

Assertive Community Treatment

(Short Title: A C T)

Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) No. SM-23-007

Questions and Answers

- **Can a for profit organization apply for this grant?**

For profit organizations are not eligible to receive funding through this notice of funding opportunity.

Please refer to Section III-I of the NOFO.

Eligibility is statutorily limited to states, political subdivisions of states (e.g., counties, cities), community-based behavioral health non-profit organizations, Indian tribes, or tribal organizations (as defined in Section 4 of the Indian Self- Determination and Education Assistance Act), mental health systems, and health care facilities. All non-profit entities must submit documentation of their non-profit status in Attachment 8 of your application.

- **Is the expectation that the grantee would serve both transition-aged youth and transition-aged adults?**

Please refer to Section V-1A of the NOFO.

Eligible applicants are asked to define their population of focus. Youth and adults cannot be served on the same team.

- **Are we eligible to apply if we have additional funding from other sources?**

Yes. Eligible applicants are able to apply even if they have additional funding sources.

- **What is the age range for transition-aged youth?**

Please refer to section V-1A pg. 24-25

SAMHSA has not defined transition-aged youth. Applicants are asked to define their population of focus within their applications.

- **Must the applicant hold Accreditation designation, in example accreditation designation through a private or nationally recognized entity like AAAHC and or CARF?**

Please refer to Section III-3.

Each mental health 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.

- **Can our organization start two ACT teams with the funding?**

Yes. The organization will need to apply separately for both teams and meet all requirements. Also, per the NOFO Section 3 pg. 7, project implementation is expected to begin by the fourth month of the award.

- **What is SAMHSA's current policy regarding the use of telehealth for ACT? If telehealth is allowable, then what are the stipulations for its use? Will there be any changes in the current policy in 2024?**

SAMHSA's current policy on telehealth is for NOMS data collection. The use of telehealth services will be determined/defined by your state, county or city regulations for ACT.

- **Where do we attach Letters of Commitment (LOC) for the advisory stake holder group?**

Please refer the NOFO Section I-3 pg. 9.

Form an ACT stakeholder advisory group of key community stakeholders (per the ACT toolkit) to serve as a liaison between community and mental health agencies. Consumers and family members are a critical component of the ACT stakeholder advisory group. [NOTE: Letters of Commitment (LOC) from each community stakeholder must be submitted in **Attachment 1** of the application. Each LOC should attest that the stakeholder is willing and has the capacity to support the ACT program.]

- **Can we use a contractor for ACT services?**

Please refer to Section I-3 pg. 7.

Provide all ACT services that are in accordance with organizational policies and procedures with a high-fidelity ACT tool (i.e., TMACT, DACTs, ACT EBP Toolkit). [NOTE: **All ACT services must be provided by the award recipient**]. Establish and maintain an ACT team of core multi-disciplinary staff in accordance to the scope and staffing ratio guidelines of a high-fidelity ACT tool (i.e., TMACT, DACTs, ACT EBP Toolkit). [Note: If you are expanding an existing and operational ACT program, include in Attachment 9 a fidelity review that has been conducted within the past two years.]

- **Is the purchase of vehicles allowed on this grant, and if so, how much is the cap on each vehicle?**

The purpose of this grant program is not to purchase vehicles. However, it is allowed and the purchase of vehicles is reviewed on a case-by-case basis. You are allowed to

place them in your initial budget during application or after you are awarded by completing a post award amendment. There is no cap on vehicles.

- **Is Medicaid considered program matching? How does program income affect the overall budget preparation? Should the budget be increased to account for additional funding from the program income?**

SAMHSA treats program income as additional alternative funding. If you are generating income through reimbursements etc. it will be put back into the program. You include program income on a separate line in the budget. However, usually we don't request a breakdown, or it to be built into the budget itself.

- **Page 26 of the NOFO requires applicants to identify and describe any additional Evidence Based Practices (EBP) evidence-informed or culturally promising practices that will be implemented. Does this mean we should describe EBP's for core services for an ACT program, e.g., therapy, employment case management?**

If you elect to focus on a sub-population you will identify any additional EBP that would be needed. Example: If you were to serve transition-aged youth, what EBPs would you use? It would need to be age appropriate for transition-aged youth. You would then then include those EBP's in your application.

- **Please elaborate on the expected roles and tasks of the Advisory Council?**

SAMHSA has not outlined the expected roles and tasks of the advisory group. The advisory group is defined in the SAMHSA ACT toolkit. Within the toolkit you will find how to form an advisory group and additional information.

- **The ACT NOFO 2023 states that matching funds is not required. However, in one of the budgeted narrative slides you mentioned that the applicants should show non-SAMHSA resources. How do applicants best do this?**

This program does not have a cost share matching requirement. There is a section within the 424A for including non-federal funding. You may list those amounts into that section on the 424A.