieve more positive results. Good quality programs should focus on: Identifying a primary target behavior for cognitive behavioral interventions; increasing the dosage based on the criminal justice risk factors; increasing the dosage and intensity of the intervention based on the criminogenic needs and behavioral health needs; using cognitive behavioral therapy and social learning interventions that focus on assisting with restructuring prosocial thinking; creating an environment where individuals can change; collaborating with justice agencies to ensure that the controls are integrated into the treatment programming; emphasizing motivation to change to build up the individual’s commitment to the treatment programming; providing feedback to individuals in the program to ensure long-term success; offering programs and interventions that adhere to the core model, using an evidence-based treatment curriculum, and having staff that are skilled in delivering the services. A good program also has access to reports on process and outcomes. Effective, well-run programs are important to achieving better outcomes.

**RNR Framework**

The RNR framework focuses on improving outcomes by ensuring that people involved in the justice system are handled in a manner that is likely to yield better outcomes. The framework basically builds on good practices. It requires that individuals involved in the justice system are screened and assessed for criminal justice risk factors, behavioral health needs, and other criminogenic factors. (Most of these criminogenic factors include factors that are clinically relevant that affect how well the person functions in the community such as peer or family issues, substance abuse, housing stability, etc.) It requires that programs should be targeted to certain profiles of individuals with core components. The programs also need to be implemented well. In total, the RNR framework also reinforces the need for jurisdictions to have a range of programs to meet the overall needs of the justice-involved population. The gaps in services need to be identified in order to develop a program and/or system that are responsive. The implementation of all three components of the RNR framework—individual screening and assessment, program quality, and gap analysis—can reduce recidivism and improve behavioral health outcomes. Effective programs can reduce recidivism but systems that offer quality programming and have a variety of programming to meet the risk-needs profiles can be even more effective in reducing recidivism than a single program.

**RNR Simulation Model**

To help jurisdictions and programs use the RNR framework, George Mason University’s Center for Advancing Correctional Excellence (ACE!) with the support of the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and the Bureau of Justice Assistance developed a decision support system—the RNR Simulation Model--for line staff, supervisors, administrators, and jurisdictions overall. The model has an underlying database of over 100,000 profiles that includes how changes in programming can affect recidivism outcomes. That is, the system tries to meet the full needs of justice and behavioral health agencies (either government or non-profit organizations) by integrating the science around effective screening, assessment, programs, and treatment matching (responsivity) to reduce offending.

This model draws from criminal justice and behavioral health information with three main features:

• **Individual Assessment: What type of programming would this person benefit from?** That question is addressed in this component. Here, the emphasis is using data from criminal justice and behavioral health screening and assessment to determine the most effective intervention to reduce recidivism. If your organization does not have certain information, then the underlying database can be integrated with your own data to make a better decision as to the program of “best fit”. The programming recommendations for individual offenders are based on inputted information about the risk, criminogenic needs, and other clinically relevant factors. It estimates a percent reduction in recidivism that may be expected if the offender is matched to the level of programming that is consistent with their unique needs. This assessment is to be administered to clients; it can be done either as an interview or as a summary of the interview. It is advisable that organizations use their own screening and assessment procedures (and instruments). The 17 item screener uses information from clinical interviews or screening tools. If an organization does not have a tool, then they can use these 17 questions in lieu of the existing tool(s) or it can be used to supplement these tools for any criminogenic needs or clinically relevant factors that are important in supporting treatment matching decisions. That is, the tool uses the underlying data base to complete a risk-need profile. With support from SAMSHA, the tool also includes pertinent questions about reentry and assessment of reentry needs. It takes about 10 minutes to complete and enter into a data base.

• **Program Assessment: What type of individual is more likely to have better outcomes from this program? Does this program embrace evidence-based practices? In what way can implementation of this program be improved to achieve better outcomes?** This 30 minute program assessment tool examines the services/treatments offered, program content, quality, dosage, and other factors. Jurisdictions input information about a specific program and the tool rates the program’s overall quality according to the RNR principles. When applicable, the tool provides recommendations for how the program can be refined to better achieve responsivity. The three main goals of the program tool are: (1) to classify programs to facilitate treatment matching, (2) to explore how programs currently target the risk level and criminogenic needs of their clients, and (3) to asses programs on their use of evidence-based practices. The tool is intended to help criminal justice and behavioral health agencies better understand the treatment resources that are available to them and to foster responsivity to specific risk-need profiles. .

• **Jurisdiction Capacity Assessment: Does your program have capacity for the individuals that would benefit from the individual? Does the jurisdiction or system have an array of evidence-based programming to meet the needs of individuals in that jurisdiction?** This portal uses data to assess a jurisdiction’s capacity to be responsive. Based on data about the prevalence of risk and needs of individuals and then the available programs in your jurisdiction, this portal identifies system-level gaps in the capacity to provide responsivity and estimates expected recidivism reductions when programming is matched to risk and needs at the jurisdictional level. Additionally, this portal makes recommendations regarding what levels of programming jurisdictions may need to augment in order to better respond to the needs of their population.

**Implementation of the RNR Simulation Tool**

What does it take to implement The RNR Simulation Tool? For each component of the tool, there is a need for a staff member to be trained (2 days) with three booster sessions. Jurisdictions will need to have access to a computer and an Internet browser.

