



Substance Abuse and Mental Health
Services Administration

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STOP Act Program 2023 NOFO Frequently Asked Questions

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Eligibility

- **If I am a previous STOP Act recipient, am I eligible to apply?**
Past awardees are eligible to apply, except those funded under the following: SP-22-006, SP-19-003 OTS with start dates of 4/30/2020 and 4/30/2021. Prospective applicants must also be current or former DFC Support Program recipients.
- **We are a newly funded DFC in year 1 of our funding, are we still eligible to apply for this NOFO?**
Eligibility for this program is statutory limited (Section 519-B of the Public Health Service Act [42 USC 290bb-25b], as amended) to domestic public and private nonprofit entities that are current or former DFC Support Program recipients. Therefore, if an applicant meets the statutory requirements of the NOFO and did not receive funding during the last funding cycle, that applicant would be eligible to apply.
- **If we are a local county agency, are we considered a governmental or non-governmental agency?**
Yes, local county agencies are considered a governmental agency.
- **We are neither a public/private nonprofit entity, but a Health and Human Services County Government entity, are we eligible to apply?**
If a DFC grant was awarded, your agency is eligible to apply as a county government entity.
- **Our agency is not a 501(c)(3) but its parent organization/fiscal sponsor is a government entity and not a 501(c)(3). What documentation is needed for proof eligibility?**
Official documentation indicating your agency's governmental status is required. Please refer to Appendix C – General Eligibility Information for additional guidance.

Program Related Questions

- **Can an individual serve as both the project director and project coordinator?**
Yes. Key staff must be at a minimum of 10% for level of effort for either position.
- **Can previous recipients target a new region when applying for this NOFO?**
Yes.
- **Is it a requirement that our organization has an FTE?**
There is no requirement that an applicant must have an FTE for either key personnel position.

Funding

- **Is a fiscal agent eligible to apply to this NOFO even though the DFC coalition may not be involved in the grant?**

Yes. All applicants must submit a letter in Attachment 9 certifying that it is a current or former recipient of a DFC award.

- **Are administrative expenses and modified total direct costs considered the same in this NOFO?**

The NOFO is referring to two separate items. The 10% allowability for this NOFO is referencing data collection, performance measurement, and performance assessment, including incentives for participating in the required data collection follow-up. The up-to 6% rate may be used for administrative/indirect costs under this NOFO.

Data Collection

- **What percentage of the award can be used for data collection?**

No more than 10% of the award may be used for data collection, performance measurement, and performance assessment.

- **Are the reporting requirements in this NOFO similar to DFCme?**

STOP Act reporting information will be gathered using a uniform data collection tool provided by SAMHSA. Recipients are required to submit data via SAMHSA's Performance Accountability and Reporting System (SPARS); and access will be provided upon award. Additional information about SPARS can be found at: <https://spars.samhsa.gov/>. Data will be collected on an annual basis, including the annual progress report and information that will be gathered using local surveys determined by the recipient.

Application and Submission

- **Is it a requirement to use the SAMHSA Detailed Budget and Narrative Justification form that is online for this grant application?**

It is highly recommended that you use this sample budget format but not required.

- **How often is the STOP Act grant announced?**

Funding announcements are contingent upon the availability of funds.

- **Should we use the standard DFC Action Plan format for the timeline attachment?**

An applicant for this funding opportunity announcement may use the DFC Action Plan format in describing its activities addressing underage drinking. Additional guidance is provided in "Appendix E – Developing Goals and Measurable Objectives" of this NOFO.

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- **Are we required to conduct all the listed activities with STOP funding? If activities are occurring within our DFC funding would that suffice if explained in the application?**
Required activities are the activities that every grant project must implement. They must be reflected in the Project Narrative of your application. Grant funds must be used primarily to support infrastructure development. Please refer to Section V for guidance.
 - **We will not be conducting activities that require consent from individuals with STOP funds if awarded. If participants wouldn't need to opt-in/consent to the activities, how should we proceed with Attachment 3: Sample Consent Forms?**
Forms to be submitted 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.
 - **Since we are already the recipient of a DFC Support grant, is it necessary to complete a new HHS 690 form?**
Yes, applicants must complete a new HHS 690 form to ensure information is updated and accurate.
 - **In Attachment 9, where it states, "applicants must provide a letter," does "applicant" refer to the Program Director or the submitting institution?**
"Applicant" refers to the submitting institution.