



## Executive Committee Beaufort County, SC

This meeting will be held both in person at the County Council Chambers, 100 Ribaut Road, Beaufort and also virtually through Zoom.

**Monday, January 03, 2022  
2:00 PM**

### AGENDA

#### COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

**PAUL SOMMERVILLE, CHAIRMAN      LAWRENCE MCELYNN**  
**ALICE HOWARD                              STU RODMAN**  
**MARK LAWSON**

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. PUBLIC NOTIFICATION OF THIS MEETING HAS BEEN PUBLISHED, POSTED, AND DISTRIBUTED IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE SOUTH CAROLINA FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT
4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES- DECEMBER 6, 2021
6. **CITIZEN COMMENTS - (ANYONE who wishes to speak during the Citizen Comment portion of the meeting will limit their comments to no longer than three (3) minutes ( a total of 15 minutes ) and will address Council in a respectful manner appropriate to the decorum of the meeting, refraining from the use of profane, abusive, or obscene language)**
7. UPDATE FROM ASSISTANT COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR, PATRICK HILL, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

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### AGENDA ITEMS

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8. ACCEPTANCE OF A GRANT AWARD FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FOR THE BEAUFORT COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$70,005
9. ACCEPTANCE OF A GRANT AWARD FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FOR THE BEAUFORT COUNTY CORONER'S OFFICE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$113,227.
10. APPROVAL FOR THE ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE DEPARTMENT TO APPLY FOR THE RCORP IMPLEMENTATION GRANT
11. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE ELEMENTS OF THE RULES AND PROCEDURES HANDBOOK

12. APPOINTMENT OF DEAN NADLER TO THE SEABROOK POINT, SPECIAL TAX DISTRICT FOR AN EXPIRATION DATE OF 2026.

13. ADJOURNMENT

**TO WATCH COMMITTEE OR COUNTY COUNCIL MEETINGS OR FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF AGENDAS AND BACKUP PACKAGES, PLEASE VISIT:**

<https://beaufortcountysc.gov/council/council-committee-meetings/index.html>



## Executive Committee Beaufort County, SC

This meeting will be held both in-person in Council Chambers at 100 Ribaut Road, Beaufort, and virtually through Zoom

Monday, December 06, 2021  
2:00 PM

### MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Committee Chairman Sommerville called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM

**PRESENT**

Committee Chairman D. Paul Sommerville  
Council Member Joseph F. Passiment  
Council Member Mark Lawson  
Council Member Brian Flewelling  
Council Member Lawrence McElynn  
Council Member Stu Rodman  
Council Member Chris Hervochon  
Council Member Howard  
Council Member York Glover  
Council Member Gerald Dawson  
Council Member Logan Cunningham

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Committee Chairman Sommerville led the Pledge of Allegiance

3. **FOIA**

Committee Chairman Sommerville stated public notice of this meeting had been published, posted, and distributed in compliance with the SC FOIA Act.

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Motion:** It is moved by Council Member Rodman, seconded by Council Member Glover to approve the agenda. The motion was approved without objection.

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Motion:** It is moved by Council Member Passiment, seconded by Council Member Rodman to approve the November 1, 2021 minutes. The motion was approved without objection.

6. **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Town of Bluffton Mayor, Lisa Sulka. Item number 8, 10, and 11.

**AGENDA ITEMS**

7. **DISCUSSION OF 2022 PENNY SALES TAX REFERENDUM, JARED FRALIX- ACA, ENGINEERING**

**Discussion:** To see the full discussion click the link below.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/148996>

**Motion:** It Was Moved by Council Member Cunningham, Seconded by Council Member Howard To Move This Item Forward to The Public Facilities Committee in January 2022. The Motion Was Approved Without Objection.

8. **APPROVAL OF ARPA PROJECT LIST RECOMMENDATIONS- JARED FRALIX AND HEATHER RATH**

**Discussion:** To see the full discussion click the link below.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/148996>

9. **CONSIDERATION OF AN ORDINANCE REDISTRICTING THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF BEAUFORT COUNTY- DAN MORGAN, GIS AND MAPPING**

**Discussion:** To see the full discussion click the link below.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/148996>

**Motion:** It Was Moved by Council Member Passiment, Seconded by Council Member Hervochon To Adopt Scenario 3A And Forward to County Council. The Motion Was Approved Without Objection.

10. **A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE BEAUFORT COUNTY FLOOD MITIGATION ASSISTANCE POLICY- PAMELA COBB, DISASTER RECOVERY**

**Discussion:** To see the full discussion click the link below.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/148996>

**Motion:** It Was Moved by Council Member McElynn, Seconded by Council Member Rodman to Approve the Resolution to Adopt the Beaufort County Flood Mitigation Assistance Policy and Forward to County Council. The Motion Was Approved Without Objection.

11. **A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING FEDERAL FLOOD MITIGATION ASSISTANCE REIMBURSABLE GRANT PROGRAMS- PAMELA COBB, DISASTER RECOVERY**

**Discussion:** To see the full discussion click the link below.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/148996>

**Motion:** It Was Moved by Council Member Rodman, Seconded by Council Member Passiment To Approve A Resolution Supporting Federal Flood Mitigation Assistance Reimbursable Grant Programs and Forward to County Council. The Motion Was Approved Without Objection.

12. **DISCUSSION REGARDING THE ELEMENTS OF THE RULES AND PROCEDURES HANDBOOK**

**Discussion:** To see the full discussion click the link below.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/148996>

13. **REQUEST TO PURCHASE CAT MODEL 120, MOTOR GRADER**

**Discussion:** To see the full discussion click the link below.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/148996>

**Motion:** It Was Moved by Council Member Flewelling, Seconded by Council Member Dawson To Approve the Request to Purchase CAT Model 120, Motor Grader, And Forward to Council for Approval. The Motion Was Approved Without Objection.

14. **APPOINTMENT OF CAROLYN M. BANNER, PH.D. TO THE BEAUFORT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES WITH AN EXPIRATION DATE OF 2025**

**Discussion:** To see the full discussion click the link below.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/148996>

**Motion:** It Was Approved by Council Member Flewelling, Seconded by Council Member Dawson To Approve the Appointment of Carolyn M. Banner, Ph.D. To the Beaufort Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees, And Forward to Council for Approval. The Motion Was Approved Without Objection.

15. **APPOINTMENT OF ANGELA D. SIMMONS, PH.D. TO THE BEAUFORT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR A PARTIAL 1<sup>ST</sup> TERM WITH AN EXPIRATION DATE OF 2023**

**Discussion:** To see the full discussion click the link below.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/148996>

**Motion:** It Was Moved by Council Member Flewelling, Seconded by Council Member Dawson To Approve the Appointment of Angela D. Simmons, Ph.D. To The Beaufort Memorial Hospital Board Of Trustees And Forward To County Council For Approval. The Motion Was Approved Without Objection.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Discussion:** To see the full discussion click the link below.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/148996>

16. **PURSUANT TO S.C. CODE SEC. 30-4-70(A) RECEIPT OF LEGAL ADVICE WHERE THE ADVICE RELATES TO A PENDING, THREATENED, OR POTENTIAL CLAIM (PROSPECT ROAD) OR OTHER MATTERS COVERED BY THE ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE (BCSD INTEREST IN FISCAL AUTONOMY)**

The matter was postponed reviewing in January 2022.

17. **MATTERS ARISING OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**

No matters arising out of Executive Session

18. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 4:19 PM.

**Ratified by Committee:**



# BEAUFORT COUNTY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

|   |
|---|
| <b>ITEM TITLE:</b>  |
| <i>Acceptance of a Grant Award from the Department of Justice for the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office</i>  |
| <b>MEETING NAME AND DATE:</b>   |
| <i>Executive Committee, January 3, 2022</i>   |
| <b>PRESENTER INFORMATION:</b>   |
| <i>John Donahue, BCSO</i><br><i>5 minutes</i>   |
| <b>ITEM BACKGROUND:</b>   |
| <i>The Beaufort County Sheriff's Office applied for a grant to the Department of Justice Capacity Enhancement for Backlog Reduction (CEBR) Program, which has since been awarded.</i><br><i>A copy of the unsigned grant agreement is attached.</i>     |
| <b>PROJECT / ITEM NARRATIVE:</b>  |
| <i>BCSO applied for and was awarded a grant through the Department of Justice CEBR Program. The funds will be used to purchase equipment to increase the DNA lab's extraction capacity; the project period is October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2023.</i> |
| <b>FISCAL IMPACT:</b>   |
| <i>The Department of Justice has awarded the Sheriff's Office \$70,005 in Federal funds; no matching funds are required.</i>  |
| <b>STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL:</b>  |
| <i>Staff recommendation is to approve acceptance of the grant award.</i>  |
| <b>OPTIONS FOR COUNCIL MOTION:</b>  |
| <i>Approve the Motion and move forward to County Council's meeting on January 10, 2022</i><br><i>Deny the Motion</i>  |

## ▼ Award Letter

December 2, 2021

Dear Whitney Richland,

On behalf of Attorney General Merrick B. Garland, it is my pleasure to inform you the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) has approved the application submitted by COUNTY OF BEAUFORT for an award under the funding opportunity entitled 2021 BJA FY 21 DNA Capacity Enhancement for Backlog Reduction (CEBR) Program. The approved award amount is \$70,005.

Review the Award Instrument below carefully and familiarize yourself with all conditions and requirements before accepting your award. The Award Instrument includes the Award Offer (Award Information, Project Information, Financial Information, and Award Conditions) and Award Acceptance.

Please note that award requirements include not only the conditions and limitations set forth in the Award Offer, but also compliance with assurances and certifications that relate to conduct during the period of performance for the award. These requirements encompass financial, administrative, and programmatic matters, as well as other important matters (e.g., specific restrictions on use of funds). Therefore, all key staff should receive the award conditions, the assurances and certifications, and the application as approved by OJP, so that they understand the award requirements. Information on all pertinent award requirements also must be provided to any subrecipient of the award.

Should you accept the award and then fail to comply with an award requirement, DOJ will pursue appropriate remedies for non-compliance, which may include termination of the award and/or a requirement to repay award funds.

To accept the award, the Authorized Representative(s) must accept all parts of the Award Offer in the Justice Grants System (JustGrants), including by executing the required declaration and certification, within 45 days from the award date.

Congratulations, and we look forward to working with you.

Amy Solomon  
Acting Assistant Attorney General

### Office for Civil Rights Notice for All Recipients

The Office for Civil Rights (OCR), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) has been delegated the responsibility for ensuring that recipients of federal financial



assistance from the OJP, the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS), and the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) are not engaged in discrimination prohibited by law. Several federal civil rights laws, such as Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, require recipients of federal financial assistance to give assurances that they will comply with those laws. Taken together, these civil rights laws prohibit recipients of federal financial assistance from DOJ from discriminating in services and employment because of race, color, national origin, religion, disability, sex, and, for grants authorized under the Violence Against Women Act, sexual orientation and gender identity.

Item 8.

Recipients are also prohibited from discriminating in services because of age. For a complete review of these civil rights laws and nondiscrimination requirements, in connection with DOJ awards, see <https://ojp.gov/funding/Explore/LegalOverview/CivilRightsRequirements.htm>.

Under the delegation of authority, the OCR investigates allegations of discrimination against recipients from individuals, entities, or groups. In addition, the OCR conducts limited compliance reviews and audits based on regulatory criteria. These reviews and audits permit the OCR to evaluate whether recipients of financial assistance from the Department are providing services in a nondiscriminatory manner to their service population or have employment practices that meet equal-opportunity standards.

If you are a recipient of grant awards under the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act or the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act and your agency is part of a criminal justice system, there are two additional obligations that may apply in connection with the awards: (1) complying with the regulation relating to Equal Employment Opportunity Programs (EEOs); and (2) submitting findings of discrimination to OCR. For additional information regarding the EEO requirement, see 28 CFR Part 42, subpart E, and for additional information regarding requirements when there is an adverse finding, see 28 C.F.R. §§ 42.204(c), .205(c) (5).

The OCR is available to help you and your organization meet the civil rights requirements that are associated with DOJ grant funding. If you would like the OCR to assist you in fulfilling your organization's civil rights or nondiscrimination responsibilities as a recipient of federal financial assistance, please do not hesitate to contact the OCR at [askOCR@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:askOCR@ojp.usdoj.gov).

## Memorandum Regarding NEPA

NEPA Letter Type

OJP - Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA)

NEPA Letter

***DNA Capacity Enhancement for Backlog Reduction (CEBR) Program provides funding to states and units of local government with existing crime laboratories to increase the capacity of publicly funded forensic DNA and DNA database laboratories to process more DNA samples, thereby helping to reduce the number of forensic DNA and DNA database samples awaiting analysis and/or prevent a backlog of forensic and database DNA samples.***

The activities the recipient has proposed to conduct under this award fall within the scope of a Programmatic EA that complies with the NEPA. These activities have been determined not to have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment.

Item 8.

Throughout the term of this award, the recipient agrees to comply with all Federal, State, and local environmental laws and regulations applicable to the development and implementation of the activities to be funded under this award. Further, the recipient agrees that for any activity that to be funded under this award, it will inform OJP of-- (1) any change(s) that it is considering making to the previously assessed activity that may be relevant to environmental impact; or (2) any proposed new activities or changed circumstances that may require assessment as to environmental impact, such as new activities that involve the use of chemicals or

involve construction or major renovation. The recipient will not implement a proposed change or new activity until OJP, with the assistance of the recipient, has determined whether the proposed change or new activity (or changed circumstances) will require additional review under NEPA. Approval for implementation will not be unreasonably withheld as long as any requested modification(s) is consistent with eligible program purposes and found acceptable under an OJP-conducted environmental impact review process.

Questions about this determination may be directed to your grant manager or Environmental Coordinator for the Bureau of Justice Assistance.

NEPA Coordinator

First Name

Middle Name

Last Name

Orbin

\_\_\_\_\_

Terry

∨ **Award Information**

**This award is offered subject to the conditions or limitations set forth in the Award Information, Project Information, Financial Information, and Award Conditions.**

 **Recipient Information**

**Recipient Name**

COUNTY OF BEAUFORT

**DUNS Number**

080775331

**Street 1**

100 RIBAUT RD

**Street 2**

\_\_\_\_\_

**City**

**State/U.S. Territory**

BEAUFORT

South Carolina

**Zip/Postal Code**

**Country**

29902

United States

**County/Parish**

**Province**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### Award Details

**Federal Award Date**

12/2/21

**Award Type**

Initial

**Award Number**

15PBJA-21-GG-03182-DNAX

**Supplement Number**

00

**Federal Award Amount**

\$70,005.00

**Funding Instrument Type**

Grant

#### Assistance Listing Number   Assistance Listings Program Title

16.741

#### Statutory Authority

Department of Justice Appropriations Act, 2021, Pub. L. 116-260, 134 Stat 1182, 1258.