• Individual Assessment is designed for line staff. Line staff will need to be trained to use the tool and then to use the reports. An intake staff member will need to use assessment and screening data available in the system.

• Program Assessment is designed for program administrators or managers. This staff member will need some assistance from a data person or clinical person to provide information about the program.

• Assessment of the Jurisdiction or Capacity is designed for administrators or managers. A data person from the organization will need to gather data. A committee or workgroup can review the data from the system for system planning efforts.

To implement the RNR Simulation Model, applicants should budget for additional staff time for screening and assessment and review of reports. The assessment tool is public domain and recipients will access the GMU website for information, data collection, and reporting.

**Additional Resources:**

For programmatic questions related to the RNR Simulation Model requirements contact Jon Berg, the Programs Contact, listed in this FOA.

For additional information about the Risk, Needs, and Responsivity Model and implementation in behavioral health and correctional settings applicants are referred to the Council of State Governments’ Justice Center Report: “Adults with Behavioral Health Needs Under Correctional Supervision: A Shared Framework for Reducing Recidivism and Promoting Recovery” at <https://csgjusticecenter.org/mental-health/publications/behavioral-health-framework/>.

Applicants are also referred to the following site for additional information about the RNR Simulation Model: <http://www.gmuace.org/tools/>

Other additional research citations of interest on RNR concepts and models related to substance abuse treatment and criminal populations include:

Andrews, D. A. & Bonta, J. (2010). *The psychology of criminal conduct* (5th ed.). Cincinnati, OH: Anderson Publishing Co.

Bonta, James and D. A. Andrews. 2007. *Risk-Need-Responsivity Model for Offender Assessment and Rehabilitation*. Ottawa: Public Safety Canada, June. Available at: <https://www.publicsafety.gc.ca/cnt/rsrcs/pblctns/rsk-nd-rspnsvty/index-en.aspx>.

Lowenkamp, C.T. & Latessa, E.J. (2005). Increasing the effectiveness of correctional programming through the risk principle: Identifying offenders for residential placement. *Criminology and Public Policy,* 4(2), 263-290.

Lowenkamp, C.T., Latessa, E.J. & Holsinger, A.M. (2006). The risk principle in action: What have we learned from 13,676 offenders and 97 correctional programs? *Crime & Delinquency,* 52(1), 77-93.79.

Lowenkamp, C.T., Latessa, E.J. & Smith, P. (2006). Does correctional program quality really matter? The impact of adhering to the principles of effective intervention. *Criminology and Public Policy,* 5(3), 575-594.

Osher, F., D’Amora, D.A., Plotkin, M., Jarrett, N., & Eggleston, A (2012). *Adults with Behavioral Health Needs under Correctional Supervision: A Shared Framework for Reducing Recidivism and Promoting Recovery*. New York: Council of State Governments.

Taxman, F.S. (2014). Second Generation of RNR: The Importance of Systemic Responsivity in Expanding Core Principles of Responsivity. *Federal Probation.* : <http://www.uscourts.gov/sites/default/files/fed_probation_sept_2014.pdf>.

Taxman, F.S., Pattavina, A., & Caudy, M. (2014). Justice Reinvestment in the US: The Case for More Programs. *Victims & Offenders*, 9(1): 50-75.

Taxman, F.S., Perdoni, M.L., & Caudy, M. (2012). The Plight of Providing Appropriate Substance Abuse Treatment Services to Offenders: Modeling the Gaps in Service Delivery. Victims & Offender, 8(1): 70-93. Taxman, F. S. (2006). Assessment with a flair. *Federal Probation*, 70(2): 3-15.

Taxman, F. S., & Marlowe, D. M (2006). Risk, needs, responsivity: In action or inaction. *Crime and Delinquency*, 52(1): 3-7.

# Appendix N – Sample Budget and Justification (no match required)

All applications must have a detailed budget justification and narrative that explains the federal and the non-federal expenditures broken out by the object class cost categories listed on SF-424A − Section B (Budget Category) for non-construction awards.

* The budget narrative must match the costs identified on the SF-424A form and the total costs on the SF-424.
* The Budget Narrative and justification must be consistent with and support the Project Narrative.

* The Budget Narrative and justification must be concrete and specific. It must provide a justification for the basis of each proposed cost in the budget and how that cost was calculated. Examples to consider when justifying the basis of your estimates can be ongoing activities, market rates, quotations received from vendors, historical records. The proposed costs must be reasonable, allowable, allocable, and necessary for the supported activity.

Refer to the program specific Funding Restrictions/Limitations and the Standard Funding Restrictions in the FOA, as well as to 45 CFR Part 75 (<https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?node=pt45.1.75>, for applicable administrative requirements and cost principles.

