

Expanding Care: Doulas Program Prepared FAQs

Updated: 6.24.26

Spenddown Timelines & Reimbursement

NOTE: Timeline for subrecipient spending and invoicing

Budget Period One (BP1) = December 28, 2025 – October 30, 2026

- All BP1 funds for Personnel, Fringe and Travel must be spent by October 30, 2026.
- All other BP1 funds carry over and must be fully spent and invoiced by subrecipients by July 31, 2027.
- All BP1 funds must be drawn down by OSDH by September 30, 2027.

1. Why must personnel, fringe and travel costs be expended by October 30, 2026? If grants are awarded in August that give us less than 60 days to spend in those categories?
 - a. This is a CMS requirement. Personnel, fringe and travel costs must be spent by 10/30/26. All other budget line items must be fully expended and invoiced by 7/31/27 in order to meet the CMS drawdown deadline of 9/30/27 (subrecipient timeline subject to change based on internal OSDH deadlines).
 - b. Per the NOFO, OSDH anticipates renewing subawards for Budget Period 2 in October 2026 with a start date of October 31st, 2026, to allow for Personnel, Fringe, and Travel spend through October 30th, 2027. Renewal amounts are dependent upon CMS awarded funds, subrecipient performance and funding needs, and OSDH RHTP programmatic priorities.
2. Do I have to spend all the funds by the end of Year 1?
 - a. To ensure OSDH compliance with federal deadlines, all funds need to be **fully spent and invoiced by subrecipients by July 31, 2027.**
 - i. Personnel, Fringe, and Travel must be fully spent by October 30, 2026.
 - b. All BP1 funds must be drawn down by OSDH by September 30, 2027.
3. 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.).
4. 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.

5. Is this a multi-year grant?
 - a. This is a one-year award. Per the NOFO, OSDH anticipates renewing subawards for Budget Period 2 in October 2026 with a start date of October 31st, 2026, to allow for Personnel, Fringe, and Travel spend through October 30th, 2027. Renewal amounts are dependent upon CMS awarded funds, subrecipient performance and funding needs, and OSDH RHTP programmatic priorities.
6. What is the typical turnaround time between invoice submission and reimbursement payment to subrecipients? We are planning our cash flow accordingly.
 - a. Invoices will be due by the 30th of the following month (i.e. June's invoice is due by July 30th). RHTP's goal is to have all submissions approved and sent for payment within 30 days – subject to change. However, if corrections or additional supporting documentation is requested, this process can be prolonged. It is important that all documentation is submitted timely, correctly, and legible upon invoice submission.

Allowable Costs & Budget

7. Are Personnel and Fringe allowable expenses under this NOFO?
 - a. Yes, Personnel and Fringe are allowable expenses for this opportunity. Please refer to **Attachment E** for a full list of allowable and unallowable funding uses under broader RHTP or federal guidelines.
8. What is the budget maximum for this opportunity?
 - a. Applicants may apply for up to \$1,000,000 per component. Applicants are encouraged to build their budgets based on actual need and feasibility, and will be evaluated on budget reasonableness and timeline to spend
9. Can I submit a budget for more than the limit listed in the NOFO?
 - a. No, applicants may only submit budgets up to \$1,000,000 per component.
10. Our organization is both the applicant and the training provider for this program. Trainee scholarship funds would cover tuition charged by our own organization to program participants. Where should these costs be entered in the budget template: as a Contractual line item with our organization as subrecipient, or as an Other Expenditure under program costs? We want to ensure correct categorization and full transparency about this arrangement.

- a. Please list these costs under “Other” for training fees (training program implementation). As a reminder, “funds can be used to provide training for doulas, but paying for individual certification fees (e.g., DONA processing fee) will trigger a five-year service commitment through the RHTP. As such, RHTP funds should not be used pay for these fees.”
11. Can you confirm the definition of modified total direct costs for purposes of calculating the 15% de minimis indirect cost rate? Specifically, should subcontractor costs above \$25,000 per subcontractor be excluded from the base per 2 CFR 200.68?
- a. Per [2 CFR 200](#): The Modified Total Direct Costs (MTDC) can include most direct salaries, wages, fringe benefits, materials, supplies, services, travel, and the first \$50,000 of each subaward. The MTDC excludes equipment, capital expenditures, and certain other costs.
 - i. Entities using their federally negotiated rate will need to follow the MTDC guidelines listed within their NICRA.
12. The program director is the sole owner of the applicant LLC and will bill time to the grant at an hourly rate. Should this be entered in the Personnel tab or the Contractual tab?
- a. If the Program Director is employed as a W-2 employee, please use the Personnel tab. If the Program Director is a contractor (1099), please use the Contractual tab. Please consult with your accountant or financial advisor if you need further guidance on tax classifications for staff.
13. Can personnel costs for work performed between December 28, 2025 and the award notification date be included in Budget Period 1 if documented and directly related to program activities?
- a. Any Personnel costs for work performed prior to the award date should not be included in BP 1. No costs incurred prior to the award date can be reimbursed.

Program Eligibility & Requirements

14. Do we have to be based in a rural area to apply?
- a. Applicants must demonstrate a track record of successful doula programming and partnerships in rural communities.
15. If a company or organization is headquartered outside of Oklahoma, are we eligible to apply?
- a. While preference will be given to entities based in Oklahoma, out-of-state entities are eligible to apply. Out-of-state entities will be expected to clearly

demonstrate the success of their program outside of Oklahoma, rationale for building a presence in Oklahoma, and commitment to supporting doula expansion in Oklahoma beyond the five-year RHTP period.

16. If my fiscal sponsor is not located in Oklahoma, can we still apply?

- b. Fiscally sponsored organizations with fiscal sponsors located outside of Oklahoma may apply if the fiscally sponsored organization meets all criteria outlined in the NOFO.

17. 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.

18. What kind of insurance do we need to have? What if we cannot afford that much insurance?

- a. Applicants must have 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.

19. If I applied for another RHTP opportunity, can I still apply for the Expanding Care: Doula Program?

- a. Yes, there is no limitation on applying for multiple RHTP opportunities, even if awarded.

20. What types of entities can apply for this opportunity?

- a. The opportunity is open to community-based organizations, health care provider, tribal entities, higher education institutions, municipalities, state agencies, for profit/non-profit entities (c3 and c4), and others as applicable.
- b. Individuals may apply if meet all eligibility requirements outlined in the NOFO, including a UEI number.

21. 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.

22. Can I apply for only one component?

- a. Yes, applicants can apply for one or more components. Applicants must submit separate Smartsheet applications for each component. Each

Smartsheet application must include its own project plan, work plan, and budget.

23. Our organization is interested in starting a Doula initiative but currently does not have one. Are we eligible to apply?

- a. Per the NOFO, this funding opportunity is for applicants who can “demonstrate a track record of successful doula programming and partnerships in rural communities.”

24. The Doula NOFO states that out-of-state entities are eligible and should demonstrate rationale for building a presence in Oklahoma. Can you confirm that having an Oklahoma-based subcontractor satisfies the in-state presence requirement for program delivery purposes?

- a. Per the NOFO “While preference will be given to entities based in Oklahoma, out-of-state entities are eligible to apply. Out-of-state entities will be expected to clearly demonstrate the success of their program outside of Oklahoma, rationale for building a presence in Oklahoma, and commitment to supporting doula expansion in Oklahoma beyond the five-year RHTP period.” The burden of proof is on the applicant to demonstrate projected in-state presence and sustainability of planned programming.