*I have read and understand the information presented in this section of the Federal Award Instrument.*

### ▼ Project Information

**This award is offered subject to the conditions or limitations set forth in the Award Information, Project Information, Financial Information, and Award Conditions.**

**Solicitation Title**

2021 BJA FY 21 DNA Capacity Enhancement for Backlog Reduction (CEBR) Program

**Awarding Agency**

OJP  
**Program Office**  
BJA

**Application Number**

GRANT13392250

**Grant Manager Name** **Phone Number**  
Christine Torres [202-305-1978](tel:202-305-1978)

**E-mail Address**  
[Christine.Torres@usdoj.gov](mailto:Christine.Torres@usdoj.gov)

**Project Title**

FY2020 DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction (CEBR) Program - Beaufort County Sheriff's Office

|                                      |                                    |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>Performance Period Start Date</b> | <b>Performance Period End Date</b> |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|

|            |            |
|------------|------------|
| 10/01/2021 | 09/30/2023 |
|------------|------------|

|                                 |                               |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Budget Period Start Date</b> | <b>Budget Period End Date</b> |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|

|            |            |
|------------|------------|
| 10/01/2021 | 09/30/2023 |
|------------|------------|

**Project Description**

The Beaufort County Sheriff's Office Forensic Services Laboratory provides forensic DNA testing of biological evidence recovered from criminal investigations in Beaufort County, South Carolina. This biological evidence is submitted to the laboratory by law enforcement

agencies of Beaufort County, South Carolina, which together serve an estimated 192,000 residents. The laboratory began DNA testing in 2010 on cases with known criminal suspects. The laboratory was accredited by Forensic Quality Services (now known as ANAB) under the ISO/IEC 17025 Standard in 2011; following this, the laboratory began accepting cases with unknown suspects. As a result, submissions to the laboratory for DNA casework increased significantly. Funds will be used to purchase a Qiagen EZ2 Connect extraction workstation to increase the laboratory's DNA extraction capacity. Funds will also be used to purchase a one year maintenance contract to ensure that the EZ2 Connect is protected for a total of two years.

*I have read and understand the information presented in this section of the Federal Award Instrument.*

## ✓ Financial Information

**This award is offered subject to the conditions or limitations set forth in the Award Information, Project Information, Financial Information, and Award Conditions.**

*I have read and understand the information presented in this section of the Federal Award Instrument.*

## ✓ Award Conditions

**This award is offered subject to the conditions or limitations set forth in the Award Information, Project Information, Financial Information, and Award Conditions.**



Applicability of Part 200 Uniform Requirements

The Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements in 2 C.F.R. Part 200, as adopted and supplemented by DOJ in 2 C.F.R. Part 2800 (together, the "Part 200 Uniform Requirements") apply to this FY 2021 award from OJP.

The Part 200 Uniform Requirements were first adopted by DOJ on December 26, 2014. If this FY 2021 award supplements funds previously awarded by OJP under the same award number (e.g., funds awarded during or before December 2014), the Part 200 Uniform Requirements apply with respect to all funds under that award number (regardless of the award date, and regardless of whether derived from the initial award or a supplemental award) that are obligated on or after the acceptance date of this FY 2021 award.

For more information and resources on the Part 200 Uniform Requirements as they relate to OJP awards and subawards ("subgrants"), see the OJP website at <https://ojp.gov/funding/Part200UniformRequirements.htm>.

Record retention and access: Records pertinent to the award that the recipient (and any subrecipient ("subgrantee") at any tier) must retain -- typically for a period of 3 years from the date of submission of the final expenditure report (SF 425), unless a different retention period applies -- and to which the recipient (and any subrecipient ("subgrantee") at any tier) must provide access, include performance measurement information, in addition to the financial records, supporting documents, statistical records, and other pertinent records indicated at 2 C.F.R. 200.333.

In the event that an award-related question arises from documents or other materials prepared or distributed by OJP that may appear to conflict with, or differ in some way from, the provisions of the Part 200 Uniform Requirements, the recipient is to contact OJP promptly for clarification.

## 2

Requirement to report actual or imminent breach of personally identifiable information (PII)

The recipient (and any "subrecipient" at any tier) must have written procedures in place to respond in the event of an actual or imminent "breach" (OMB M-17-12) if it (or a subrecipient) -

- (1) creates, collects, uses, processes, stores, maintains, disseminates, discloses, or disposes of "Personally Identifiable Information (PII)" (2 CFR 200.1) within the scope of an OJP grant-funded program or activity, or (2) uses or operates a "Federal information system" (OMB Circular A-130). The recipient's breach procedures must include a requirement to report actual or imminent breach of PII to an OJP Program Manager no later than 24 hours after an occurrence of an actual breach, or the detection of an imminent breach.

## 3

Required training for Grant Award Administrator and Financial Manager

The Grant Award Administrator and all Financial Managers for this award must have successfully completed an "OJP financial management and grant administration training" by 120 days after the date of the recipient's acceptance of the award. Successful completion of such a training on or after January 1, 2019, will satisfy this condition.

In the event that either the Grant Award Administrator or a Financial Manager for this award changes during the period of performance, the new Grant Award Administrator or Financial Manager must have successfully completed an "OJP financial management and grant

administration training" by 120 calendar days after the date the Entity Administrator enters updated Grant Award Administrator or Financial Manager information in JustGrants. Successful completion of such a training on or after January 1, 2019, will satisfy this condition.

A list of OJP trainings that OJP will consider "OJP financial management and grant administration training" for purposes of this condition is available at <https://www.ojp.gov/training/fmts.htm>. All trainings that satisfy this condition include a session on grant fraud prevention and detection.

The recipient should anticipate that OJP will immediately withhold ("freeze") award funds if the recipient fails to comply with this condition. The recipient's failure to comply also may lead OJP to impose additional appropriate conditions on this award.

#### 4

##### Safe policing and law enforcement subrecipients

If this award is a discretionary award, the recipient agrees that it will not make any subawards to State, local, college, or university law enforcement agencies unless such agencies have been certified by an approved independent credentialing body or have started the certification process. To become certified, law enforcement agencies must meet two mandatory conditions: (1) the agency's use of force policies adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws; and (2) the agency's use of force policies prohibit chokeholds except in situations where use of deadly force is allowed by law. For detailed information on this certification requirement, see <https://cops.usdoj.gov/SafePolicingEO>.

#### 5

##### Effect of failure to address audit issues

The recipient understands and agrees that the DOJ awarding agency (OJP or OVW, as appropriate) may withhold award funds, or may impose other related requirements, if (as determined by the DOJ awarding agency) the recipient does not satisfactorily and promptly address outstanding issues from audits required by the Part 200 Uniform Requirements (or by the terms of this award), or other outstanding issues that arise in connection with audits, investigations, or reviews of DOJ awards.

#### 6

##### Requirements of the award; remedies for non-compliance or for materially false statements

The conditions of this award are material requirements of the award. Compliance with any assurances or certifications submitted by or on behalf of the recipient that relate to conduct during the period of performance also is a material requirement of this award.

Limited Exceptions. In certain special circumstances, the U.S. Department of Justice ("DOJ") may determine that it will not enforce, or enforce only in part, one or more requirements otherwise applicable to the award. Any such exceptions regarding enforcement, including any such exceptions made during the period of performance, are (or will be during the period of performance) set out through the Office of Justice Programs ("OJP") webpage entitled "Legal Notices: Special circumstances as to particular award conditions" ([ojp.gov/funding/Explore/LegalNotices-AwardReqs.htm](http://ojp.gov/funding/Explore/LegalNotices-AwardReqs.htm)), and incorporated by reference into

the award.

Item 8.

By signing and accepting this award on behalf of the recipient, the authorized recipient official accepts all material requirements of the award, and specifically adopts, as if personally executed by the authorized recipient official, all assurances or certifications submitted by or on behalf of the recipient that relate to conduct during the period of performance.

Failure to comply with one or more award requirements -- whether a condition set out in full below, a condition incorporated by reference below, or an assurance or certification related to conduct during the award period -- may result in OJP taking appropriate action with respect to the recipient and the award. Among other things, the OJP may withhold award funds, disallow costs, or suspend or terminate the award. DOJ, including OJP, also may take other legal action as appropriate.

Any materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement to the federal government related to this award (or concealment or omission of a material fact) may be the subject of criminal prosecution (including under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and/or 1621, and/or 34 U.S.C. 10271-10273), and also may lead to imposition of civil penalties and administrative remedies for false claims or otherwise (including under 31 U.S.C. 3729-3730 and 3801-3812).

Should any provision of a requirement of this award be held to be invalid or unenforceable by its terms, that provision shall first be applied with a limited construction so as to give it the maximum effect permitted by law. Should it be held, instead, that the provision is utterly invalid or -unenforceable, such provision shall be deemed severable from this award.



Compliance with DOJ regulations pertaining to civil rights and nondiscrimination - 28 C.F.R. Part 38

The recipient, and any subrecipient ("subgrantee") at any tier, must comply with all applicable requirements of 28 C.F.R. Part 38 (as may be applicable from time to time), specifically including any applicable requirements regarding written notice to program beneficiaries and prospective program beneficiaries.

Currently, among other things, 28 C.F.R. Part 38 includes rules that prohibit specific forms of discrimination on the basis of religion, a religious belief, a refusal to hold a religious belief, or refusal to attend or participate in a religious practice. Part 38, currently, also sets out rules and requirements that pertain to recipient and subrecipient ("subgrantee") organizations that engage in or conduct explicitly religious activities, as well as rules and requirements that pertain to recipients and subrecipients that are faith-based or religious organizations.

The text of 28 C.F.R. Part 38 is available via the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations (currently accessible at <https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/ECFR?page=browse>), by browsing to Title 28-Judicial Administration, Chapter 1, Part 38, under e-CFR "current" data.



Compliance with DOJ regulations pertaining to civil rights and nondiscrimination - 28 C.F.R. Part 42

The recipient, and any subrecipient ("subgrantee") at any tier, must comply with all applicable



requirements of 28 C.F.R. Part 42, specifically including any applicable requirements in Subpart E of 28 C.F.R. Part 42 that relate to an equal employment opportunity program.

### 9

Compliance with DOJ regulations pertaining to civil rights and nondiscrimination - 28 C.F.R. Part 54

The recipient, and any subrecipient ("subgrantee") at any tier, must comply with all applicable requirements of 28 C.F.R. Part 54, which relates to nondiscrimination on the basis of sex in certain "education programs."

### 10

Compliance with 41 U.S.C. 4712 (including prohibitions on reprisal; notice to employees)

The recipient (and any subrecipient at any tier) must comply with, and is subject to, all applicable provisions of 41 U.S.C. 4712, including all applicable provisions that prohibit, under specified circumstances, discrimination against an employee as reprisal for the employee's disclosure of information related to gross mismanagement of a federal grant, a gross waste of federal funds, an abuse of authority relating to a federal grant, a substantial and specific danger to public health or safety, or a violation of law, rule, or regulation related to a federal grant.

The recipient also must inform its employees, in writing (and in the predominant native language of the workforce), of employee rights and remedies under 41 U.S.C. 4712.

Should a question arise as to the applicability of the provisions of 41 U.S.C. 4712 to this award, the recipient is to contact the DOJ awarding agency (OJP or OVW, as appropriate) for guidance.

### 11

Compliance with applicable rules regarding approval, planning, and reporting of conferences, meetings, trainings, and other events

The recipient, and any subrecipient ("subgrantee") at any tier, must comply with all applicable laws, regulations, policies, and official DOJ guidance (including specific cost limits, prior approval and reporting requirements, where applicable) governing the use of federal funds for expenses related to conferences (as that term is defined by DOJ), including the provision of food and/or beverages at such conferences, and costs of attendance at such conferences.

Information on the pertinent DOJ definition of conferences and the rules applicable to this award appears in the DOJ Grants Financial Guide (currently, as section 3.10 of "Postaward Requirements" in the "DOJ Grants Financial Guide").

### 12

Requirement for data on performance and effectiveness under the award

The recipient must collect and maintain data that measure the performance and effectiveness of work under this award. The data must be provided to OJP in the manner (including within the timeframes) specified by OJP in the program solicitation or other applicable written

guidance. Data collection supports compliance with the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) and the GPRA Modernization Act of 2010, and other applicable laws.

Item 8.

### 13

Requirements related to "de minimis" indirect cost rate

A recipient that is eligible under the Part 200 Uniform Requirements and other applicable law to use the "de minimis" indirect cost rate described in 2 C.F.R. 200.414(f), and that elects to use the "de minimis" indirect cost rate, must advise OJP in writing of both its eligibility and its election, and must comply with all associated requirements in the Part 200 Uniform Requirements. The "de minimis" rate may be applied only to modified total direct costs (MTDC) as defined by the Part 200 Uniform Requirements.

### 14

Determination of suitability to interact with participating minors

SCOPE. This condition applies to this award if it is indicated -- in the application for the award (as approved by DOJ)(or in the application for any subaward, at any tier), the DOJ funding announcement (solicitation), or an associated federal statute -- that a purpose of some or all of the activities to be carried out under the award (whether by the recipient, or a subrecipient at any tier) is to benefit a set of individuals under 18 years of age.

The recipient, and any subrecipient at any tier, must make determinations of suitability before certain individuals may interact with participating minors. This requirement applies regardless of an individual's employment status.

The details of this requirement are posted on the OJP web site at <https://ojp.gov/funding/Explore/Interact-Minors.htm> (Award condition: Determination of suitability required, in advance, for certain individuals who may interact with participating minors), and are incorporated by reference here.

### 15

Requirement to disclose whether recipient is designated "high risk" by a federal grant-making agency outside of DOJ

If the recipient is designated "high risk" by a federal grant-making agency outside of DOJ, currently or at any time during the course of the period of performance under this award, the recipient must disclose that fact and certain related information to OJP by email at [OJP.ComplianceReporting@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:OJP.ComplianceReporting@ojp.usdoj.gov). For purposes of this disclosure, high risk includes any status under which a federal awarding agency provides additional oversight due to the recipient's past performance, or other programmatic or financial concerns with the recipient. The recipient's disclosure must include the following: 1. The federal awarding agency that currently designates the recipient high risk, 2. The date the recipient was designated high risk, 3. The high-risk point of contact at that federal awarding agency (name, phone number, and email address), and 4. The reasons for the high-risk status, as set out by the federal awarding agency.

### 16

Compliance with DOJ Grants Financial Guide

References to the DOJ Grants Financial Guide are to the DOJ Grants Financial Guide as posted on the OJP website (currently, the "DOJ Grants Financial Guide" available at <https://ojp.gov/financialguide/DOJ/index.htm>), including any updated version that may be posted during the period of performance. The recipient agrees to comply with the DOJ Grants Financial Guide.

## 17

Encouragement of policies to ban text messaging while driving

Pursuant to Executive Order 13513, "Federal Leadership on Reducing Text Messaging While Driving," 74 Fed. Reg. 51225 (October 1, 2009), DOJ encourages recipients and subrecipients ("subgrantees") to adopt and enforce policies banning employees from text messaging while driving any vehicle during the course of performing work funded by this award, and to establish workplace safety policies and conduct education, awareness, and other outreach to decrease crashes caused by distracted drivers.

