

OAG 2025 OPIOID ABATEMENT GRANT WEBINAR

APPLICATION INFORMATION FOR
STATE HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

Monday, October 20, 2025

11:00 a.m.



Overview

- Background/Board
- 2025 Application
 - Timeline
 - Who Qualifies?
 - Priority Strategies
 - Appeals
- Technical Assistance, Monitoring & Evaluation
- Questions and Answers



The Opioid Crisis

- The opioid crisis has occurred in waves:
 - The first wave was driven by the oversupply of prescription opioids. Regulatory controls stemmed overprescribing.
 - Heroin-related overdose deaths started rising around 2010, marking the start of the second wave.
 - By 2014, synthetic opioids — mainly fentanyl and fentanyl analogs — accounted for most overdose deaths, marking the third wave.
 - We are currently experiencing the fourth wave of the opioid crisis. In Oklahoma, the stimulant fueling this fourth wave is methamphetamine. The co-use of methamphetamine and opioids (namely fentanyl) has caused a significant increase in overdose deaths involving both substances.

Source: Ciccarone, D. (2021). "The rise of illicit fentanyls, stimulants and the fourth wave of the opioid overdose crisis." *Current opinion in psychiatry*, 34(4), 344-350.
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC8154745/>



The Opioid Crisis

- Since 1999, more than a million people in the U.S. died from a drug overdose, the majority involved an opioid.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2023). Drug Overdose Deaths. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control.
<https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/deaths/index.htm>

- In 2017 alone, opioid use disorder and fatal opioid overdoses cost Oklahoma more than \$10 billion, according to an estimate by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- State and local governments sued opioid manufacturers, distributors and retailers for their role in the opioid crisis.



The Oklahoma Opioid Abatement Board

The Oklahoma Opioid Abatement Board, made up of nine members appointed by state elected officials, oversees the distribution of opioid settlement funds.

- Disburse opioid grant awards to eligible applicants
 - Subcommittee Review
 - Recommendations to full Board
- Appeals process
- Oversight & Enforcement



Total funding available

The Abatement Fund consists of certain funds obtained through settlements or judgments entered on behalf of the State of Oklahoma relating to opioid litigation that involves pharmaceutical supply chain participants.

These funds are appropriated by the legislature to the Attorney General's office for the Abatement Board to oversee and distribute.

- \$23,000,000 initially appropriated
- \$12,000,000 awarded first round of grants in 2024
- \$20,000,000 appropriated in 2025
- Estimated \$17,000,000 awarded for 2025 grants thus far
- Estimated \$12,000,000 remaining to award in 2025



2025 Applications



Timeline

Application Portal Opens: **November 1, 2025**



Application Portal Closes: **December 31, 2025**



Board Reviews Applications: **January – March 2026**



Grant award approvals and announcements: **April – May 2026**



Grant award funding roll out & Board hears appeals: **May – June 2026**



Who Qualifies for a Grant?

Starting November 1, 2025, the board of regents or board of trustees of a state educational institution which is a member of The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education will be considered an eligible political subdivision under the Political Subdivisions Opioid Abatement Grants Act.

There are currently 25 institutions included in this group of eligible applicants. A complete list can be found on our website:

[Opioid Abatement Grant](#)



Who Qualifies for a Grant? cont...

Those entities listed as distinct institutions in 70 O.S. § 3201; OAC 610:1-1-3 are eligible.

(University of Oklahoma Health Science Center, University of Oklahoma Law Center, Oklahoma Geological Survey, Oklahoma State University Agricultural Experiment Station, Oklahoma State University Agricultural Extension Division, Oklahoma State University College of Veterinary Medicine, Oklahoma State University Technical Branch, Oklahoma State University Technical Branch, and Oklahoma State University College of Osteopathic Medicine are considered constituent agencies of one of the above listed institutions and not distinct, separate members of the system).



Who Qualifies for a Grant? cont...

- (1) University of Oklahoma, Norman
- (2) Oklahoma State University, Stillwater
- (3) University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond
- (4) East Central University, Ada
- (5) Northeastern State University, Tahlequah
- (6) Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Alva
- (7) Southeastern Oklahoma State University, Durant
- (8) Southwestern Oklahoma University, Weatherford



Who Qualifies for a Grant? cont...

- (9) Cameron University, Lawton
- (10) Langston University, Langston
- (11) Oklahoma Panhandle State University, Goodwell
- (12) University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma, Chickasha
- (13) Carl Albert State College, Poteau
- (14) Connors State College of Agriculture and Applied Science, Wilburton
- (15) Eastern Oklahoma State College, Miami
- (16) Redlands Community College, El Reno



Who Qualifies for a Grant? cont...

- (17) Murray State College, Tishomingo
- (18) Northeastern Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College, Miami
- (19) Northern Oklahoma College, Tonkawa
- (20) Rose State College, Midwest City
- (21) Rogers State University, Claremore
- (22) Seminole State College, Seminole
- (23) Oklahoma City Community College, Oklahoma City
- (24) Tulsa Community College, Tulsa
- (25) Western Oklahoma State College, Altus



Funding Tiers

The funding amount for which each institution is eligible to apply is based on total full-time enrollment population. The amounts below reflect the maximum available funding an institution can be awarded for a 3-year project.