**A SAMPLE BUDGET AND NARRATIVE JUSTIFICATION ARE PROVIDED AS WELL AS INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE SF-424A. YOU ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO USE THE SAMPLE BUDGET NARRATIVE STRUCTURE AS APPLICABLE. A SAMPLE OF A COMPLETED SF-424A IS PROVIDED AT THE END OF THIS APPENDIX.**

1. **Personnel**

**Provide the following information for the budget narrative and justification:**

1. **Position** – Provide the title of the position and an explanation of the roles and responsibilities of the position as it relates to the objectives of the award supported project.
2. The position must be relevant and allowable under the project.
3. The salaries of facilities and administrative (F&A) administrative and clerical staff are normally treated as indirect costs (45 CFR §75.413c). Direct charging of these costs may be appropriate only if all of the following conditions are met:
4. administrative/clerical services are directly integral to a project or activity;
5. individuals involved can be specifically identified with the project or activity; and
6. the costs are not also claimed as indirect costs.
7. **Name** – The name of the individual to serve in the position. If the position is vacant, identify the anticipated hire date.
8. If the position is being performed by someone other than a full-time, part-time, or temporary employee of the applicant organization (e.g., consultant or contractor), the grant-supported position should be listed under the contracts category.
9. **Key Personnel** – Identify if the position is key personnel required by the FOA:
10. Key staff positions require prior approval by SAMHSA after review of credentials and job descriptions.
11. **Salary/Rate** – The estimated annual salary or rate. If providing a rate, specify the time basis (e.g., hourly, weekly).
12. Salaries should be comparable to those within your organization.
13. If the position is not being charged to the Federal award, but the individual is working on the project identify the salary/rate as an “in-kind” cost.
14. **Level of Effort (LOE)** − The level of effort (percentage of time) that the position contributes to the project.
15. Personnel cannot exceed 100% of their time on all active projects (including other Federal awards).
16. You should ensure the cost of living increase is built into the budget and justified.
17. **Total Salary** – The total salary/amount each position is paid based on their contribution to the project.
18. If the position is not being charged to the Federal award, identify the cost as $0.

The key staff positions identified in Section I-2 Expectations must be included in the Personnel section and/or the Contractual Section (F). In addition, the Project Director must be the same as the Project Director listed on the HHS Checklist.

**FEDERAL REQUEST – Sample Personnel Narrative**

| **Position**  **(1)** | **Name**  **(2)** | **Key Staff (3)** | **Annual Salary/Rate (4)** | **Level of Effort**  **(5)** | **Total Salary Charge to Award**  **(6)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| (1) Project Director | Alice Doe | Yes | $64,890 | 10% | $6,489 |
| (2) Program Coordinator | Vacant, to be hired within 60 days of anticipated award date | No | $46,276 | 100% | $46,276 |
| (3) Clinical Director | Jane Doe | No | In-kind cost | 20% | 0 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **FEDERAL REQUEST** (enter in Section B column 1, line 6a of SF-424A) | **$52,765** |

**FEDERAL REQUEST – Sample Justification for Personnel**

1. The Project Director will provide daily oversight of the grant. This position is responsible for overseeing the implementation of the project activities, internal and external coordination, developing materials, and conducting meetings.
2. The Program Coordinator will coordinate project service and activities, including training, communication and information dissemination.
3. **Fringe Benefits**

Fringe benefits are allowances and services provided to employees as compensation in addition to regular salaries and wages. Fringe benefits charged to an award must comply with HHS regulations at 45 CFR §75.431 (<https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?node=pt45.1.75>).

**Provide the following information for the narrative and justification:**

1. **Position** – The title of the position being charged to the award to which the fringe rate is being applied.
2. **Name** – The name of the individual associated with the position (note if the position is vacant.)
3. **Rate** –The total fringe benefit rate used and a clear description of how the computation of fringe benefits was done.
4. The justification must detail the elements that comprise the fringe benefits, e.g., FICA, worker’s compensation. If a fringe benefit rate is not used, you should explain how the fringe benefits were computed for each position.
5. **Total Salary Charged to Award** – Use the amount provided under section A. Personnel (6).
6. **Total Fringe Charged to Award −** Provide total fringe amount based on the rate applied to the total salary charted to the award.
7. Fringe benefits charged to the award can only reflect the percentage of time devoted to the project.
8. Do not combine the fringe benefit costs with direct salaries and wages in the personnel category.

**FEDERAL REQUEST - Sample Fringe Benefits Narrative**

| **Position**  **(1)** | **Name**  **(2)** | **Rate**  **(3)** | **Total Salary Charged to Award**  **(4)** | **Total Fringe Charged to Award**  **(5)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Project Director | Alice Doe | 29.65% | $6,489 | $1,924 |
| Program Coordinator | Vacant, to be hired within 60 days of anticipated award date. | 29.65% | $46,276 | $13,720 |
| **FEDERAL REQUEST** (enter in Section B column 1, line 6b of SF-424A) | | | | **$15,644** |

**FEDERAL REQUEST – Sample Justification for Fringe Benefits**

XYZ organization’s Fringe benefits are comprised of:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Fringe Category | Rate |
| Retirement | 10% |
| FICA | 7.65% |
| Insurance | 6% |
| Social Security | 6% |
| Total | 29.65% |

The fringe benefit rate for full-time employees for years one and two is calculated at 29.65%. For years three, four, and five is anticipated to increase to 31%.

1. **Travel**

**Travel costs charged to an award must comply with HHS regulations at 45 CFR §75.474.** If your organization does not have documented travel policies, the federal GSA rates must be used (<https://www.gsa.gov/portal/category/26429>). If specific travel details are unknown, the basis for proposed costs should be explained (e.g., historical information).

Funds requested in the travel category should be only for project staff. Travel for consultants and contractors should be shown in the “Contract” cost category along with consultant/contractor fees. Because these costs are associated with contract-related work, they must be billed under the “Contract” cost category. Travel for training participants, advisory committees, and review panels should be itemized the same way as in this section but listed in the “Other” cost category.