## 18

Compliance with general appropriations-law restrictions on the use of federal funds (FY 2021)

The recipient, and any subrecipient ("subgrantee") at any tier, must comply with all applicable restrictions on the use of federal funds set out in federal appropriations statutes. Pertinent restrictions, including from various "general provisions" in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, are set out at <https://ojp.gov/funding/Explore/FY21AppropriationsRestrictions.htm>, and are incorporated by reference here.

Should a question arise as to whether a particular use of federal funds by a recipient (or a subrecipient) would or might fall within the scope of an appropriations-law restriction, the recipient is to contact OJP for guidance, and may not proceed without the express prior written approval of OJP.

## 19

Potential imposition of additional requirements

The recipient agrees to comply with any additional requirements that may be imposed by the DOJ awarding agency (OJP or OVW, as appropriate) during the period of performance for this award, if the recipient is designated as "high-risk" for purposes of the DOJ high-risk grantee list.

## 20

Employment eligibility verification for hiring under the award

1. The recipient (and any subrecipient at any tier) must--

A. Ensure that, as part of the hiring process for any position within the United States that is or will be funded (in whole or in part) with award funds, the recipient (or any subrecipient) properly verifies the employment eligibility of the individual who is being hired, consistent with the provisions of 8 U.S.C. 1324a(a)(1).

B. Notify all persons associated with the recipient (or any subrecipient) who are or will be

involved in activities under this award of both--

(1) this award requirement for verification of employment eligibility, and

(2) the associated provisions in 8 U.S.C. 1324a(a)(1) that, generally speaking, make it unlawful, in the United States, to hire (or recruit for employment) certain aliens.

C. Provide training (to the extent necessary) to those persons required by this condition to be notified of the award requirement for employment eligibility verification and of the associated provisions of 8 U.S.C. 1324a(a)(1).

D. As part of the recordkeeping for the award (including pursuant to the Part 200 Uniform Requirements), maintain records of all employment eligibility verifications pertinent to compliance with this award condition in accordance with Form I-9 record retention requirements, as well as records of all pertinent notifications and trainings.

## 2. Monitoring

The recipient's monitoring responsibilities include monitoring of subrecipient compliance with this condition.

## 3. Allowable costs

To the extent that such costs are not reimbursed under any other federal program, award funds may be obligated for the reasonable, necessary, and allocable costs (if any) of actions designed to ensure compliance with this condition.

## 4. Rules of construction

### A. Staff involved in the hiring process

For purposes of this condition, persons "who are or will be involved in activities under this award" specifically includes (without limitation) any and all recipient (or any subrecipient) officials or other staff who are or will be involved in the hiring process with respect to a position that is or will be funded (in whole or in part) with award funds.

### B. Employment eligibility confirmation with E-Verify

For purposes of satisfying the requirement of this condition regarding verification of employment eligibility, the recipient (or any subrecipient) may choose to participate in, and use, E-Verify ([www.e-verify.gov](http://www.e-verify.gov)), provided an appropriate person authorized to act on behalf of the recipient (or subrecipient) uses E-Verify (and follows the proper E-Verify procedures, including in the event of a "Tentative Nonconfirmation" or a "Final Nonconfirmation") to confirm employment eligibility for each hiring for a position in the United States that is or will be funded (in whole or in part) with award funds.

C. "United States" specifically includes the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Islands of the United States, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

D. Nothing in this condition shall be understood to authorize or require any recipient, any subrecipient at any tier, or any person or other entity, to violate any federal law, including any applicable civil rights or nondiscrimination law.

E. Nothing in this condition, including in paragraph 4.B., shall be understood to relieve any

recipient, any subrecipient at any tier, or any person or other entity, of any obligation otherwise imposed by law, including 8 U.S.C. 1324a(a)(1). Item 8.

Questions about E-Verify should be directed to DHS. For more information about E-Verify visit the E-Verify website (<https://www.e-verify.gov/>) or email E-Verify at [E-Verify@dhs.gov](mailto:E-Verify@dhs.gov). E-Verify employer agents can email E-Verify at [E-VerifyEmployerAgent@dhs.gov](mailto:E-VerifyEmployerAgent@dhs.gov).

Questions about the meaning or scope of this condition should be directed to OJP, before award acceptance.

## 21

Restrictions and certifications regarding non-disclosure agreements and related matters

No recipient or subrecipient ("subgrantee") under this award, or entity that receives a procurement contract or subcontract with any funds under this award, may require any employee or contractor to sign an internal confidentiality agreement or statement that prohibits or otherwise restricts, or purports to prohibit or restrict, the reporting (in accordance with law) of waste, fraud, or abuse to an investigative or law enforcement representative of a federal department or agency authorized to receive such information.

The foregoing is not intended, and shall not be understood by the agency making this award, to contravene requirements applicable to Standard Form 312 (which relates to classified information), Form 4414 (which relates to sensitive compartmented information), or any other form issued by a federal department or agency governing the nondisclosure of classified information.

1. In accepting this award, the recipient--

a. represents that it neither requires nor has required internal confidentiality agreements or statements from employees or contractors that currently prohibit or otherwise currently restrict (or purport to prohibit or restrict) employees or contractors from reporting waste, fraud, or abuse as described above; and

b. certifies that, if it learns or is notified that it is or has been requiring its employees or contractors to execute agreements or statements that prohibit or otherwise restrict (or purport to prohibit or restrict), reporting of waste, fraud, or abuse as described above, it will immediately stop any further obligations of award funds, will provide prompt written notification to the federal agency making this award, and will resume (or permit resumption of) such obligations only if expressly authorized to do so by that agency.

2. If the recipient does or is authorized under this award to make subawards ("subgrants"), procurement contracts, or both--

a. it represents that--

(1) it has determined that no other entity that the recipient's application proposes may or will receive award funds (whether through a subaward ("subgrant"), procurement contract, or subcontract under a procurement contract) either requires or has required internal confidentiality agreements or statements from employees or contractors that currently prohibit or otherwise currently restrict (or purport to prohibit or restrict) employees or contractors from reporting waste, fraud, or abuse as described above; and

(2) it has made appropriate inquiry, or otherwise has an adequate factual basis, to support this

representation; and

b. it certifies that, if it learns or is notified that any subrecipient, contractor, or subcontractor entity that receives funds under this award is or has been requiring its employees or contractors to execute agreements or statements that prohibit or otherwise restrict (or purport to prohibit or restrict), reporting of waste, fraud, or abuse as described above, it will immediately stop any further obligations of award funds to or by that entity, will provide prompt written notification to the federal agency making this award, and will resume (or permit resumption of) such obligations only if expressly authorized to do so by that agency.

## 22

Reclassification of various statutory provisions to a new Title 34 of the United States Code

On September 1, 2017, various statutory provisions previously codified elsewhere in the U.S. Code were editorially reclassified (that is, moved and renumbered) to a new Title 34, entitled "Crime Control and Law Enforcement." The reclassification encompassed a number of statutory provisions pertinent to OJP awards (that is, OJP grants and cooperative agreements), including many provisions previously codified in Title 42 of the U.S. Code.

Effective as of September 1, 2017, any reference in this award document to a statutory provision that has been reclassified to the new Title 34 of the U.S. Code is to be read as a reference to that statutory provision as reclassified to Title 34. This rule of construction specifically includes references set out in award conditions, references set out in material incorporated by reference through award conditions, and references set out in other award requirements.

## 23

OJP Training Guiding Principles

Any training or training materials that the recipient -- or any subrecipient ("subgrantee") at any tier -- develops or delivers with OJP award funds must adhere to the OJP Training Guiding Principles for Grantees and Subgrantees, available at <https://ojp.gov/funding/Implement/TrainingPrinciplesForGrantees-Subgrantees.htm>.

## 24

All subawards ("subgrants") must have specific federal authorization

The recipient, and any subrecipient ("subgrantee") at any tier, must comply with all applicable requirements for authorization of any subaward. This condition applies to agreements that -- for purposes of federal grants administrative requirements -- OJP considers a "subaward" (and therefore does not consider a procurement "contract").

The details of the requirement for authorization of any subaward are posted on the OJP web site at <https://ojp.gov/funding/Explore/SubawardAuthorization.htm> (Award condition: All subawards ("subgrants") must have specific federal authorization), and are incorporated by reference here.



## Requirements related to System for Award Management and Universal Identifier Requirements

The recipient must comply with applicable requirements regarding the System for Award Management (SAM), currently accessible at <https://www.sam.gov/>. This includes applicable requirements regarding registration with SAM, as well as maintaining the currency of information in SAM.

The recipient also must comply with applicable restrictions on subawards ("subgrants") to first-tier subrecipients (first-tier "subgrantees"), including restrictions on subawards to entities that do not acquire and provide (to the recipient) the unique entity identifier required for SAM registration.

The details of the recipient's obligations related to SAM and to unique entity identifiers are posted on the OJP web site at <https://ojp.gov/funding/Explore/SAM.htm> (Award condition: System for Award Management (SAM) and Universal Identifier Requirements), and are incorporated by reference here.

This condition does not apply to an award to an individual who received the award as a natural person (i.e., unrelated to any business or non-profit organization that he or she may own or operate in his or her name).



26

## Restrictions on "lobbying"

In general, as a matter of federal law, federal funds awarded by OJP may not be used by the recipient, or any subrecipient ("subgrantee") at any tier, either directly or indirectly, to support or oppose the enactment, repeal, modification, or adoption of any law, regulation, or policy, at any level of government. See 18 U.S.C. 1913. (There may be exceptions if an applicable federal statute specifically authorizes certain activities that otherwise would be barred by law.)

Another federal law generally prohibits federal funds awarded by OJP from being used by the recipient, or any subrecipient at any tier, to pay any person to influence (or attempt to influence) a federal agency, a Member of Congress, or Congress (or an official or employee of any of them) with respect to the awarding of a federal grant or cooperative agreement, subgrant, contract, subcontract, or loan, or with respect to actions such as renewing, extending, or modifying any such award. See 31 U.S.C. 1352. Certain exceptions to this law apply, including an exception that applies to Indian tribes and tribal organizations.

Should any question arise as to whether a particular use of federal funds by a recipient (or subrecipient) would or might fall within the scope of these prohibitions, the recipient is to contact OJP for guidance, and may not proceed without the express prior written approval of OJP.



27

## Specific post-award approval required to use a noncompetitive approach in any procurement contract that would exceed \$250,000

The recipient, and any subrecipient ("subgrantee") at any tier, must comply with all applicable requirements to obtain specific advance approval to use a noncompetitive approach in any

procurement contract that would exceed the Simplified Acquisition Threshold (currently, \$250,000). This condition applies to agreements that -- for purposes of federal grants administrative requirements -- OJP considers a procurement "contract" (and therefore does not consider a subaward).

The details of the requirement for advance approval to use a noncompetitive approach in a procurement contract under an OJP award are posted on the OJP web site at <https://ojp.gov/funding/Explore/NoncompetitiveProcurement.htm> (Award condition: Specific post-award approval required to use a noncompetitive approach in a procurement contract (if contract would exceed \$250,000)), and are incorporated by reference here.

## 28

Requirements pertaining to prohibited conduct related to trafficking in persons (including reporting requirements and OJP authority to terminate award)

The recipient, and any subrecipient ("subgrantee") at any tier, must comply with all applicable requirements (including requirements to report allegations) pertaining to prohibited conduct related to the trafficking of persons, whether on the part of recipients, subrecipients ("subgrantees"), or individuals defined (for purposes of this condition) as "employees" of the recipient or of any subrecipient.

The details of the recipient's obligations related to prohibited conduct related to trafficking in persons are posted on the OJP web site at <https://ojp.gov/funding/Explore/ProhibitedConduct-Trafficking.htm> (Award condition: Prohibited conduct by recipients and subrecipients related to trafficking in persons (including reporting requirements and OJP authority to terminate award)), and are incorporated by reference here.

## 29

Requirement to report potentially duplicative funding

If the recipient currently has other active awards of federal funds, or if the recipient receives any other award of federal funds during the period of performance for this award, the recipient promptly must determine whether funds from any of those other federal awards have been, are being, or are to be used (in whole or in part) for one or more of the identical cost items for which funds are provided under this award. If so, the recipient must promptly notify the DOJ awarding agency (OJP or OVW, as appropriate) in writing of the potential duplication, and, if so requested by the DOJ awarding agency, must seek a budget-modification or change-of-project-scope Grant Award Modification (GAM) to eliminate any inappropriate duplication of funding.

## 30

Reporting potential fraud, waste, and abuse, and similar misconduct

The recipient, and any subrecipients ("subgrantees") at any tier, must promptly refer to the DOJ Office of the Inspector General (OIG) any credible evidence that a principal, employee, agent, subrecipient, contractor, subcontractor, or other person has, in connection with funds under this award-- (1) submitted a claim that violates the False Claims Act; or (2) committed a criminal or civil violation of laws pertaining to fraud, conflict of interest, bribery, gratuity, or similar misconduct.



Potential fraud, waste, abuse, or misconduct involving or relating to funds under this award should be reported to the OIG by--(1) online submission accessible via the OIG webpage at <https://oig.justice.gov/hotline/contact-grants.htm> (select "Submit Report Online"); (2) mail directed to: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of the Inspector General, Investigations Division, ATTN: Grantee Reporting, 950 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20530; and/or (3) by facsimile directed to the DOJ OIG Investigations Division (Attn: Grantee Reporting) at (202) 616-9881 (fax).

Additional information is available from the DOJ OIG website at <https://oig.justice.gov/hotline>.

### 31

No research; nonsupplanting of State or local government funds The recipient shall ensure that none of the funds provided under this award are used for research or statistical projects or activities as defined by 28 CFR Part 22 or for research as defined by 28 CFR Part 46. Any questions concerning this provision should be directed to the BJA grant manager for the award. The recipient shall ensure that Federal funds made available through this award will not supplant State or local government funds, but instead will be used to increase the amount of funds that would, in the absence of Federal funds, be available from State or local government sources for activities funded through this award. The recipient agrees to notify BJA promptly if the recipient receives new State or local government funding for any of the purposes included in the approved application for this award.

### 32

The recipient agrees to notify BJA promptly upon any significant reduction in the recipient's estimate of the number of backlogged forensic DNA cases that will be analyzed within twenty-four months using the funds provided under this fiscal year 2021 award, above and beyond those that will be analyzed using funds from other sources. If applicable, the recipient agrees to notify BJA promptly upon any significant reduction in the recipient's estimate of the number of DNA database samples that will be analyzed, or associated DNA profiles reviewed, within twenty-four months using the funds provided under this fiscal year 2021 award, above and beyond those that can be analyzed or reviewed using funds from other sources.

