Behavioral Health Integration Program FAQs

This is a sample list of FAQs that may be helpful to applicants. Please consult the NOFO for additional information.

1. Do we have to be based in a rural area to apply?

- Applicants must have a physical location, either headquarter or branch, in Oklahoma and deliver direct program services supported by this award solely in eligible Oklahoma rural communities with populations of 55,000 or fewer (see **Attachment A** for a full list of eligible communities), except for centralized administrative, care coordination, telehealth-based clinical support, or other remote services that support participants in the rural community (e.g., for hub-and-spoke model, hub is not required to be located in rural community). Applicants must demonstrate a history of serving rural community(ies) in Oklahoma, either directly or through formal partnership with locally-rooted organizations or providers.

2. If a company or organization is headquartered outside of Oklahoma but has a branch in Oklahoma, are we eligible to apply?
    a. Applicants must have a physical location, **either headquarter or branch**, in Oklahoma and deliver direct program services supported by this award solely in eligible Oklahoma rural communities with populations of 55,000 or fewer (see **Attachment A** for a full list of eligible communities), except for centralized administrative, care coordination, telehealth-based clinical support, or other remote services that support participants in the rural community (e.g., for hub-and-spoke model, hub is not required to be located in rural community). Applicants must demonstrate a history of serving rural community(ies) in Oklahoma, either directly or through formal partnership with locally-rooted organizations or providers.
3. Is this a multi-year grant?
    a. This is a one-year award. This grant program is anticipated to continue through the lifetime of the Rural Health Transformation Program, with potential grant extensions and/or additional NOFO applications in Years 2-5, subject to CMS-awarded funds to Oklahoma, available funding, and program progress.
    b. Applicants may propose projects for a single year or spanning multiple years and should indicate whether they anticipate seeking continuation of funding in future years. Proposing multi-year projects only indicates interest and does not guarantee future awards, as funding is subject to available funding from CMS and program progress.

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4. Do I have to spend all the funds by the end of Year 1?
    a. To ensure OSDH compliance with federal deadlines:
        i. All BP1 funds for Personnel, Fringe and Travel must be spent by October 30, 2026.
        ii. All other BP1 funds carry over and must be **fully spent and invoiced by subrecipients by July 31, 2027.**
        iii. All BP1 funds must be drawn down by OSDH by September 30, 2027.
5. When are funds considered expended / spent?
    a. Funds are considered expended / spent when the recipient can provide proof of payment (a receipt, fulfilled purchase order, etc.).
6. If my fiscal sponsor is not located in Oklahoma, can we still apply?
    a. Fiscally sponsored organizations with fiscal sponsors located outside of Oklahoma may apply if the fiscally sponsored organization meets all criteria outlined in the NOFO.
7. What is a UEI number?
    a. A UEI number is a Unique Entity Identifier and is required to receive federal funds, including subawards. All applicants must have a UEI number at time of application and can obtain a number at www.SAM.gov.
8. What kind of insurance do we need to have? What if we cannot afford that much insurance?
    a. Applicants must an active Certificate of Insurance (see the Subrecipient Terms and Conditions linked in Attachment D for a detailed list of required insurance types, coverage limits, and other insurance-related requirements).
    b. If applicants cannot obtain the level of insurance detailed in Attachment D, they should fill out the "Request for Exceptions to the Contract Terms" form and submit it with the application.
9. If I applied for another RHTP opportunity, can I still apply for the Behavioral Health Integration?
    a. Yes, there is no limitation on applying for multiple RHTP opportunities, even if awarded.
10. What is the budget maximum for this opportunity?
    a. Applicants may submit budgets up to $1 million dollars
    b. An applicant may submit an optional supplemental budget, up to $1.8 million ($2.8M total including base budget), if the applicant believes the additional funds would be additive, but not essential, to the success of the proposed use of funds. OSDH will consider the supplemental budget only if:

        i. There are insufficient eligible applications to meet the total program funding
        ii. Additional funding becomes available during the award period
    c.

11. Can I submit a budget for more than the limit listed in the NOFO?
    a. No, applicants may only submit budgets up to 5 million dollars.
    b. Applicants may submit budgets up to $1 million dollars
    c. An applicant may submit an optional supplemental budget, up to $1.8 million ($2.8M total including base budget), if the applicant believes the additional funds would be additive, but not essential, to the success of the proposed use of funds. OSDH will consider the supplemental budget only if:
        i. There are insufficient eligible applications to meet the total program funding
        ii. Additional funding becomes available during the award period
12. What counts as grant administration?
    a. Grant administration includes grants management, compliance, fiscal oversight) are limited to five percent for award recipients. This should include all direct grant admin costs and a proportional share of indirect costs: Total grant admin = Direct costs for grant admin + (Direct costs for grant admin * Indirect Cost Rate)
13. We cannot afford to do a reimbursement-based grant. Can we still apply?
    a. If there are extenuating circumstances that would prevent the applicant from participating in a reimbursement-based program, please specify them in the body of the application. These circumstances will be taken into consideration with the application.
14. What types of entities can apply for this opportunity?
    a. The opportunity is open to multiple entity types, including but not limited to, community-based organizations (including 501(c)(3) organizations, other non-profits), health care providers (both non-profit and for-profit), including Community Mental Health Centers (CMHCs) and Opioid Treatment Providers (OTPs), tribal entities/governments, higher education institutions, state agencies, and county and city governments and facilities.
15. Can we co-apply with another entity?
    a. One entity must apply as the sole applicant and will be responsible for receiving and administering the award. Applicants may work with other organizations through subawards, contracts, or other formal agreements, as appropriate.
16. Do we have to provide healthcare services to apply?

a. Applicants must provide health care and/or health-promoting services, programs, or supports, in Oklahoma.

17. Are personnel and fringe allowable expenses under this NOFO?
    a. Yes, personnel and fringe are allowable expenses and must be detailed in the budget submission..
18. Can we pay for participant medications?
    a. Medications are not an allowable expense under this funding opportunity. This includes prescriptions and OTC medications.
19. Can we use these funds to update our EMR system?

    No funds may not be used for EMR/HER replacement or implementation