**Provide the following information for the narrative and justification:**

1. **Purpose –** Briefly note the purpose of the travel, e.g., regional conference, training, site visit.
2. The justification must identify the need for the travel if the travel is not specifically required by the FOA.
3. The narrative description should include the purpose, why it is necessary and directly relates to the scope of work, number of trips planned, staff that will be making the trip, and approximate dates.
4. **Location** – specify the start and end locations of the trip
5. **Item –** specify the costs associated with travel, e.g., mode of transportation accommodations, per diem.
6. **Rate Calculation –** specify the basis for the travel costs.
7. For mileage, specify the number of miles and the cost per mile. For air transportation, specify the cost. For per diem, specify the number of days and daily cost. For lodging, specify the number of nights and daily cost.
8. Costs for contingencies and miscellaneous costs are not allowable.
9. **Travel Cost Charged to Award –** provide the total cost of the travel to be charged to the award during the budget period.

**FEDERAL REQUEST – Sample Travel Narrative**

| **Purpose**  **(1)** | **Destination**  **(2)** | **Item**  **(3)** | **Calculation**  **(4)** | **Travel Cost Charged to the Award**  **(5)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Mandatory Recipient Conference | Chicago, IL to Washington D.C. | Airfare | $200/flight x 2 | $400 |
|  |  | Hotel | $180/night x 2 persons x 2 nights | $720 |
|  |  | Per Diem (meals and incidentals) | $46/day x 2 persons x 2 days | $184 |
| Local Travel |  | Mileage | 3,000 miles @.38/mile | $1,140 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **FEDERAL REQUEST -** (enter in Section B column 1, line 6c of SF-424A | **$2,444** |

**FEDERAL REQUEST: Sample Justification for Travel**

1. Two staff (Project Director and Evaluator) to attend mandatory recipient meeting in Washington, D.C.
2. Local travel is needed to attend local meetings, project activities, and training events. Local travel rate is based on organization’s policies/procedures for privately owned vehicle reimbursement rate.
3. **Equipment**

Equipment is a single item of tangible, nonexpendable, personal property that has a useful life of more than one year and a value of $5,000 or more (or a cost capitalization threshold established by the applicant organization that is less). For example, an applicant may classify equipment at $1,500 with a useful life of a year.

**Provide the following information for the narrative and justification:**

1. **Item(s) –** Describe the equipment item(s) being purchased. The justification must relate the use of each item to the scope of work and implementation of specific program objectives.
2. **Quantity –** Identify the number of items to be purchased.
3. **Amount** – The total cost of purchase or lease the equipment.
4. The justification should include the basis of how costs were estimated, e.g., fair market value, cost quotes.
5. The justification should include a lease versus purchase analysis, or a statement addressing if it is feasible and/or cost effective to lease versus purchase.
6. **Percentage Charged to the Award –** The percentage of equipment’s value to be charged to the award
7. **Total Charged to the Award –** The total cost of the equipment to that will be charged to the award.

**FEDERAL REQUEST – Sample Equipment Narrative**

| **Item(s)**  **(1)** | **Quantity**  **(2)** | **Amount**  **(3)** | **% Charged to the Award**  **(4)** | **Total Cost Charged to the Award**  **(5)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **FEDERAL REQUEST −** (enter in Section B column 1, line 6d of SF-424A) | **$0** |

1. **Supplies**

Supplies are items costing less than $5,000 per unit (federal definition), often having one-time use.

**Provide the following information for the narrative and justification:**

1. **Items** – list supplies by type, e.g., office supplies, postage, laptop computers.
2. The justification must include an explanation of the type of supplies to be purchased and how it relates back to meeting the project objectives.
3. **Calculation –** describe the basis for the cost, specifically the unit cost of each item, number needed and total amount.
4. **Supply Cost Charged to the Award −** provide the total cost of the supply items to be charged to the award during the budget period.

**FEDERAL REQUEST – Sample Supplies Narrative**

| **Item(s)** | **Rate** | **Cost** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| General office supplies | $50/mo. x 12 mo. | $600 |
| Postage | $37/mo. x 8 mo. | $296 |
| Laptop Computer | 1 x $900 | $900 |
| Printer | 1 x $300 | $300 |
| Projector | 1 x $900 | $900 |
| Copies | 8000 copies x .10/copy | $800 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **FEDERAL REQUEST − (enter in Section B column 1, line 6e of SF-424A)** | **$3,796** |

**FEDERAL REQUEST – Sample Justification for Supplies**

1. Office supplies, copies and postage are needed for general operation of the project.
2. The laptop computer and printer are needed for both project work and presentations for Project Director.
3. The projector is needed for presentations and workshops. All costs were based on retail values at the time the application was written.
4. **Contract**

List the budgets for each sub-award, contract, consultant, or consortium agreement. Please note the differences between sub-awards, contracts, consultants, and consortium agreements:

* **Sub-recipient** means a non-Federal entity that receives a sub-award from a pass-through entity to carry out part of a Federal award, including a portion of the scope of work or objectives.Grant recipients are responsible for ensuring that all sub-recipients comply with the terms and conditions of the award, per 45 CFR §75.101.
* **Contracts** are a legal instrument by which the grant recipient purchases good and services needed to carry out the project or program under a Federal award. Contracts include vendors (dealer, distributor or other sellers) that provide, for example, supplies, expendable materials, or data processing services in support of the project activities. The grant recipient must have established written procurement policies and procedures that are consistently applied. All procurement transactions shall be conducted in a manner to provide to the maximum extent practical, open and free competition. Per 45 CFR §75.2, when the substance of a contract meets the definition of sub-award, it must be treated as a sub-award.
* **Consortium Agreements** are between entities (which may or may not include the grant recipient) working collaboratively on an award supported project. They address the roles, responsibilities, implementation, and rights and responsibilities between entities collaborating on an award.
* **Consultants** are individuals retained to provide professional advice or services for a fee. Travel for consultants and contractors should be shown in this category along with consultant/contractor fees.

**Provide the following information for the narrative and justification:**

1. **Name** – Provide the name of the entity and identify if it is a sub-recipient, contractor, or consultant.
2. **Service** – Identify the products or services to be obtained.
3. As part of the justification provide a summary of the scope of work, the specific tasks to be performed, the necessity of the task for each sub-award or contract as it relates to the Project Narrative. Include the dates/length for the performance period. NOTE: costs that are outside the period of performance of the award cannot be charged to the award.
4. **Rate** – provide an itemized line item breakdown.
5. If applicable, include any indirect costs paid under a sub-award and the indirect cost rate used. Do not incorporate sub-recipient, contract, or consultant indirect costs under the indirect costs line item for the grantee/recipient on the SF-424A and Section J of the budget narrative/justification.
6. **Contract Costs Charged to the Award** − Provide the total of the sub-recipient, consultant, or contract costs to be charged to the award during the budget period.

**COSTS FOR CONTRACTS MUST BE BROKEN DOWN IN DETAIL AND A NARRATIVE JUSTIFICATION PROVIDED. IF APPLICABLE, NUMBERS OF CLIENTS SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE COSTS.**

**FEDERAL REQUEST – Sample Contracts Narrative**

| **Name (1)** | **Service (2)** | **Rate (3)** | **Other** | **Cost (4)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| (1) State Department of Human Services | Training | $250/individual x 3 staff | 5 days | $ 750 |
| (2) Treatment Services | 1040 Clients | $27/client per year |  | $28,080 |
| (3) John Smith (Case Manager) | Treatment Client Services | 1FTE @ $27,000 + Fringe Benefits of $6,750 = $33,750 | **\***Travel at 3,126 @ .50 per mile = $1,563  **\***Training course $175  **\***Supplies @ $47.54 x 12 months or $570  **\***Telephone @ $60 x 12 months = $720  **\***Indirect costs = $9,390 (negotiated with contractor) | $46,168 |
| (4) Jane Smith | Evaluator | $40 per hour x 225 hours | 12 month period | $9,000 |
| (5) To Be Announced | Marketing Coordinator | Annual salary of $30,000 x 10% level of effort |  | $3,000 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **FEDERAL REQUEST – (enter in Section B column 1, line 6f of-424A)** | **$86,998** |

**\*Represents separate/distinct requested funds by cost category**

**FEDERAL REQUEST – Sample Justification for Contracts**

1. Certified trainers are necessary to carry out the purpose of the statewide Consumer Network by providing recovery and wellness training, preparing consumer leaders statewide, and educating the public on mental health recovery.
2. Client treatment services to be provided are based on organizational history of expenses.
3. The Case Manager is vital to providing client services related to the program and leading to successful outcomes.
4. The Evaluator is an experienced individual (Ph.D. level) with expertise in substance abuse, research and evaluation, is knowledgeable about the population of focus, and will be responsible for all data collection and reporting.
5. The Marketing Coordinator will develop a plan for public education and outreach efforts to engage clients in the community about recipient activities; and provide presentations at public meetings and community events to stakeholders, community civic organizations, churches, agencies, family groups and schools.
6. **Construction**

**Construction or major alternation and renovation are not authorized under this program. Leave this section blank on line 6g of the SF-424A.** Such activities are allowable only when program legislation includes specific authority for construction. If requesting consideration of minor alteration and renovation, provide those costs under the “Other” cost category (line 6h of the SF-424A and Section H of the budget narrative/justification).

1. **Other**

This category addresses any costs not included in of the other cost categories. Costs that fall under “Other” would include:

* Minor alteration and renovation (Minor A & R)
* Minor A & R is defined as work that changes the interior arrangement or other physical characteristics of an existing facility or installed equipment so that it can be used more effectively for its currently designed purpose or adapted to an alternative use to meet a programmatic requirement. Alteration and renovation may include work referred to as improvements, conversion, rehabilitation, or remodeling, but is distinguished from new facility construction, facility expansion, or major alterations and renovation where the total Federal and non-Federal costs, excluding moveable equipment (equipment that is not permanently affixed), exceeds $500,000.
* No more than $75,000 in Federal funds over the total period of performance may be used to support minor A&R activities, and such requested must be submitted to the GMS for formal prior approval. SAMHSA grant funds cannot be used to support the construction, expansion or major alternation and renovation of facilities. If the proposed project is part of a larger overall project that exceeds $500,000, it may not be artificially segmented to achieve the cost threshold.
* Rent
* Client incentives
* Telephone
* Travel for training participants, advisory committees, and review panels
* Training activities (except costs for consultant and/or contractual).