### 33

The recipient understands and agrees that gross income (revenues) from fees charged for DNA testing services constitutes program income (in whole or in part), and that program income must be determined, used, and documented in accordance with the provisions of 2 C.F.R. 200.307, including as applied to the BJA DNA Capacity Enhancement for Backlog Reduction Program (also known as the DNA "CEBR" program) by the Department of Justice (DOJ) Grants Financial Guide, as it may be revised from time to time. The recipient further understands and agrees that both program income earned during the award period and expenditures of such program income must be reported on the quarterly and final Federal Financial Reports (SF 425) and are subject to audit. The recipient understands and agrees that program income earned during the award period only may be expended only for permissible uses of funds specifically identified in the solicitation for the BJA FY 2021 DNA Capacity Enhancement for Backlog Reduction Program. The recipient further understands and agrees that program income earned during the award period may not be used to supplant State or local government funds, but instead may be used only to increase the amount of funds that would, in the absence of Federal funds or program income, be available from State or local government sources for the permissible uses of funds listed in the FY 2021 program

solicitation. The recipient understands and agrees that program income that is earned during the final one hundred and twenty (120) days of the award period may, if appropriate, be obligated (as well as expended) for permissible uses during the one hundred and twenty-day (120-day) period following the end of the award period. The recipient further understands and agrees that any program income earned during the award period that is not obligated and expended within one hundred and twenty (120) days of the end of the award period must be returned to OJP.

### 34

The recipient understands and agrees that, throughout the award period, it must promptly notify BJA if it either starts or stops charging fees for DNA testing services, or if it revises its method of allocating fees received for DNA testing services to program income. Notice must be provided in writing to BJA grant manager for the award within ten (10) business days of implementation of the change.

### 35

Absent prior express written approval from BJA, rates for any lodging charged to the award may not exceed the posted GSA rate for the location. (If the recipient opts to obtain lodging at a higher rate, the cost differential, including associated taxes, may not be charged to the award.)

### 36

The recipient shall submit semiannual performance reports. Performance reports shall be submitted within 30 days after the end of the reporting periods, which are June 30 and December 31, for the life of the award. These reports will be submitted to the Office of Justice Programs, on-line through the Internet at <https://justgrants.usdoj.gov>

### 37

Semiannual progress report narratives The recipient agrees that its semiannual progress report narratives will include the following: (1) a summary of project goals for the fiscal year 2021 grant; (2) the grant activities performed during the reporting period; (3) the effects of such grant activities toward achieving each project goal for the fiscal year 2021 grant; (4) a description of any observed increases in evidence submissions; and (5) a description of any issues that may negatively impact project goals for the fiscal year 2021 grant.

Final progress report The recipient agrees to submit a final report, at the end of this award, documenting all relevant project activities during the entire period of performance under this award. This report will include the following: a summary and assessment of the program carried out with the fiscal year 2021 grant, which shall include a comparison of pre-grant and post-grant DNA-forensic capacity and take into account cumulative performance measurement data. The final report is due no later than 120 days following the close of this award period or the expiration of any extension periods. This report will be submitted to the Office of Justice Programs, on-line through the Internet at <https://grants.ojp.usdoj.gov/> .

### 38

Performance measurement information and data reporting The award recipient agrees to report semi-annual and final report performance measurement information and data, along with supporting documentation, according to the instructions specified in the BJA FY 2021 DNA Capacity Enhancement for Backlog Reduction Program and at <https://ojpsso.ojp.gov> (the

performance measurement internet site), or any superseding guidance communicated by OJP. These performance measurement information and data will be submitted to the Office of Justice Programs, on-line through the Internet at <https://ojpssso.ojp.gov/>. Reported information and data should be complete, accurate, and timely. For the purposes of performance measurement data reporting, a backlogged forensic biology/DNA case is defined as a forensic biology/DNA case that has not been completed within 30 days of receipt in the laboratory; a backlogged DNA database sample is defined as a DNA database sample that has not been completed within 30 days of receipt in the laboratory. If the recipient uses award funds for procurement contracts to private accredited DNA laboratories for analysis of forensic DNA casework samples or DNA database samples, the recipient agrees to take any necessary steps to ensure that reports of such procurement contract expenditures (with respect to the recipient and any subrecipient) are fully supportable by documentation and consistent with expenditures as reported on quarterly financial status reports the recipient submits to OJP. The recipient shall ensure that all required performance measurement information and data are collected throughout the award period.

Item 8.

### 39

#### Confidentiality of data

The recipient (and any subrecipient at any tier) must comply with all confidentiality requirements of 34 U.S.C. 10231 and 28 C.F.R. Part 22 that are applicable to collection, use, and revelation of data or information. The recipient further agrees, as a condition of award approval, to submit a Privacy Certificate that is in accord with requirements of 28 C.F.R. Part 22 and, in particular, 28 C.F.R. 22.23.

### 40

The recipient agrees to cooperate with any assessments, national evaluation efforts, or information or data collection requests, including, but not limited to, the provision of any information required for the assessment or evaluation of any activities within this project.

### 41

The recipient agrees to submit to BJA for review and approval any curricula, training materials, proposed publications, reports, or any other written materials that will be published, including web-based materials and web site content, through funds from this grant at least thirty (30) working days prior to the targeted dissemination date. Any written, visual, or audio publications, with the exception of press releases, whether published at the grantee's or government's expense, shall contain the following statements: "This project was supported by Grant No. <AWARD\_NUMBER> awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Bureau of Justice Assistance is a component of the Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Office for Victims of Crime, and the SMART Office. Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice." The current edition of the DOJ Grants Financial Guide provides guidance on allowable printing and publication activities.

### 42

The recipient shall transmit to the BJA grant manager copies of all official award-related press

27

releases at least ten (10) working days prior to public release. Advance notice permits time for coordination of release of information by BJA where appropriate and to respond to press or public inquiries.

### 43

Pursuant to 28 C.F.R. Part 18, OJP may suspend or terminate funding under this award before the completion of the project funded by this award, for the recipient's failure to comply with these award conditions or with the project's goals, plans and methodology set forth in the approved application. In the case of suspension, the recipient will be unable to draw down funds until OJP determines that the recipient is in compliance.

### 44

Copyright; Data rights

The recipient acknowledges that OJP reserves a royalty-free, non-exclusive, and irrevocable license to reproduce, publish, or otherwise use, and authorize others to use (in whole or in part, including in connection with derivative works), for Federal purposes: (1) any work subject to copyright developed under an award or subaward (at any tier); and (2) any rights of copyright to which a recipient or subrecipient (at any tier) purchases ownership with Federal support.

The recipient acknowledges that OJP has the right to (1) obtain, reproduce, publish, or otherwise use the data first produced under any such award or subaward; and (2) authorize others to receive, reproduce, publish, or otherwise use such data for Federal purposes. "Data" includes data as defined in Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) provision 52.227-14 (Rights in Data - General).

It is the responsibility of the recipient (and of each subrecipient (at any tier), if applicable) to ensure that the provisions of this condition are included in any subaward (at any tier) under this award.

The recipient has the responsibility to obtain from subrecipients, contractors, and subcontractors (if any) all rights and data necessary to fulfill the recipient's obligations to the Government under this award. If a proposed subrecipient, contractor, or subcontractor refuses to accept terms affording the Government such rights, the recipient shall promptly bring such refusal to the attention of the OJP program manager for the award and not proceed with the agreement in question without further authorization from the OJP program office.

### 45

The Project Director and/or any other key program personnel designated in the application shall be replaced only for compelling reasons. Successors to key personnel must be approved by OJP, and such approval is contingent upon submission of appropriate information, including, but not limited to, a resume. Changes in program personnel, other than key personnel, require only notification to OJP and submission of resumes, unless otherwise designated in the award document.

### 46

Justification of consultant rate

Approval of this award does not indicate approval of any consultant rate in excess of \$650 per

day. A detailed justification must be submitted to and approved by the OJP program office prior to obligation or expenditure of such funds.

Item 8.

## 47

FFATA reporting: Subawards and executive compensation

The recipient must comply with applicable requirements to report first-tier subawards ("subgrants") of \$30,000 or more and, in certain circumstances, to report the names and total compensation of the five most highly compensated executives of the recipient and first-tier subrecipients (first-tier "subgrantees") of award funds. The details of recipient obligations, which derive from the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (FFATA), are posted on the OJP web site at <https://ojp.gov/funding/Explore/FFATA.htm> (Award condition: Reporting Subawards and Executive Compensation), and are incorporated by reference here.

This condition, including its reporting requirement, does not apply to-- (1) an award of less than \$30,000, or (2) an award made to an individual who received the award as a natural person (i.e., unrelated to any business or non-profit organization that he or she may own or operate in his or her name).

## 48

The recipient understands that, in accepting this award, the Authorized Representative declares and certifies, among other things, that he or she possesses the requisite legal authority to accept the award on behalf of the recipient entity and, in so doing, accepts (or adopts) all material requirements that relate to conduct throughout the period of performance under this award. The recipient further understands, and agrees, that it will not assign anyone to the role of Authorized Representative during the period of performance under the award without first ensuring that the individual has the requisite legal authority.

## 49

Recipient may not obligate, expend, or drawdown funds until the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs has reviewed and approved the Budget Narrative portion of the application and has issued an Award Condition Modification (ACM) informing the recipient of the approval.

## 50

The recipient agrees to comply with all Federal, State, and local environmental laws and regulations applicable to the development and implementation of the activities to be funded under this award. Environmental Assessment (EA): The activities the recipient has proposed to conduct under this award fall within the scope of a BJA Programmatic EA that complies with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). These activities have been determined not to have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment.

Modifications: Throughout the term of this award, the recipient agrees that for any activity that is the subject of a completed EA, it will inform BJA of-- (1) any change(s) that it is considering making to the previously assessed activity that may be relevant to environmental impact; or (2) any proposed new activities or changed circumstances that may require assessment as to environmental impact, such as new activities that involve the use of chemicals or involve construction or major renovation. The recipient will not implement a proposed change or new

activity until BJA, with the assistance of the recipient, has determined whether the proposed change or new activity (or changed circumstances) will require additional review under NEPA. Approval for implementation will not be unreasonably withheld as long as any requested modification(s) is consistent with eligible program purposes and found acceptable under a BJA-conducted environmental impact review process.

Item 8.

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*I have read and understand the information presented in this section of the Federal Award Instrument.*

## ✓ Award Acceptance

### **Declaration and Certification to the U.S. Department of Justice as to Acceptance**

By checking the declaration and certification box below, I--

A. Declare to the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), under penalty of perjury, that I have authority to make this declaration and certification on behalf of the applicant.

B. Certify to DOJ, under penalty of perjury, on behalf of myself and the applicant, to the best of my knowledge and belief, that the following are true as of the date of this award acceptance: (1) I have conducted or there was conducted (including by applicant's legal counsel as appropriate and made available to me) a diligent review of all terms and conditions of, and all supporting materials submitted in connection with, this award, including any assurances and certifications (including anything submitted in connection therewith by a person on behalf of the applicant before, after, or at the time of the application submission and any materials that accompany this acceptance and certification); and (2) I have the legal authority to accept this award on behalf of the applicant.

C. Accept this award on behalf of the applicant.

D. Declare the following to DOJ, under penalty of perjury, on behalf of myself and the applicant: (1) I understand that, in taking (or not taking) any action pursuant to this declaration and certification, DOJ will rely upon this declaration and certification as a material representation; and (2) I understand that any materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent information or statement in this declaration and certification (or concealment or omission of a material fact as to either) may be the subject of criminal prosecution (including under 18 U.S.C. §§ 1001 and/or 1621, and/or 34 U.S.C. §§ 10271-10273), and also may subject me and the applicant to civil penalties and administrative remedies under the federal False Claims Act (including under 31 U.S.C. §§ 3729-3730 and/or §§ 3801-3812) or otherwise.

**Agency Approval**

| Title of Approving Official       | Name of Approving Official | Signed Date And Time |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| Acting Assistant Attorney General | Amy Solomon                | 11/29/21 9:10 AM     |

**Authorized Representative**

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**Entity Acceptance**

Title of Authorized Entity Official

CFO

Signed Date And Time

\_\_\_\_\_



# BEAUFORT COUNTY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

|  |
|--|
| <b>ITEM TITLE:</b>   |
| <i>Acceptance of a Grant Award from the Department of Justice for the Beaufort County Coroner's Office</i>   |
| <b>MEETING NAME AND DATE:</b>  |
| <i>Executive Committee, January 3, 2022</i>  |
| <b>PRESENTER INFORMATION:</b>  |
| <i>David Ott, Coroner<br/>Pinky Harriott, Budget Director<br/>5 minutes</i>  |
| <b>ITEM BACKGROUND:</b>  |
| <i>In June 2021, the Coroner's Office applied for a grant to the Department of Justice, which has since been awarded.<br/>A copy of the unsigned grant agreement is attached.</i>  |
| <b>PROJECT / ITEM NARRATIVE:</b>   |
| <i>Beaufort County Coroner's Office applied for and was awarded a grant by the Department of Justice. The goal of the funds is to develop and implement accreditation standards to the Coroner's Office; the project period is October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2023.</i> |
| <b>FISCAL IMPACT:</b>  |
| <i>The Department of Justice has awarded the Coroner's Office \$113,227 in Federal funds; no matching funds are required.</i>  |
| <b>STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL:</b>   |
| <i>Staff recommendation is to approve acceptance of the grant award.</i>   |
| <b>OPTIONS FOR COUNCIL MOTION:</b>   |
| <i>Approve the Motion and move forward to County Council's meeting on January 10, 2022<br/>Deny the Motion</i>   |



## ▼ Award Letter

November 9, 2021

Dear Whitney Richland,

On behalf of Attorney General Merrick B. Garland, it is my pleasure to inform you the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) has approved the application submitted by COUNTY OF BEAUFORT for an award under the funding opportunity entitled 2021 BJA FY 21 Strengthening the Medical Examiner-Coroner System Program. The approved award amount is \$113,227.

Review the Award Instrument below carefully and familiarize yourself with all conditions and requirements before accepting your award. The Award Instrument includes the Award Offer (Award Information, Project Information, Financial Information, and Award Conditions) and Award Acceptance.

Please note that award requirements include not only the conditions and limitations set forth in the Award Offer, but also compliance with assurances and certifications that relate to conduct during the period of performance for the award. These requirements encompass financial, administrative, and programmatic matters, as well as other important matters (e.g., specific restrictions on use of funds). Therefore, all key staff should receive the award conditions, the assurances and certifications, and the application as approved by OJP, so that they understand the award requirements. Information on all pertinent award requirements also must be provided to any subrecipient of the award.

Should you accept the award and then fail to comply with an award requirement, DOJ will pursue appropriate remedies for non-compliance, which may include termination of the award and/or a requirement to repay award funds.

To accept the award, the Authorized Representative(s) must accept all parts of the Award Offer in the Justice Grants System (JustGrants), including by executing the required declaration and certification, within 45 days from the award date.

Congratulations, and we look forward to working with you.