Tier	Enrollment (Full-time)	Maximum Funding
1	Up to 5,000	\$105,000
2	5,001-15,000	\$225,000
3	15,001-25,000	\$450,000
4	25,000 or more	\$900,000



Grading Rubric

Grading Rubric Suggestions for 2025 application cycle:

Core Questions:

Has there been any concern how this grantee has spent previously awarded opioid abatement money?	Yes	No	N/A
Is any part of this project NOT evidence-based and/or evidence-informed?	Yes	No	
Does this project include a proposal that is NOT a priority strategy(ies)?	Yes	No	
Are there any concerns that the budget does not reflect the proposed project or requires edits or includes inappropriate items?	Yes	No	

Scoring Overall Proposal:

1 – Unsatisfactory	2 – Needs improvement	3 – Satisfactory	4 – Good	5 - Excellent
Proposal lacks evidence-based practices, fails to adequately address local needs, has an unclear or unfeasible implementation plan, shows no meaningful collaboration, and lacks evaluation or sustainability planning.	Proposal has limited use of evidence-based practices, partially addresses local needs, has gaps in the implementation plan, shows minimal collaboration, and lacks clear evaluation or sustainability strategies.	Proposal uses some evidence-based practices, adequately addresses local needs, has a reasonable implementation plan, shows some collaboration, and includes basic evaluation and sustainability considerations.	Proposal shows strong use of evidence-based approaches, clearly addresses local needs, has a solid implementation plan, demonstrates good collaboration, and includes a clear evaluation and sustainability plan.	Proposal demonstrates exceptional use of evidence-based practices, addresses critical local needs, has a clear and feasible implementation plan, shows strong collaboration, and has a robust evaluation and sustainability strategy.



Priority Strategies for 2025 Opioid Abatement Applications

- ▶ Medications for the treatment of opioid use disorder (MOUD)
- ▶ Contingency Management (CM)
- ▶ Recovery housing
- ▶ Supported employment services
- ▶ Naloxone distribution



Priority Strategies for 2025 Opioid Abatement Applications (continued)

- ▶ School-based prevention
- ▶ Family skills
- ▶ Integration in healthcare
- ▶ Other evidence-based strategies
(with the submission of appropriate justification by the applicant)



Appeals

The Board will hear appeals regarding the following:

- Denials of funding for projects,
- Denials of specific fund use requests, and
- Denials of an application.

(Partial funding does not constitute denial).



Technical Assistance, Monitoring & Evaluation

Healthy Minds Policy Initiatives

Technical Support

Data

Office Hours

Learning Opportunities

The Steadman Group

Grant Closeout Support

Compliance

Evaluation

Performance Measures



Questions?

How will the funds be distributed?

- Quarterly Distributions.



Questions?

Are funds awarded on a reimbursement basis or on a forward funding basis?

- Funds will be awarded on a forward funding basis.



Questions?

Are matching funds required?

- No



Questions?

Are subgrants allowable?

- No. However, a grantee may contract for goods and/or services. The Grantee remains responsible for all aspects of compliance.



Questions?

What is the term of Grant?

- The Board expects 3 year project proposals for this round of awards.



Questions?

What are the reporting requirements?

- At a minimum, quarterly.
- Reporting requirements and guidance can be found linked on our website.



Questions?

Are there record retention requirements?

- Yes, seven years.



Questions?

What drugs are considered opioids?

- Please refer to the Johns Hopkins Medicine information on opioids.

[Opioids | Johns Hopkins Medicine](#)



Questions?

Can Applicants pay for costs incurred prior to the date of the Application?

- Yes, but only for abatement strategies, programming and services that started on or after January 1, 2015.
- Must be referenced as a part of your application proposal.



Questions?

Can a political subdivision submit multiple applications?

- No, but may propose multiple projects in one application.



Questions?

Is this a recurring yearly grant or is it a one-time grant?

- This is a one-time award for a proposal that will span 3 years.



Questions?

Can grant funds be used for salaries?

- Abatement funds for salaries must be directly tied to abatement efforts (treatment, education/prevention, criminal justice involved, recovery, harm reduction) and not for interdiction (patrol, investigation, and arrest activities)



Questions?

Can we hire a school nurse to service our students and community with grant funds?

- Possibly. Use of abatement funds for staff salaries would have to be directly tied to abatement efforts (treatment, education/prevention, criminal justice involved, recovery, harm reduction). Further, a political subdivision using abatement funds for staff may only do so by creating new positions or funding additional hours for existing staff that are directly related to opioid abatement services or programs created after January 1, 2015.



Questions?

What is the percent of indirect costs can be budgeted into the grant?

- Indirect costs are permitted but may not exceed 5% of the total grant award. Indirect costs may be charged by the grantee as part of their oversight. However, in no case should contractors charge grantees for indirect costs.



Questions?

Is website development for purposes of connecting the public to treatment providers, as well as disseminating Prevention resources and promoting other Abatement strategies an authorized purpose?

- No



Questions?

Where can political subdivisions find the data required for the Application?

- Data and best practices can be found in the linked resources in the Healthy Minds Guidance document on the Board website. Data can be found on page 8 and best practices on page 10.
- For assistance with the application, please contact Healthy Minds using this link: [Substance Use & Overdose Prevention \(healthymindspolicy.org\)](https://healthymindspolicy.org)



Contact Information

- Additional questions can be submitted to OAB@oag.ok.gov.
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- Traci Ballard, Deputy General Counsel
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Resources

- OAG website [Opioid Abatement Grant](#)
- Health Minds Policy Initiative Guidance and Priority Strategies [Priority strategies for opioid abatement in Oklahoma](#)
- Oklahoma Prevention Needs Assessment [Oklahoma Prevention Needs Assessment \(OPNA\)](#)
- Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, Data Dashboards [Dashboards](#)
- Oklahoma State Department of Health, Injury Prevention Service [Injury Prevention Service](#)
- National Association of Counties Planning Principles Toolkit [Planning Principles Toolkit | National Association of Counties](#)
- Johns Hopkins Medicine [Opioids | Johns Hopkins Medicine](#)



Questions?