**Provide the following information for the narrative and justification:**

1. **Item** − List items by type of material or nature of expense. In the justification, explain the necessity of each cost for successful implementation and completion of the project.
2. **Rate** − Break down costs by quantity and cost per unit as applicable.

**NOTE:** Rent costs must be submitted with the following information:

* The individual cost items that make up the total cost of the building
* The methodology used to allocate the costs to the programs or activities operating in the building
* Rent Questions Worksheet <https://www.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/rentquestionsworksheet.docx>
* Supporting documentation

1. **Costs Charged to the Award –** provide the costs charged to the award.

**FEDERAL REQUEST – Sample Narrative for “Other”**

| **Item** | **Rate** | **Cost** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| (1) Rent\* | $15/sq. ft. x 700 sq. feet | $10,500 |
| (2) Telephone | $100/mo. x 12 mo. | $1,200 |
| (3) Client Incentives | $10/client follow-up x 278 clients | $2,780 |
| (4) Brochures | .89/brochure X 1500 brochures | $1,335 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **FEDERAL REQUEST (enter in Section B column 1, line 6h of SF-424A)** | **$15,815** |

**FEDERAL REQUEST – Sample Justification for Other**

1. Costs related to office space are typically included in the indirect cost rate agreement. However, if other rental costs for service site(s) are necessary for the project, they may be requested as a direct charge. The rent is calculated by square footage or FTE and reflects SAMHSA’s fair share of the space.

**\*If rent is requested (direct or indirect), provide the name of the owner(s) of the space/facility. Additionally, the lease and floor plan (including common areas) are required for all projects allocating rent costs.**

1. The monthly telephone costs reflect the percent of effort for the personnel listed in this application for the SAMHSA project only.
2. The $10 incentive is needed to meet program goals in order to encourage attendance and follow-up with 278 clients.   
   Brochures will be used at various community functions, such as health fairs and exhibits.
3. **Total Direct Charges**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **FEDERAL REQUEST** – **TOTAL DIRECT CHARGES - Section B column 1, line 6i of SF-424A**  (The Total Direct Charges will sum automatically on the form) | **$177,462** |

1. **Indirect Cost Rate**

Indirect costs are those costs incurred for common or joint objectives which cannot be readily identified with an individual project or program but are necessary to the operations of the organization. Indirect costs may be charged to the award if:

* The applicant has a Federally approved indirect cost rate
* The applicant has never received a negotiated indirect cost rate and elects to charge a de minimis rate of 10 percent of modified total direct costs (MTDC) which can be used indefinitely for all awards until an indirect cost rate is approved. If the de minimis rate is proposed the applicant must clearly state in their justification that they have never received a negotiated IDC rate and are electing to charge a de minimis rate of 10% of modified total direct costs (MTDC).

The MTDC indirect cost rate may be applied to:

* All direct salaries and wages charged to the award;
* Applicable fringe benefits;
* Materials and supplies;
* Services;
* Travel; and
* Sub-contracts (first $25,000 of each sub-contract)

The MTDC excludes equipment, capital expenditures, charges for patient care, rental costs, tuition reimbursement, scholarships and fellowships, participant support costs, and the portion of each sub-award in excess of $25,000.

* If the FOA is for a training grant or cooperative agreement, the indirect cost rateis limited to **8 percent**. Please refer to 45 CFR §75.414 at <https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?node=pt45.1.75#se45.1.75_12>, for more information about indirect costs and facilities and administrative costs.

**Provide the following information for the narrative and justification:**

1. **Calculation** – Briefly summarize type of indirect cost rate.
2. Attach a copy of the current fully executed, negotiated agreement indirect cost rate agreement. The applicable indirect cost rate(s) negotiated by the organization with the cognizant negotiating agency must be used in computing indirect costs (F&A) for a proposal (2 CFR §200.414). The amount for indirect costs should be calculated by applying the current negotiated indirect cost rate(s) to the approved base(s).
3. **Indirect Cost Charged to the Award** – list the total indirect costs that will be charged to the award. Costs must be calculated using the correct indirect cost base award (the categories of costs to which the indirect cost rate is applied).

| **Calculation**  **(1)** | **Indirect Cost Charged to the Award**  **(2)** |
| --- | --- |
| Organization’s Indirect Cost Rate of 10% (**10%** of personnel and fringe - **.10 x $68,409)** | $6,841 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **FEDERAL REQUEST – (enter in Section B column 1, line 6j of-SF-424A)** | **$6,841** |