Amy Solomon  
Acting Assistant Attorney General

### Office for Civil Rights Notice for All Recipients

The Office for Civil Rights (OCR), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) has been delegated the responsibility for ensuring that recipients of federal financial

assistance from the OJP, the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS), and the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) are not engaged in discrimination prohibited by law. Several federal civil rights laws, such as Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, require recipients of federal financial assistance to give assurances that they will comply with those laws. Taken together, these civil rights laws prohibit recipients of federal financial assistance from DOJ from discriminating in services and employment because of race, color, national origin, religion, disability, sex, and, for grants authorized under the Violence Against Women Act, sexual orientation and gender identity.

Item 9.

Recipients are also prohibited from discriminating in services because of age. For a complete review of these civil rights laws and nondiscrimination requirements, in connection with DOJ awards, see <https://ojp.gov/funding/Explore/LegalOverview/CivilRightsRequirements.htm>.

Under the delegation of authority, the OCR investigates allegations of discrimination against recipients from individuals, entities, or groups. In addition, the OCR conducts limited compliance reviews and audits based on regulatory criteria. These reviews and audits permit the OCR to evaluate whether recipients of financial assistance from the Department are providing services in a nondiscriminatory manner to their service population or have employment practices that meet equal-opportunity standards.

If you are a recipient of grant awards under the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act or the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act and your agency is part of a criminal justice system, there are two additional obligations that may apply in connection with the awards: (1) complying with the regulation relating to Equal Employment Opportunity Programs (EEOs); and (2) submitting findings of discrimination to OCR. For additional information regarding the EEO requirement, see 28 CFR Part 42, subpart E, and for additional information regarding requirements when there is an adverse finding, see 28 C.F.R. §§ 42.204(c), .205(c) (5).

The OCR is available to help you and your organization meet the civil rights requirements that are associated with DOJ grant funding. If you would like the OCR to assist you in fulfilling your organization's civil rights or nondiscrimination responsibilities as a recipient of federal financial assistance, please do not hesitate to contact the OCR at [askOCR@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:askOCR@ojp.usdoj.gov).

## Memorandum Regarding NEPA

NEPA Letter Type

OJP - Categorical Exclusion

NEPA Letter

Strengthening the Medical Examiner-Coroner System program addresses MDI workforce needs to increase the number of practicing board-certified forensic pathologists as medical examiner and coroner (ME/C) offices need to implement and follow quality standards and performance criteria in an effort to provide consistent and equitable application of death investigation services.

None of the following activities will be conducted whether under the Office of Justice Programs federal action or a related third-party action:

(1) New construction

(2) Any renovation or remodeling of a property located in an environmentally or historically sensitive area, including property (a) listed on or eligible for listing on the National Register of

Historic Places, or (b) located within a 100-year flood plain, a wetland, or habitat for an endangered species

(3) A renovation that will change the basic prior use of a facility or significantly change its size

(4) Research and technology whose anticipated and future application could be expected to have an effect on the environment

(5) Implementation of a program involving the use of chemicals (including the identification, seizure, or closure of clandestine methamphetamine laboratories)

Additionally, the proposed action is neither a phase nor a segment of a project that when reviewed in its entirety would not meet the criteria for a categorical exclusion.

Consequently, the subject federal action meets the Office of Justice Programs' criteria for a categorical exclusion as contained in paragraph 4(b) of Appendix D to Part 61 of Title 28 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

NEPA Coordinator

First Name

Middle Name

Last Name

Orbin

—

Terry

✓ Award Information

**This award is offered subject to the conditions or limitations set forth in the Award Information, Project Information, Financial Information, and Award Conditions.**

 Recipient Information

**Recipient Name**

COUNTY OF BEAUFORT

**DUNS Number**

080775331

**Street 1**

100 RIBAUT RD

**Street 2**

—

**City**

BEAUFORT

**State/U.S. Territory**

South Carolina

**Zip/Postal Code**  
29902

**Country**  
United States

Item 9.

**County/Parish**  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Province**  
\_\_\_\_\_

 **Award Details**

**Federal Award Date**  
11/9/21

**Award Type**  
Initial

**Award Number**  
15PBJA-21-GG-02952-SLFO

**Supplement Number**  
00

**Federal Award Amount**  
\$113,227.00

**Funding Instrument Type**  
Grant

**Assistance Listing Number**   **Assistance Listings Program Title**

16.560

**Statutory Authority**

Department of Justice Appropriations Act, 2021, Pub. L. No. 116-260, 134 Stat 1182, 1258.

*I have read and understand the information presented in this section of the Federal Award Instrument.*

∨ **Project Information**

**This award is offered subject to the conditions or limitations set forth in the Award Information, Project Information, Financial Information, and Award Conditions.**

**Solicitation Title**

2021 BJA FY 21 Strengthening the Medical Examiner-Coroner System Program

**Awarding Agency**

OJP

**Program Office**

BJA

**Application Number**

GRANT13388276

**Grant Manager Name** Phone Number  
202-598-1186

Monte Evans

**E-mail Address**  
Monte.E.Evans@ojp.usdoj.gov

**Project Title**

A Need for Consistency: Beaufort County Coroner's Office Forensically Improving Their Investigations

**Performance Period Start Date**

10/01/2021

**Performance Period End Date**

09/30/2023

**Budget Period Start Date**

10/01/2021

**Budget Period End Date**

09/30/2023

**Project Description**

Our mission is to have compassion for the living and respect for the dead. Everyone is loved by somebody and each death should be handled with dignity regardless of the circumstances. Coroners offices hold immense responsibility to the public they serve. Therefore, it is imperative that the services we provide are up to industry and professional standards. The primary goal of this project is to develop and implement accreditation standards to the Beaufort County Coroner’s Office. Accreditation through the International Association of Coroners and Medical Examiners (IACME) is currently our best option for ensuring written policy and consistency within our office. Accreditation will also allow for proper field training to be accessed by employees.

Our main focus will be on creating written procedures for our investigators to use to successfully carry out an investigation in a systematic and professional way. Other objectives include concentrating on proper statistical records maintenance, annual public reporting, disaster preparedness, improved training, and better documentation, which will enable us to develop a publicly accessible annual report. These reports will also act as a way for the community to better understand the role of the Coroner's Office. One of our most important objectives is the creation of a disaster preparedness plan for emergency and disaster situations. Because tropical storms and hurricanes are a reality in our coastal community, it is imperative that we have methods that allow us to enhance our services during these weather events.

All of these modifications will advance and strengthen the consistency of our death investigations. The Coroner's Office will meet these standards by dedicating time and effort to carry out proper operational procedures. Our plan is to hire staff whose sole purpose will be to elevate our facility to this accreditation standard. Their job will be to write, implement, and hold investigators accountable to the new guidelines. With these items closely examined, we will be able to solve our procedure problems as well as be better prepared to aid and build trust with the public. This will ultimately provide victims and their families the ability to receive justice.



*I have read and understand the information presented in this section of the Federal Award Instrument.*

## ∨ Financial Information

**This award is offered subject to the conditions or limitations set forth in the Award Information, Project Information, Financial Information, and Award Conditions.**

The recipient budget is currently under review.



*I have read and understand the information presented in this section of the Federal Award Instrument.*

## ✓ Award Conditions

**This award is offered subject to the conditions or limitations set forth in the Award Information, Project Information, Financial Information, and Award Conditions.**



### Applicability of Part 200 Uniform Requirements

The Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements in 2 C.F.R. Part 200, as adopted and supplemented by DOJ in 2 C.F.R. Part 2800 (together, the "Part 200 Uniform Requirements") apply to this FY 2021 award from OJP.

The Part 200 Uniform Requirements were first adopted by DOJ on December 26, 2014. If this FY 2021 award supplements funds previously awarded by OJP under the same award number (e.g., funds awarded during or before December 2014), the Part 200 Uniform Requirements apply with respect to all funds under that award number (regardless of the award date, and regardless of whether derived from the initial award or a supplemental award) that are obligated on or after the acceptance date of this FY 2021 award.

For more information and resources on the Part 200 Uniform Requirements as they relate to OJP awards and subawards ("subgrants"), see the OJP website at <https://ojp.gov/funding/Part200UniformRequirements.htm>.

Record retention and access: Records pertinent to the award that the recipient (and any subrecipient ("subgrantee") at any tier) must retain -- typically for a period of 3 years from the date of submission of the final expenditure report (SF 425), unless a different retention period applies -- and to which the recipient (and any subrecipient ("subgrantee") at any tier) must provide access, include performance measurement information, in addition to the financial records, supporting documents, statistical records, and other pertinent records indicated at 2 C.F.R. 200.333.

In the event that an award-related question arises from documents or other materials prepared or distributed by OJP that may appear to conflict with, or differ in some way from, the

provisions of the Part 200 Uniform Requirements, the recipient is to contact OJP promptly for clarification.

Item 9.



## Requirement to report actual or imminent breach of personally identifiable information (PII)

The recipient (and any "subrecipient" at any tier) must have written procedures in place to respond in the event of an actual or imminent "breach" (OMB M-17-12) if it (or a subrecipient) - (1) creates, collects, uses, processes, stores, maintains, disseminates, discloses, or disposes of "Personally Identifiable Information (PII)" (2 CFR 200.1) within the scope of an OJP grant-funded program or activity, or (2) uses or operates a "Federal information system" (OMB Circular A-130). The recipient's breach procedures must include a requirement to report actual or imminent breach of PII to an OJP Program Manager no later than 24 hours after an occurrence of an actual breach, or the detection of an imminent breach.



## Required training for Grant Award Administrator and Financial Manager

The Grant Award Administrator and all Financial Managers for this award must have successfully completed an "OJP financial management and grant administration training" by 120 days after the date of the recipient's acceptance of the award. Successful completion of such a training on or after January 1, 2019, will satisfy this condition.

In the event that either the Grant Award Administrator or a Financial Manager for this award changes during the period of performance, the new Grant Award Administrator or Financial Manager must have successfully completed an "OJP financial management and grant administration training" by 120 calendar days after the date the Entity Administrator enters updated Grant Award Administrator or Financial Manager information in JustGrants. Successful completion of such a training on or after January 1, 2019, will satisfy this condition.

A list of OJP trainings that OJP will consider "OJP financial management and grant administration training" for purposes of this condition is available at <https://www.ojp.gov/training/fmts.htm>. All trainings that satisfy this condition include a session on grant fraud prevention and detection.

The recipient should anticipate that OJP will immediately withhold ("freeze") award funds if the recipient fails to comply with this condition. The recipient's failure to comply also may lead OJP to impose additional appropriate conditions on this award.



## Safe policing and law enforcement subrecipients

If this award is a discretionary award, the recipient agrees that it will not make any subawards to State, local, college, or university law enforcement agencies unless such agencies have been certified by an approved independent credentialing body or have started the certification process. To become certified, law enforcement agencies must meet two mandatory conditions: (1) the agency's use of force policies adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws; and (2) the agency's use of force policies prohibit chokeholds except in situations where use of deadly force is allowed by law. For detailed information on this certification requirement, see <https://cops.usdoj.gov/SafePolicingEO>.





### Effect of failure to address audit issues

The recipient understands and agrees that the DOJ awarding agency (OJP or OVW, as appropriate) may withhold award funds, or may impose other related requirements, if (as determined by the DOJ awarding agency) the recipient does not satisfactorily and promptly address outstanding issues from audits required by the Part 200 Uniform Requirements (or by the terms of this award), or other outstanding issues that arise in connection with audits, investigations, or reviews of DOJ awards.



### Requirements of the award; remedies for non-compliance or for materially false statements

The conditions of this award are material requirements of the award. Compliance with any assurances or certifications submitted by or on behalf of the recipient that relate to conduct during the period of performance also is a material requirement of this award.

Limited Exceptions. In certain special circumstances, the U.S. Department of Justice ("DOJ") may determine that it will not enforce, or enforce only in part, one or more requirements otherwise applicable to the award. Any such exceptions regarding enforcement, including any such exceptions made during the period of performance, are (or will be during the period of performance) set out through the Office of Justice Programs ("OJP") webpage entitled "Legal Notices: Special circumstances as to particular award conditions" ([ojp.gov/funding/Explore/LegalNotices-AwardReqs.htm](http://ojp.gov/funding/Explore/LegalNotices-AwardReqs.htm)), and incorporated by reference into the award.

By signing and accepting this award on behalf of the recipient, the authorized recipient official accepts all material requirements of the award, and specifically adopts, as if personally executed by the authorized recipient official, all assurances or certifications submitted by or on behalf of the recipient that relate to conduct during the period of performance.

Failure to comply with one or more award requirements -- whether a condition set out in full below, a condition incorporated by reference below, or an assurance or certification related to conduct during the award period -- may result in OJP taking appropriate action with respect to the recipient and the award. Among other things, the OJP may withhold award funds, disallow costs, or suspend or terminate the award. DOJ, including OJP, also may take other legal action as appropriate.

Any materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement to the federal government related to this award (or concealment or omission of a material fact) may be the subject of criminal prosecution (including under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and/or 1621, and/or 34 U.S.C. 10271-10273), and also may lead to imposition of civil penalties and administrative remedies for false claims or otherwise (including under 31 U.S.C. 3729-3730 and 3801-3812).

Should any provision of a requirement of this award be held to be invalid or unenforceable by its terms, that provision shall first be applied with a limited construction so as to give it the maximum effect permitted by law. Should it be held, instead, that the provision is utterly invalid or -unenforceable, such provision shall be deemed severable from this award.



## Compliance with DOJ regulations pertaining to civil rights and nondiscrimination - 28 C.F.R. Part 38

The recipient, and any subrecipient ("subgrantee") at any tier, must comply with all applicable requirements of 28 C.F.R. Part 38 (as may be applicable from time to time), specifically including any applicable requirements regarding written notice to program beneficiaries and prospective program beneficiaries.

Currently, among other things, 28 C.F.R. Part 38 includes rules that prohibit specific forms of discrimination on the basis of religion, a religious belief, a refusal to hold a religious belief, or refusal to attend or participate in a religious practice. Part 38, currently, also sets out rules and requirements that pertain to recipient and subrecipient ("subgrantee") organizations that engage in or conduct explicitly religious activities, as well as rules and requirements that pertain to recipients and subrecipients that are faith-based or religious organizations.

The text of 28 C.F.R. Part 38 is available via the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations (currently accessible at <https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/ECFR?page=browse>), by browsing to Title 28-Judicial Administration, Chapter 1, Part 38, under e-CFR "current" data.



## Compliance with DOJ regulations pertaining to civil rights and nondiscrimination - 28 C.F.R. Part 42

The recipient, and any subrecipient ("subgrantee") at any tier, must comply with all applicable requirements of 28 C.F.R. Part 42, specifically including any applicable requirements in Subpart E of 28 C.F.R. Part 42 that relate to an equal employment opportunity program.



## Compliance with DOJ regulations pertaining to civil rights and nondiscrimination - 28 C.F.R. Part 54

The recipient, and any subrecipient ("subgrantee") at any tier, must comply with all applicable requirements of 28 C.F.R. Part 54, which relates to nondiscrimination on the basis of sex in certain "education programs."