|  |
| --- |
| **FEDERAL REQUEST −** **TOTALS (6k) will sum automatically on the SF-424A** |
| **ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS ON COMPLETING THE SF- 424A**  In **Section A**, Use the first row only (Line 1) to report the total federal (e) funds and non-federal (f) funds requested for the **first year** of your project only.  In **Section B,** Use the first column only (Column 1) to report the budget category breakouts (Lines 6a through 6h) and indirect charges (Line 6j) for the total funding requested for the **first year** of your project only. This total amount in 6k should be the same as the Total Federal Request for Year 1 entered on Line 1, Column (e) of Section A.  In **Section C**, if applicable, enter the funding/resources that your organization will contribute (Applicant) as well as support you expect to receive from the State or other sources**.** Other support is defined as funds or resources, whether federal, non-federal or institutional, in direct support of activities through fellowships, gifts, prizes, in-kind contributions or non-federal means. [See [Appendix I](#_Appendix_I_–_1) – Standard Funding Restrictions for information on allowable costs.]  In **Section D** Line 13, the funds needed for each quarter should be entered. The amount entered in “Total for First Year” should be the same as the amount entered in Column 1, Line 6k in Section B. Enter the amount for each quarter. The total in column 1 will sum automatically. Use the first row for federal funds and the second row for non-federal funds.  In **Section E**, the funds being requested for Years 2, 3, 4, and 5 should be entered. For example, Year 2 will be entered in column (b), Year 3 in column (c), etc.  A sample of a completed SF-424A is included at the end of this appendix. |

**Provide the total proposed project period and federal funding as follows:**

**Proposed Project Period**

a. Start Date: 09/30/2018 b. End Date: 09/29/2023

**BUDGET SUMMARY** (should include future years and projected total)

| **Category** | **Year 1** | **Year 2\*** | **Year 3\*** | **Year 4\*** | **Year 5\*** | **Total Project Costs** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Personnel | $52,765 | $54,348 | $55,978 | $57,658 | $59,387 | $280,136 |
| Fringe | $15,644 | $16,114 | $17,353 | $17,873 | $18,409 | $85,393 |
| Travel | $2,444 | $1,140 | $2,444 | $1,140 | $1,375 | $8,543 |
| Equipment | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Supplies | $3,796 | $3,796 | $3,796 | $3,796 | $3,796 | $18,980 |
| Contractual | $86,998 | $86,998 | $86,998 | $86,998 | $86,998 | $434,990 |
| Other | $15,815 | $13,752 | $11,629 | $9,440 | $7,187 | $57,823 |
| Total Direct Charges | $177,462 | $176,148 | $178,198 | $176,905 | $177,152 | $885,865 |
| Indirect Charges | $6,841 | $7,046 | $7,333 | $7,553 | $7,780 | $36,553 |
| **Total Project Costs** | **$184,303** | **$183,194** | **$185,531** | **$184,458** | **$184,932** | **$922,418** |

\*FOR REQUESTED FUTURE YEARS:

1. Justify and explain any changes to the budget that differ from the amounts reported in the Year 1 Budget Summary.
2. If a cost of living adjustment (COLA) is included in future years, provide your organization’s personnel policy and procedures which states that all employees within the organization will receive a COLA.

In Section IV-3 of the FOA, any funding limitations or restrictions for the project will be specified. If there are limitations, include a narrative and separate budget for each year of the grant that shows the percent of the total grant award that will be used in the area where there is a limitation. For example, most FOAs include funding limitations for data collection and performance assessment. A sample budget for this area is shown below.

| **Data Collection & Performance Measurement** | **Year 1** | **Year 2** | **Year 3** | **Year 4** | **Year 5** | **Total Data Collection & Performance Measurement**  **Costs** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Personnel | $6,700 | $6,700 | $6,700 | $6,700 | $6,700 | $33,500 |
| Fringe | $2,400 | $2,400 | $2,400 | $2,400 | $2,400 | $12,000 |
| Travel | $100 | $100 | $100 | $100 | 1$100 | $500 |
| Equipment | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Supplies | $750 | $750 | $750 | $750 | $750 | $3,750 |
| Contractual | $24,000 | $24,000 | $24,000 | $24,000 | $24,000 | $120,000 |
| Other | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total Direct Charges | $33,950 | $33,950 | $33,950 | $33,950 | $33,950 | $169,750 |
| Indirect Charges | $910 | $910 | $910 | $910 | $910 | $4,550 |
| **Total Data Collection & Performance Measurement Charges** | **$34,860** | **$34,860** | **$34,860** | **$34,860** | **$34,860** | **$174,300** |

The percentage of the budget that will be spent on data collection and performance measurement does not exceed 20% for any budget period. Maximum percentage for any budget period is 18.9% ($34,860/$184,303 – Year 1).

A sample budget for funding limitations related to infrastructure development is shown below.

| **Infrastructure Development** | **Year 1** | **Year 2** | **Year 3** | **Year 4** | **Year 5** | **Total Infra-structure Costs** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Personnel | $2,250 | $2,250 | $2,250 | $2,250 | $2,250 | $11,250 |
| Fringe | $558 | $558 | $558 | $558 | $558 | $2,790 |
| Travel | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Equipment | $15,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | $15,000 |
| Supplies | $1,575 | $1,575 | $1,575 | $1,575 | $1,575 | $7,875 |
| Contractual | $5,000 | $5,000 | $5,000 | $5,000 | $5,000 | $25,000 |
| Other | $1,617 | $2,375 | $2,375 | $2,375 | $2,375 | $11,117 |
| Total Direct Charges | $26,000 | $11,758 | $11,758 | $11,758 | $11,758 | **$73,032** |
| Indirect Charges | $280 | $280 | $280 | $280 | $280 | **$1,400** |
| **Total Infrastructure Costs** | **$26,280** | **$12,038** | **$12,038** | **$12,038** | **$12,038** | **$74,432** |

The maximum percentage of the budget that will be spent on infrastructure development for any budget period is 14.2% ($26,280/$184,303 – Year 1).