## Compliance with 41 U.S.C. 4712 (including prohibitions on reprisal; notice to employees)

The recipient (and any subrecipient at any tier) must comply with, and is subject to, all applicable provisions of 41 U.S.C. 4712, including all applicable provisions that prohibit, under specified circumstances, discrimination against an employee as reprisal for the employee's disclosure of information related to gross mismanagement of a federal grant, a gross waste of federal funds, an abuse of authority relating to a federal grant, a substantial and specific danger to public health or safety, or a violation of law, rule, or regulation related to a federal grant.

The recipient also must inform its employees, in writing (and in the predominant native language of the workforce), of employee rights and remedies under 41 U.S.C. 4712.

Should a question arise as to the applicability of the provisions of 41 U.S.C. 4712 to this award, the recipient is to contact the DOJ awarding agency (OJP or OVW, as appropriate) for guidance.

## 11

Compliance with applicable rules regarding approval, planning, and reporting of conferences, meetings, trainings, and other events

The recipient, and any subrecipient ("subgrantee") at any tier, must comply with all applicable laws, regulations, policies, and official DOJ guidance (including specific cost limits, prior approval and reporting requirements, where applicable) governing the use of federal funds for expenses related to conferences (as that term is defined by DOJ), including the provision of food and/or beverages at such conferences, and costs of attendance at such conferences.

Information on the pertinent DOJ definition of conferences and the rules applicable to this award appears in the DOJ Grants Financial Guide (currently, as section 3.10 of "Postaward Requirements" in the "DOJ Grants Financial Guide").

## 12

Requirement for data on performance and effectiveness under the award

The recipient must collect and maintain data that measure the performance and effectiveness of work under this award. The data must be provided to OJP in the manner (including within the timeframes) specified by OJP in the program solicitation or other applicable written guidance. Data collection supports compliance with the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) and the GPRA Modernization Act of 2010, and other applicable laws.

## 13

Requirements related to "de minimis" indirect cost rate

A recipient that is eligible under the Part 200 Uniform Requirements and other applicable law to use the "de minimis" indirect cost rate described in 2 C.F.R. 200.414(f), and that elects to use the "de minimis" indirect cost rate, must advise OJP in writing of both its eligibility and its election, and must comply with all associated requirements in the Part 200 Uniform Requirements. The "de minimis" rate may be applied only to modified total direct costs (MTDC) as defined by the Part 200 Uniform Requirements.

## 14

Determination of suitability to interact with participating minors

SCOPE. This condition applies to this award if it is indicated -- in the application for the award (as approved by DOJ)(or in the application for any subaward, at any tier), the DOJ funding announcement (solicitation), or an associated federal statute -- that a purpose of some or all of the activities to be carried out under the award (whether by the recipient, or a subrecipient at any tier) is to benefit a set of individuals under 18 years of age.

The recipient, and any subrecipient at any tier, must make determinations of suitability before certain individuals may interact with participating minors. This requirement applies regardless of an individual's employment status.

The details of this requirement are posted on the OJP web site at <https://ojp.gov/funding/Explore/Interact-Minors.htm> (Award condition: Determination of

suitability required, in advance, for certain individuals who may interact with participating minors), and are incorporated by reference here.

## 15

Requirement to disclose whether recipient is designated "high risk" by a federal grant-making agency outside of DOJ

If the recipient is designated "high risk" by a federal grant-making agency outside of DOJ, currently or at any time during the course of the period of performance under this award, the recipient must disclose that fact and certain related information to OJP by email at [OJP.ComplianceReporting@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:OJP.ComplianceReporting@ojp.usdoj.gov). For purposes of this disclosure, high risk includes any status under which a federal awarding agency provides additional oversight due to the recipient's past performance, or other programmatic or financial concerns with the recipient. The recipient's disclosure must include the following: 1. The federal awarding agency that currently designates the recipient high risk, 2. The date the recipient was designated high risk, 3. The high-risk point of contact at that federal awarding agency (name, phone number, and email address), and 4. The reasons for the high-risk status, as set out by the federal awarding agency.

## 16

Compliance with DOJ Grants Financial Guide

References to the DOJ Grants Financial Guide are to the DOJ Grants Financial Guide as posted on the OJP website (currently, the "DOJ Grants Financial Guide" available at <https://ojp.gov/financialguide/DOJ/index.htm>), including any updated version that may be posted during the period of performance. The recipient agrees to comply with the DOJ Grants Financial Guide.

## 17

Encouragement of policies to ban text messaging while driving

Pursuant to Executive Order 13513, "Federal Leadership on Reducing Text Messaging While Driving," 74 Fed. Reg. 51225 (October 1, 2009), DOJ encourages recipients and subrecipients ("subgrantees") to adopt and enforce policies banning employees from text messaging while driving any vehicle during the course of performing work funded by this award, and to establish workplace safety policies and conduct education, awareness, and other outreach to decrease crashes caused by distracted drivers.

## 18

Compliance with general appropriations-law restrictions on the use of federal funds (FY 2021)

The recipient, and any subrecipient ("subgrantee") at any tier, must comply with all applicable restrictions on the use of federal funds set out in federal appropriations statutes. Pertinent restrictions, including from various "general provisions" in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, are set out at <https://ojp.gov/funding/Explore/FY21AppropriationsRestrictions.htm>, and are incorporated by reference here.

Should a question arise as to whether a particular use of federal funds by a recipient (or a subrecipient) would or might fall within the scope of an appropriations-law restriction, the recipient is to contact OJP for guidance, and may not proceed without the express prior written approval of OJP.

## 19

### Potential imposition of additional requirements

The recipient agrees to comply with any additional requirements that may be imposed by the DOJ awarding agency (OJP or OVW, as appropriate) during the period of performance for this award, if the recipient is designated as "high-risk" for purposes of the DOJ high-risk grantee list.

## 20

### Employment eligibility verification for hiring under the award

#### 1. The recipient (and any subrecipient at any tier) must--

A. Ensure that, as part of the hiring process for any position within the United States that is or will be funded (in whole or in part) with award funds, the recipient (or any subrecipient) properly verifies the employment eligibility of the individual who is being hired, consistent with the provisions of 8 U.S.C. 1324a(a)(1).

B. Notify all persons associated with the recipient (or any subrecipient) who are or will be involved in activities under this award of both--

(1) this award requirement for verification of employment eligibility, and

(2) the associated provisions in 8 U.S.C. 1324a(a)(1) that, generally speaking, make it unlawful, in the United States, to hire (or recruit for employment) certain aliens.

C. Provide training (to the extent necessary) to those persons required by this condition to be notified of the award requirement for employment eligibility verification and of the associated provisions of 8 U.S.C. 1324a(a)(1).

D. As part of the recordkeeping for the award (including pursuant to the Part 200 Uniform Requirements), maintain records of all employment eligibility verifications pertinent to compliance with this award condition in accordance with Form I-9 record retention requirements, as well as records of all pertinent notifications and trainings.

#### 2. Monitoring

The recipient's monitoring responsibilities include monitoring of subrecipient compliance with this condition.

#### 3. Allowable costs

To the extent that such costs are not reimbursed under any other federal program, award funds may be obligated for the reasonable, necessary, and allocable costs (if any) of actions designed to ensure compliance with this condition.

#### 4. Rules of construction

##### A. Staff involved in the hiring process

For purposes of this condition, persons "who are or will be involved in activities under this

award" specifically includes (without limitation) any and all recipient (or any subrecipient) officials or other staff who are or will be involved in the hiring process with respect to a position that is or will be funded (in whole or in part) with award funds.

#### B. Employment eligibility confirmation with E-Verify

For purposes of satisfying the requirement of this condition regarding verification of employment eligibility, the recipient (or any subrecipient) may choose to participate in, and use, E-Verify ([www.e-verify.gov](http://www.e-verify.gov)), provided an appropriate person authorized to act on behalf of the recipient (or subrecipient) uses E-Verify (and follows the proper E-Verify procedures, including in the event of a "Tentative Nonconfirmation" or a "Final Nonconfirmation") to confirm employment eligibility for each hiring for a position in the United States that is or will be funded (in whole or in part) with award funds.

C. "United States" specifically includes the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Islands of the United States, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

D. Nothing in this condition shall be understood to authorize or require any recipient, any subrecipient at any tier, or any person or other entity, to violate any federal law, including any applicable civil rights or nondiscrimination law.

E. Nothing in this condition, including in paragraph 4.B., shall be understood to relieve any recipient, any subrecipient at any tier, or any person or other entity, of any obligation otherwise imposed by law, including 8 U.S.C. 1324a(a)(1).

Questions about E-Verify should be directed to DHS. For more information about E-Verify visit the E-Verify website (<https://www.e-verify.gov/>) or email E-Verify at [E-Verify@dhs.gov](mailto:E-Verify@dhs.gov). E-Verify employer agents can email E-Verify at [E-VerifyEmployerAgent@dhs.gov](mailto:E-VerifyEmployerAgent@dhs.gov).

Questions about the meaning or scope of this condition should be directed to OJP, before award acceptance.

## 21

Restrictions and certifications regarding non-disclosure agreements and related matters

No recipient or subrecipient ("subgrantee") under this award, or entity that receives a procurement contract or subcontract with any funds under this award, may require any employee or contractor to sign an internal confidentiality agreement or statement that prohibits or otherwise restricts, or purports to prohibit or restrict, the reporting (in accordance with law) of waste, fraud, or abuse to an investigative or law enforcement representative of a federal department or agency authorized to receive such information.

The foregoing is not intended, and shall not be understood by the agency making this award, to contravene requirements applicable to Standard Form 312 (which relates to classified information), Form 4414 (which relates to sensitive compartmented information), or any other form issued by a federal department or agency governing the nondisclosure of classified information.

1. In accepting this award, the recipient--

a. represents that it neither requires nor has required internal confidentiality agreements or statements from employees or contractors that currently prohibit or otherwise currently restrict

(or purport to prohibit or restrict) employees or contractors from reporting waste, fraud, or abuse as described above; and

b. certifies that, if it learns or is notified that it is or has been requiring its employees or contractors to execute agreements or statements that prohibit or otherwise restrict (or purport to prohibit or restrict), reporting of waste, fraud, or abuse as described above, it will immediately stop any further obligations of award funds, will provide prompt written notification to the federal agency making this award, and will resume (or permit resumption of) such obligations only if expressly authorized to do so by that agency.

2. If the recipient does or is authorized under this award to make subawards ("subgrants"), procurement contracts, or both--

a. it represents that--

(1) it has determined that no other entity that the recipient's application proposes may or will receive award funds (whether through a subaward ("subgrant"), procurement contract, or subcontract under a procurement contract) either requires or has required internal confidentiality agreements or statements from employees or contractors that currently prohibit or otherwise currently restrict (or purport to prohibit or restrict) employees or contractors from reporting waste, fraud, or abuse as described above; and

(2) it has made appropriate inquiry, or otherwise has an adequate factual basis, to support this representation; and

b. it certifies that, if it learns or is notified that any subrecipient, contractor, or subcontractor entity that receives funds under this award is or has been requiring its employees or contractors to execute agreements or statements that prohibit or otherwise restrict (or purport to prohibit or restrict), reporting of waste, fraud, or abuse as described above, it will immediately stop any further obligations of award funds to or by that entity, will provide prompt written notification to the federal agency making this award, and will resume (or permit resumption of) such obligations only if expressly authorized to do so by that agency.

## 22

Reclassification of various statutory provisions to a new Title 34 of the United States Code

On September 1, 2017, various statutory provisions previously codified elsewhere in the U.S. Code were editorially reclassified (that is, moved and renumbered) to a new Title 34, entitled "Crime Control and Law Enforcement." The reclassification encompassed a number of statutory provisions pertinent to OJP awards (that is, OJP grants and cooperative agreements), including many provisions previously codified in Title 42 of the U.S. Code.

Effective as of September 1, 2017, any reference in this award document to a statutory provision that has been reclassified to the new Title 34 of the U.S. Code is to be read as a reference to that statutory provision as reclassified to Title 34. This rule of construction specifically includes references set out in award conditions, references set out in material incorporated by reference through award conditions, and references set out in other award requirements.

## 23

OJP Training Guiding Principles

Any training or training materials that the recipient -- or any subrecipient ("subgrantee") at any tier -- develops or delivers with OJP award funds must adhere to the OJP Training Guiding Principles for Grantees and Subgrantees, available at <https://ojp.gov/funding/Implement/TrainingPrinciplesForGrantees-Subgrantees.htm>.

## 24

All subawards ("subgrants") must have specific federal authorization

The recipient, and any subrecipient ("subgrantee") at any tier, must comply with all applicable requirements for authorization of any subaward. This condition applies to agreements that -- for purposes of federal grants administrative requirements -- OJP considers a "subaward" (and therefore does not consider a procurement "contract").

The details of the requirement for authorization of any subaward are posted on the OJP web site at <https://ojp.gov/funding/Explore/SubawardAuthorization.htm> (Award condition: All subawards ("subgrants") must have specific federal authorization), and are incorporated by reference here.

## 25

Requirements related to System for Award Management and Universal Identifier Requirements

The recipient must comply with applicable requirements regarding the System for Award Management (SAM), currently accessible at <https://www.sam.gov/>. This includes applicable requirements regarding registration with SAM, as well as maintaining the currency of information in SAM.

The recipient also must comply with applicable restrictions on subawards ("subgrants") to first-tier subrecipients (first-tier "subgrantees"), including restrictions on subawards to entities that do not acquire and provide (to the recipient) the unique entity identifier required for SAM registration.

The details of the recipient's obligations related to SAM and to unique entity identifiers are posted on the OJP web site at <https://ojp.gov/funding/Explore/SAM.htm> (Award condition: System for Award Management (SAM) and Universal Identifier Requirements), and are incorporated by reference here.

This condition does not apply to an award to an individual who received the award as a natural person (i.e., unrelated to any business or non-profit organization that he or she may own or operate in his or her name).

## 26

Restrictions on "lobbying"

In general, as a matter of federal law, federal funds awarded by OJP may not be used by the recipient, or any subrecipient ("subgrantee") at any tier, either directly or indirectly, to support or oppose the enactment, repeal, modification, or adoption of any law, regulation, or policy, at any level of government. See 18 U.S.C. 1913. (There may be exceptions if an applicable federal statute specifically authorizes certain activities that otherwise would be barred by law.)

Another federal law generally prohibits federal funds awarded by OJP from being used by the



recipient, or any subrecipient at any tier, to pay any person to influence (or attempt to influence) a federal agency, a Member of Congress, or Congress (or an official or employee of any of them) with respect to the awarding of a federal grant or cooperative agreement, subgrant, contract, subcontract, or loan, or with respect to actions such as renewing, extending, or modifying any such award. See 31 U.S.C. 1352. Certain exceptions to this law apply, including an exception that applies to Indian tribes and tribal organizations.

Should any question arise as to whether a particular use of federal funds by a recipient (or subrecipient) would or might fall within the scope of these prohibitions, the recipient is to contact OJP for guidance, and may not proceed without the express prior written approval of OJP.

## 27

Specific post-award approval required to use a noncompetitive approach in any procurement contract that would exceed \$250,000

The recipient, and any subrecipient ("subgrantee") at any tier, must comply with all applicable requirements to obtain specific advance approval to use a noncompetitive approach in any procurement contract that would exceed the Simplified Acquisition Threshold (currently, \$250,000). This condition applies to agreements that -- for purposes of federal grants administrative requirements -- OJP considers a procurement "contract" (and therefore does not consider a subaward).

The details of the requirement for advance approval to use a noncompetitive approach in a procurement contract under an OJP award are posted on the OJP web site at <https://ojp.gov/funding/Explore/NoncompetitiveProcurement.htm> (Award condition: Specific post-award approval required to use a noncompetitive approach in a procurement contract (if contract would exceed \$250,000)), and are incorporated by reference here.

## 28

Requirements pertaining to prohibited conduct related to trafficking in persons (including reporting requirements and OJP authority to terminate award)

The recipient, and any subrecipient ("subgrantee") at any tier, must comply with all applicable requirements (including requirements to report allegations) pertaining to prohibited conduct related to the trafficking of persons, whether on the part of recipients, subrecipients ("subgrantees"), or individuals defined (for purposes of this condition) as "employees" of the recipient or of any subrecipient.

The details of the recipient's obligations related to prohibited conduct related to trafficking in persons are posted on the OJP web site at <https://ojp.gov/funding/Explore/ProhibitedConduct-Trafficking.htm> (Award condition: Prohibited conduct by recipients and subrecipients related to trafficking in persons (including reporting requirements and OJP authority to terminate award)), and are incorporated by reference here.

## 29

Requirement to report potentially duplicative funding

If the recipient currently has other active awards of federal funds, or if the recipient receives any other award of federal funds during the period of performance for this award, the recipient promptly must determine whether funds from any of those other federal awards have been, are

being, or are to be used (in whole or in part) for one or more of the identical cost items for which funds are provided under this award. If so, the recipient must promptly notify the DOJ awarding agency (OJP or OVW, as appropriate) in writing of the potential duplication, and, if so requested by the DOJ awarding agency, must seek a budget-modification or change-of-project-scope Grant Award Modification (GAM) to eliminate any inappropriate duplication of funding.

### 30

Reporting potential fraud, waste, and abuse, and similar misconduct

The recipient, and any subrecipients ("subgrantees") at any tier, must promptly refer to the DOJ Office of the Inspector General (OIG) any credible evidence that a principal, employee, agent, subrecipient, contractor, subcontractor, or other person has, in connection with funds under this award-- (1) submitted a claim that violates the False Claims Act; or (2) committed a criminal or civil violation of laws pertaining to fraud, conflict of interest, bribery, gratuity, or similar misconduct.

Potential fraud, waste, abuse, or misconduct involving or relating to funds under this award should be reported to the OIG by--(1) online submission accessible via the OIG webpage at <https://oig.justice.gov/hotline/contact-grants.htm> (select "Submit Report Online"); (2) mail directed to: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of the Inspector General, Investigations Division, ATTN: Grantee Reporting, 950 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20530; and/or (3) by facsimile directed to the DOJ OIG Investigations Division (Attn: Grantee Reporting) at (202) 616-9881 (fax).

Additional information is available from the DOJ OIG website at <https://oig.justice.gov/hotline>.

### 31

The recipient agrees that it will submit quarterly financial status reports (the SF 425 Federal Financial Report) to OJP in JustGrants, no later than the deadlines set out in the DOJ Financial Guide and the JustGrants guidance (typically 30 days after the end of each calendar quarter). Delinquent reports may lead to funds being frozen and other remedies.

### 32

The recipient shall submit semiannual performance reports. Performance reports shall be submitted within 30 days after the end of the reporting periods, which are June 30 and December 31, for the life of the award. These reports will be submitted to the Office of Justice Programs, on-line through the Internet at <https://justgrants.usdoj.gov>

### 33

The recipient agrees to submit a final report at the end of this award documenting all relevant project activities during the entire period of support under this award. This report will include detailed information about the project(s) funded, including, but not limited to, information about how the funds were actually used for each purpose area, data to support statements of progress, and data concerning individual results and outcomes of funded projects reflecting project successes and impacts. The final report is due no later than 120 days following the close of this award period or the expiration of any extension periods. This report will be submitted to the Office of Justice Programs, on-line through the Internet at <https://justgrants.usdoj.gov/>

**34**

The award recipient agrees to participate in a data collection process measuring program outputs and outcomes. The data elements for this process will be outlined by the Office of Justice Programs.

**35**

Confidentiality of data

The recipient (and any subrecipient at any tier) must comply with all confidentiality requirements of 34 U.S.C. 10231 and 28 C.F.R. Part 22 that are applicable to collection, use, and revelation of data or information. The recipient further agrees, as a condition of award approval, to submit a Privacy Certificate that is in accord with requirements of 28 C.F.R. Part 22 and, in particular, 28 C.F.R. 22.23.

**36**

Copyright; Data rights

The recipient acknowledges that OJP reserves a royalty-free, non-exclusive, and irrevocable license to reproduce, publish, or otherwise use, and authorize others to use (in whole or in part, including in connection with derivative works), for Federal purposes: (1) any work subject to copyright developed under an award or subaward (at any tier); and (2) any rights of copyright to which a recipient or subrecipient (at any tier) purchases ownership with Federal support.

The recipient acknowledges that OJP has the right to (1) obtain, reproduce, publish, or otherwise use the data first produced under any such award or subaward; and (2) authorize others to receive, reproduce, publish, or otherwise use such data for Federal purposes. "Data" includes data as defined in Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) provision 52.227-14 (Rights in Data - General).

It is the responsibility of the recipient (and of each subrecipient (at any tier), if applicable) to ensure that the provisions of this condition are included in any subaward (at any tier) under this award.

The recipient has the responsibility to obtain from subrecipients, contractors, and subcontractors (if any) all rights and data necessary to fulfill the recipient's obligations to the Government under this award. If a proposed subrecipient, contractor, or subcontractor refuses to accept terms affording the Government such rights, the recipient shall promptly bring such refusal to the attention of the OJP program manager for the award and not proceed with the agreement in question without further authorization from the OJP program office.

**37**

The recipient must obtain approval from the BJA grant manager, in the form of an approved Grant Award Modification (GAM), at least 30 days prior to obligating, expending, or drawing down award funds for foreign travel, which includes any recipient- or subrecipient-foreign travel funded by this award. Any post-award request for such approval must be a GAM submitted via OJP's JustGrants System. Approval of the recipient's total award budget (that is, financial clearance) does not constitute approval of foreign travel. The Department of Justice Grants Financial Guide contains additional information on requirements related to foreign travel.

## 38

### Patents and Inventions.

The clauses at 37 C.F.R. section 401.14 (together, the "Patents Rights Clause") are incorporated by reference, with the following modifications.

(1) Where italicized, the terms "contract," "contractor," and "contracting officer" are replaced, respectively, by the terms "award," "award recipient," and "OJP program manager";

(2) Patent Rights Clause paragraph (f) is modified by adding the following at the end:

"(5) The award recipient agrees to provide a report prior to the close out of the award listing all subject inventions or stating that there were none.

(6) The award recipient agrees to provide, upon request, the filing date, patent application number and title; a copy of the patent application; and patent number and issue date for any subject invention in any country in which the award recipient has applied for a patent.";

(3) Patent Rights Clause paragraph (g) is modified to read as follows:

"(g) Subawards and Subcontracts

"The award recipient will include this Patent Rights Clause, suitably modified to identify the parties, in all subawards and subcontracts, regardless of tier, for experimental, developmental, or research work. The subaward recipient or subcontractor will retain all rights provided for the award recipient in this clause, and the award recipient will not, as a part of the consideration for awarding the subaward or subcontract, obtain rights in the subaward recipient's or subcontractor's subject inventions."; and

(4) Patent Rights Clause paragraph (l) is modified to read as follows:

"(l) Communications

"Communications on matters relating to this Patent Rights Clause should be directed to the General Counsel, Office of Justice Programs, United States Department of Justice."

With respect to any subject invention in which the award recipient, or a subaward recipient or subcontractor, retains title, the Federal government shall have a nonexclusive, nontransferable, irrevocable, paid-up license to practice or have practiced for or on behalf of the United States the subject invention throughout the world.

## 39

The recipient agrees to submit to BJA for review and comment any curricula, training materials, proposed publications, reports, or any other written materials that will be published, including web-based materials and web site content, through funds from this grant at least thirty (30) working days prior to the targeted dissemination date. Any written, visual, or audio publications, with the exception of press releases, whether published at the grantee's or government's expense, shall contain the following statements: "This project was supported by Grant No. <AWARD\_NUMBER> awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Bureau of Justice Assistance is a component of the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice,

the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Office for Victims of Crime, and the SMART Office. Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice." The current edition of the OJP Financial Guide provides guidance on allowable printing and publication activities.

#### 40

The recipient shall transmit to the BJA grant manager copies of all official award-related press releases at least ten (10) working days prior to public release. Advance notice permits time for coordination of release of information by BJA where appropriate and to respond to press or public inquiries.

#### 41

Pursuant to 28 C.F.R. Part 18, OJP may suspend or terminate funding under this award before the completion of the project funded by this award, for the recipient's failure to comply with these award conditions or with the project's goals, plans and methodology set forth in the approved application. In the case of suspension, the recipient will be unable to draw down funds until OJP determines that the recipient is in compliance.

#### 42

The Project Director and/or any other key program personnel designated in the application shall be replaced only for compelling reasons. Successors to key personnel must be approved by OJP, and such approval is contingent upon submission of appropriate information, including, but not limited to, a resume. Changes in program personnel, other than key personnel, require only notification to OJP and submission of resumes, unless otherwise designated in the award document.

#### 43

Justification of consultant rate

Approval of this award does not indicate approval of any consultant rate in excess of \$650 per day. A detailed justification must be submitted to and approved by the OJP program office prior to obligation or expenditure of such funds.

#### 44

The recipient understands that, in accepting this award, the Authorized Representative declares and certifies, among other things, that he or she possesses the requisite legal authority to accept the award on behalf of the recipient entity and, in so doing, accepts (or adopts) all material requirements that relate to conduct throughout the period of performance under this award. The recipient further understands, and agrees, that it will not assign anyone to the role of Authorized Representative during the period of performance under the award without first ensuring that the individual has the requisite legal authority.

#### 45

FFATA reporting: Subawards and executive compensation

The recipient must comply with applicable requirements to report first-tier subawards ("subgrants") of \$30,000 or more and, in certain circumstances, to report the names and total

compensation of the five most highly compensated executives of the recipient and first-tier subrecipients (first-tier "subgrantees") of award funds. The details of recipient obligations, which derive from the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (FFATA), are posted on the OJP web site at <https://ojp.gov/funding/Explore/FFATA.htm> (Award condition: Reporting Subawards and Executive Compensation), and are incorporated by reference here.

This condition, including its reporting requirement, does not apply to-- (1) an award of less than \$30,000, or (2) an award made to an individual who received the award as a natural person (i.e., unrelated to any business or non-profit organization that he or she may own or operate in his or her name).

## 46

### Conditional Clearance

The recipient may not obligate, expend or draw down funds until the Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO) has approved the budget and budget narrative and an Award Condition Modification (ACM) has been issued to remove this award condition.

## 47

Recipient may not obligate, expend, or drawdown funds until the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs has reviewed and approved the Budget Narrative portion of the application and has issued an Award Condition Modification (ACM) informing the recipient of the approval.

## 48

The recipient agrees to comply with all Federal, State, and local environmental laws and regulations applicable to the development and implementation of the activities to be funded under this award. Categorical Exclusion: Based upon the information provided by the recipient in its application for these funds, BJA has determined and the recipient understands that the proposed activities meet the definition of a categorical exclusion, as defined in the Department of Justice Procedures for Implementing the National Environmental Policy Act found at 28 CFR Part 61 (including Appendix D). A categorical exclusion is an action that because of the proposed activities' very limited and predictable potential environmental impacts, both on an individual and a cumulative basis, does not have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment. Consequently, no further environmental impact analysis is necessary under the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. 4321, for these categorically excluded activities.

Modifications: Throughout the term of this award, the recipient agrees that for any activities that are the subject of this categorical exclusion, it will inform BJA of-- (1) any change(s) that it is considering making to the previously assessed activities that may be relevant to the environmental impacts of the activities; or (2) any proposed new activities or changed circumstances that may require assessment as to environmental impact, such as new activities that involve the use of chemicals or involve construction or major renovation. The recipient will not implement a proposed change or new activity until BJA, with the assistance of the recipient, has completed any applicable environmental impact review requirements necessitated by the proposed change or new activity (or changed circumstances) and BJA has concurred in the proposed change or new activity. This approval will not be unreasonably withheld as long as any requested modification(s) is consistent with eligible program purposes and found acceptable under a BJA-conducted environmental impact review process



*I have read and understand the information presented in this section of the Federal Award Instrument.*

✓ **Award Acceptance**

**Declaration and Certification to the U.S. Department of Justice as to Acceptance**

By checking the declaration and certification box below, I--

A. Declare to the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), under penalty of perjury, that I have authority to make this declaration and certification on behalf of the applicant.

B. Certify to DOJ, under penalty of perjury, on behalf of myself and the applicant, to the best of my knowledge and belief, that the following are true as of the date of this award acceptance: (1) I have conducted or there was conducted (including by applicant’s legal counsel as appropriate and made available to me) a diligent review of all terms and conditions of, and all supporting materials submitted in connection with, this award, including any assurances and certifications (including anything submitted in connection therewith by a person on behalf of the applicant before, after, or at the time of the application submission and any materials that accompany this acceptance and certification); and (2) I have the legal authority to accept this award on behalf of the applicant.

C. Accept this award on behalf of the applicant.

D. Declare the following to DOJ, under penalty of perjury, on behalf of myself and the applicant: (1) I understand that, in taking (or not taking) any action pursuant to this declaration and certification, DOJ will rely upon this declaration and certification as a material representation; and (2) I understand that any materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent information or statement in this declaration and certification (or concealment or omission of a material fact as to either) may be the subject of criminal prosecution (including under 18 U.S.C. §§ 1001 and/or 1621, and/or 34 U.S.C. §§ 10271-10273), and also may subject me and the applicant to civil penalties and administrative remedies under the federal False Claims Act (including under 31 U.S.C. §§ 3729-3730 and/or §§ 3801-3812) or otherwise.