**SAMPLE OF COMPLETED SF-424A**

**SECTION A – BUDGET SUMMARY**

| **Grant Program Function or Activity**  **(a)** | **Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number**  **(b)** | **Estimated Unobligated Funds** | | **New or Revised Budget** | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Federal**  **(c)** | **Non-Federal**  **(d)** | **Federal**  **(e)** | **Non-Federal**  **(f)** | **Total**  **(g)** |
| **1. Title of**  **FOA** | 93.243 |  |  | $184,303 |  | $184,303 |
| **2.** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **3.** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **4.** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **5. Totals** |  |  |  | $184,303 |  | $184,303 |

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**SECTION B – BUDGET CATEGORIES**

| **6. Object Class Categories** | **GRANT PROGRAM FUNCTION OR ACTIVITY** | | | | **Total**  **(5)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **(1)** Title of  FOA | **(2)** | **(3)** | **(4)** |
| **a. Personnel** | $52,765 |  |  |  | $52,765 |
| **b. Fringe**  **Benefits** | $15,644 |  |  |  | $15,644 |
| **c. Travel** | $2,444 |  |  |  | $2,444 |
| **d. Equipment** | $0 |  |  |  | $0 |
| **e. Supplies** | $3,796 |  |  |  | $3,796 |
| **f. Contractual** | $86,998 |  |  |  | $86,998 |
| **g. Construction** | $0 |  |  |  | $0 |
| **h. Other** | $15,815 |  |  |  | $15,815 |
| **i. Total Direct**  **Charges**  **(sum 6a-6h)** | $177,462 |  |  |  | $177,462 |
| **j. Indirect Charges** | $6,841 |  |  |  | $5,6,841 |
| **k. TOTALS (sum of 6i and 6j)** | $184,303 |  |  |  | $184,303 |
| **7. Program Income** |  |  |  |  |  |

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| **SECTION C – NON-FEDERAL RESOURCES** | | | | | | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **(a) Grant Program** | | | | | **(b)**  **Applicant** | | **(c)**  **State** | **(d)**  **Other Sources** | **(e)**  **TOTALS** |
| **8. Title of FOA** | | | | |  | |  |  |  |
| **9.** | | | | |  | |  |  |  |
| **10.** | | | | |  | |  |  |  |
| **11.** | | | | |  | |  |  |  |
| **12. TOTAL (sum of lines 8-11)** | | | | | $ | | $ | $ | $ |
| **SECTION D – FORECASTED CASH NEEDS** | | | | | | | | | |
| **13. Federal** | | Totals for 1st Year  $184,303 | | 1st Quarter  $46,075 | | | 2nd Quarter  $46,076 | 3rd Quarter  $46.076 | 4th Quarter  $46,076 |
| **14. Non-Federal** | |  | |  | | |  |  |  |
| **15.TOTAL (sum of lines 13 and 14)** | | $184,303 | | $46,075 | | | $46,076 | $46,076 | $46,076 |
| **SECTION E – BUDGET ESTIMATES OF FEDERAL FUNDS NEEDED FOR BALANCE OF THE PROJECT** | | | | | | | | | |
| **(a) Grant Program** |  | | **FUTURE FUNDING PERIODS** | | | | | | |
| **(a)** | **First** | | | **(b) Second** | **(c) Third** | **(d) Fourth** |
| **16. Title of FOA** | | |  | $184,498 | | | $185,531 | $185,762 | $186,001 |
| **17.** | | |  | | | |  |  |  |
| **18.** | | |  | | | |  |  |  |
| **19.** | | |  | | | |  |  |  |
| **20. TOTAL (Sum of lines 16-19)** | | | $184,194 | | | | $185,531 | $184,458 | $184,932 |
| **SECTION F – OTHER BUDGET INFORMATION** | | | | | | | | | |
| **21. Direct Charges:** | | | | | | **22. Indirect Charges:** | | | |
| **23. Remarks:** | | | | | | | | | |

1. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality. (March 20, 2013). *The NSDUH Report: Adults with Mental Illness or Substance Use Disorder Account for 40 Percent of All Cigarettes Smoked.* Rockville, MD. <https://www.samhsa.gov/data/sites/default/files/spot104-cigarettes-mental-illness-substance-use-disorder/spot104-cigarettes-mental-illness-substance-use-disorder.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. *The Health Consequences of Smoking: 50 Years of Progress. A Report of the Surgeon General*. Atlanta, GA: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office on Smoking and Health, 2014. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. Tribes and tribal organizations are exempt from these requirements. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. Approved by OMB under control no. 0920-0428; Public reporting burden for the Public Health System Reporting Requirement is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including the time for copying the first page of SF-424 and the abstract and preparing the letter for mailing. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The OMB control number for this project is 0920-0428. Send comments regarding this burden to CDC Clearance Officer, 1600 Clifton Road, MS D-24, Atlanta, GA 30333, ATTN: PRA (0920-0428). [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. Taxman, 2006; Taxman & Marlowe, 2006; Lowenkamp, Latessa, & Hostlinger, 2006; Andrews & Bonta, 2010 [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
6. Taxman, Perdoni, & Caudy, 2012; Lowenkamp & Latessa, 2005) [↑](#footnote-ref-7)