**Agency Approval**

|                             |                            |                      |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| Title of Approving Official | Name of Approving Official | Signed Date And Time |
| Acting Assistant Attorney   | Amy Solomon                | 10/18/21 4:49 PM     |

### Authorized Representative

---



### Entity Acceptance

Title of Authorized Entity Official

CFO

Signed Date And Time

\_\_\_\_\_





# BEAUFORT COUNTY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Item 10.

|   |
|---|
| <b>ITEM TITLE:</b>  |
| RCORP Implementation Grant Submission Request   |
| January 3, 2022 Community Services Committee  |
| <b>PRESENTER INFORMATION:</b>   |
| Steve Donaldson, Director of BCADAD (AOD)<br>15 minutes   |
| <b>ITEM BACKGROUND:</b>   |
| The Rural Communities Opioid Response Program (RCORP) Implementation grant is a Federal grant administered by the Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA). It totals <b>1 million dollars</b>   |
| <b>PROJECT / ITEM NARRATIVE:</b>  |
| The department is writing the RCORP grant to partner with other community organizations to expand the reach of BCADAD. Implementing personnel and programming in BMH and the BC Detention Center are the primary objectives to engaging substance misusers into treatment and recovery. |
| <b>FISCAL IMPACT:</b>   |
| No funds are requested from Beaufort County Government.<br>The BCADAD could help to reduce patients recycling through the emergency department and jail, thus saving taxpayer dollars, while improving the lives of citizens.   |
| <b>STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL:</b>  |
| Approve the Alcohol and Drug Department in applying for the RCORP Implementation Grant.   |
| <b>OPTIONS FOR COUNCIL MOTION:</b>  |
| Motion to approve submittal of grant application for RCORP Implementation or motion to disapprove submittal of grant application for RCORP Implementation.  |



Health Resources & Services Administration

Federal Office of Rural Health Policy  
Rural Strategic Initiatives Division

***Rural Communities Opioid Response Program-Implementation***

**Funding Opportunity Number:** HRSA-22-057

**Funding Opportunity Types:** New and Competing Continuation

**Assistance Listings (CFDA) Number:** 93.912

**NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY**

Fiscal Year 2022

**Application Due Date: January 13, 2022**

*Ensure your SAM.gov and Grants.gov registrations and passwords are current immediately!  
HRSA will not approve deadline extensions for lack of registration.  
Registration in all systems, including SAM.gov and Grants.gov,  
may take up to 1 month to complete.*

**Issuance Date: October 15, 2021**

Sabrina Hope Frost  
Public Health Analyst, Federal Office of Rural Health Policy  
Telephone: (301) 945-5131  
Email: [ruralopioidresponse@hrsa.gov](mailto:ruralopioidresponse@hrsa.gov) for program-specific questions

Please contact the Grants Management Specialist on page 38 of the NOFO for budget-related questions (e.g., allowable costs, SF-424 A form, etc.).

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 912(b)(5) (§ 711(b)(5) of the Social Security Act)

## 508 COMPLIANCE DISCLAIMER

Note: Persons using assistive technology may not be able to fully access information in this file. For assistance, please email or call one of the HRSA staff listed in [Section VII. Agency Contacts](#).

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) is accepting applications for fiscal year (FY) 2022 Rural Communities Opioid Response Program-Implementation (RCORP-Implementation). RCORP is a multi-year initiative by HRSA aimed at reducing the morbidity and mortality of substance use disorder (SUD), including opioid use disorder (OUD), in high-risk rural communities. This funding opportunity, RCORP-Implementation, will advance RCORP's overall goal by strengthening and expanding SUD/OUD prevention, treatment, and recovery services to enhance rural residents' ability to access treatment and move towards recovery.

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Funding Opportunity Title:                          | Rural Communities Opioid Response Program-Implementation  |
| Funding Opportunity Number:                         | HRSA-22-057   |
| Due Date for Applications:                          | January 13, 2022  |
| Anticipated Total Annual Available FY 2022 Funding: | Approximately \$50,000,000, subject to the availability of appropriated funds.  |
| Estimated Number and Type of Awards:                | Approximately 50 grants   |
| Estimated Award Amount:                             | Up to \$1,000,000 for the three-year period of performance. Award recipients will receive the full award amount in the first year of the period of performance and are required to allocate it across all three years.  |
| Cost Sharing/Match Required:                        | No  |
| Period of Performance:                              | September 1, 2022 through August 31, 2025 (3 years)   |
| Eligible Applicants:                                | All domestic public and private entities, nonprofit and for-profit, are eligible to apply. Domestic faith-based and community-based organizations, tribes, and tribal organizations and organizations based in the territories and freely associated states are also eligible to apply.<br><br>See <a href="#">Section III.1</a> of this notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) for complete eligibility information. |

## **Application Guide**

You (the applicant organization/agency) are responsible for reading and complying with the instructions included in HRSA's *SF-424 Application Guide*, available online at <http://www.hrsa.gov/grants/apply/applicationguide/sf424guide.pdf>, except where instructed in this NOFO to do otherwise.

HRSA has scheduled the following technical assistance:

### *Webinar*

Day and Date: Wednesday, November 10, 2021

Time: 12:30 – 2:00 p.m. ET

Call-In Number: 1-833-568-8864

Meeting ID: 160 852 4742

Passcode: 23233962

Weblink: <https://hrsa.gov.zoomgov.com/j/1608524742?pwd=UFJvcGs5bHFiYXRkcGRleFd6REpnZz09>

The webinar will be recorded. Please email [ruralopioidresponse@hrsa.gov](mailto:ruralopioidresponse@hrsa.gov) for a link to the recording.

# Table of Contents

- I. PROGRAM FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION ..... 1**
  - 1. PURPOSE ..... 1
  - 2. BACKGROUND ..... 1
- II. AWARD INFORMATION ..... 4**
  - 1. TYPE OF APPLICATION AND AWARD ..... 4
  - 2. SUMMARY OF FUNDING ..... 4
- III. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION ..... 4**
  - 1. ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS ..... 4
  - 2. COST SHARING/MATCHING ..... 7
  - 3. OTHER ..... 7
- IV. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION ..... 8**
  - 1. ADDRESS TO REQUEST APPLICATION PACKAGE ..... 8
  - 2. CONTENT AND FORM OF APPLICATION SUBMISSION ..... 9
    - i. Project Abstract ..... 13
    - ii. Project Narrative ..... 15
    - iii. Budget ..... 23
    - iv. Budget Narrative ..... 24
    - v. Attachments ..... 25
  - 3. DUN AND BRADSTREET DATA UNIVERSAL NUMBERING SYSTEM (DUNS) NUMBER  
TRANSITION TO THE UNIQUE ENTITY IDENTIFIER (UEI) AND SYSTEM FOR AWARD MANAGEMENT  
(SAM) ..... 28
  - 4. SUBMISSION DATES AND TIMES ..... 29
  - 5. INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW ..... 29
  - 6. FUNDING RESTRICTIONS ..... 30
- V. APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION ..... 32**
  - 1. REVIEW CRITERIA ..... 32
  - 2. REVIEW AND SELECTION PROCESS ..... 36
  - 3. ASSESSMENT OF RISK ..... 36
- VI. AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION ..... 37**
  - 1. AWARD NOTICES ..... 37
  - 2. ADMINISTRATIVE AND NATIONAL POLICY REQUIREMENTS ..... 37
  - 3. REPORTING ..... 38
- VII. AGENCY CONTACTS ..... 40**
- VIII. OTHER INFORMATION ..... 41**
- APPENDIX A: RURAL COMMUNITIES OPIOID RESPONSE PROGRAM (RCORP) AND  
THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE CORPS (NHSC) ..... 42**
- APPENDIX B: RESOURCES FOR APPLICANTS ..... 45**
- APPENDIX C: POTENTIAL CONSORTIUM MEMBERS ..... 51**
- APPENDIX D: ALLOWABLE ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES (OPTIONAL) ..... 52**
- APPENDIX E: APPLICATION COMPLETENESS CHECKLIST ..... 54**

# I. Program Funding Opportunity Description

## 1. Purpose

[The Rural Communities Opioid Response Program \(RCORP\)](#) is a multi-year initiative by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) aimed at reducing the morbidity and mortality of substance use disorder (SUD), including opioid use disorder (OUD), in high risk rural communities. This notice announces the opportunity to apply for funding under RCORP-Implementation. This funding opportunity, RCORP-Implementation, will advance RCORP's overall goal by strengthening and expanding SUD/OUD prevention, treatment, and recovery services to enhance rural residents' ability to access treatment and move towards recovery.

Given the complex and multifaceted nature of SUD/OUD, as well as the need to secure community buy-in and generate adequate patient volume to sustain services, HRSA requires that applicants be part of broad, multi-sectoral consortia. HRSA expects that consortia funded by RCORP-Implementation will sustain the SUD/OUD-related services in rural areas made possible by this funding opportunity both during and beyond the period of performance.

The target population for the award is: 1) individuals who are at risk for, have been diagnosed with, and/or are in treatment and/or recovery for OUD; 2) their families and/or caregivers; and 3) other community members<sup>1</sup> who reside in HRSA-designated rural areas, as defined by the [Rural Health Grants Eligibility Analyzer](#). In addition to this target population, applicants are encouraged to give special consideration to rural populations that have historically suffered from poorer health outcomes or health disparities, as compared to the rest of the rural population.

The primary focus of the RCORP-Implementation award program is OUD. However, recognizing that many individuals with OUD use multiple substance and/or have other co-occurring conditions, consortia may also use RCORP-Implementation support to help address other SUD-related needs of the target population of individuals and families affected by OUD. Applicants should link any additional activities they propose to the needs of their target population and service area. Please note that no competitive advantage, funding priority, or preference is associated with proposing activities beyond the core/required activities outlined in the [Program-Specific Instructions](#) section of this NOFO.

## 2. Background

RCORP-Implementation is authorized by Section 711(b)(5) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 912(b)(5)).

The Rural Communities Opioid Response Program is administered through HRSA's Federal Office of Rural Health Policy, which is charged with supporting activities related to improving health care in rural areas.

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<sup>1</sup>Applicants are encouraged to include individuals in the community who are involved in improving health care in rural areas.

In 2017, HHS declared the opioid crisis a nationwide public health emergency. Rural providers and communities in particular face a number of challenges in providing and accessing SUD/OD services. In July 2020, nearly two-thirds of all rural counties (63.1%) had at least one clinician with a Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) waiver but more than half of small and remote rural counties lacked one.<sup>2</sup> In addition to workforce shortages, rural communities face barriers such as stigma, transportation, and costs associated with setting up MAT and other SUD/OD services.<sup>3</sup>

Rural residents who use opioids are more likely than their urban counterparts to have socioeconomic vulnerabilities, including limited educational attainment, poor health status, lack of health insurance, and low income,<sup>4</sup> which may further limit their abilities to access treatment. The opioid epidemic has also led to an increase in people who inject drugs (PWID), which in turn has increased the risk of transmission of viruses such as human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and hepatitis B and C viruses (HBV and HCV) through shared equipment. Rural communities are particularly vulnerable to outbreaks of HIV and HCV among uninfected PWID.<sup>5</sup>

Recent Centers for Disease Control and Prevention data suggest that synthetic opioids are increasingly playing a role in psychostimulant-involved deaths. Drug overdose deaths involving psychostimulants with abuse potential, including methamphetamine, increased by over a third in rural communities between 2016 and 2017.<sup>6</sup>

The COVID-19 pandemic forced rural communities to adapt and stretch limited resources and exacerbated the opioid crisis. Over 81,000 drug overdose deaths occurred in the United States in the 12 months ending in May 2020, the highest number of overdose deaths ever recorded in a 12-month period, according to recent provisional data from CDC.<sup>7</sup> From 1999 through 2019, the rate of drug overdose deaths increased from 4.0 per 100,000 to 19.6 in rural counties.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Andrilla CHA, Patterson DG. Tracking the geographic distribution and growth of clinicians with a DEA waiver to prescribe buprenorphine to treat opioid use disorder. *J Rural Health*. 2021; 1-6. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jrh.12569>

<sup>3</sup> See, e.g., *Implementing Medication-Assisted Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder in Rural Primary Care: Environmental Scan Volume 1*, AHRQ, [https://integrationacademy.ahrq.gov/sites/default/files/mat\\_for\\_oud\\_environmental\\_scan\\_volume\\_1\\_1.pdf](https://integrationacademy.ahrq.gov/sites/default/files/mat_for_oud_environmental_scan_volume_1_1.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> Lenardson, Jennifer et al (2016), "Rural Opioid Abuse: Prevalence and User Characteristics," Maine Rural Health Research Center, <http://muskie.usm.maine.edu/Publications/rural/Rural-Opioid-Abuse.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> Van Handel MM et al, "County-level vulnerability assessment for rapid dissemination of HIV or HCV infections among persons who inject drugs, United States," *J Acquir Immune Defic Syndr* (2016): <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5479631/>; See also Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Managing HIV and Hepatitis C Outbreaks Among People Who Inject Drugs," March 2018, <https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/pdf/programresources/guidance/cluster-outbreak/cdc-hiv-hcv-pwid-guide.pdf>.

<sup>6</sup> See, e.g., Kariisa et al (2019), "Drug Overdose Deaths Involving Cocaine and Psychostimulants with Abuse Potential—United States, 2003-2017," *CDC Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/68/wr/pdfs/mm6817a3-H.pdf>.

<sup>7</sup> Center for Disease Control. (December 2020) *Expanded prevention efforts needed* [Press release]. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2020/p1218-overdose-deaths-covid-19.html>

<sup>8</sup> Hedegaard H, Spencer MR. Urban–rural differences in drug overdose death rates, 1999–2019. NCHS Data Brief, no 403. Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics. 2021. DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.15620/cdc:102891>.

RCORP supports and encourages projects that address the needs of a wide range of population groups, including, but not limited to, low-income populations, the elderly, pregnant women, youth, adolescents, ethnic and racial minorities, people/persons experiencing homelessness, and individuals with special health care needs.

Addressing issues of equity should include an understanding of intersectionality and how multiple forms of discrimination impact individuals' lived experiences. Individuals and communities often belong to more than one group that has been historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected by persistent poverty and inequality. Individuals at the nexus of multiple identities often experience unique forms of discrimination or systemic disadvantages, including in their access to needed services.

As part of HRSA's overall strategy for addressing SUD/ODU in rural communities, in FY 2022, HRSA will provide funds for the National Health Service Corps (NHSC) Rural Community Loan Repayment Program (LRP) under separate funding opportunity to award eligible providers (Allopathic/Osteopathic Physicians, Physician Assistants, Psychiatrists, Nurse Practitioners, Certified Nurse-Midwives, Psychiatric Nurse Specialists, Health Service Psychologists, Licensed Clinical Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists, Licensed Professional Counselors, SUD counselors, Clinical Pharmacists, Registered Nurses and Nurse Anesthetists) who are working at a rural NHSC-approved SUD treatment facility. Clinicians working at NHSC-approved RCORP consortium member site will receive funding priority. RCORP-Implementation applicants are encouraged to leverage the NHSC Rural Community LRP to support the recruitment and retention of eligible providers from the SUD workforce.

- For additional information on the Rural Community LRP and Sites, see Appendix A. For a list of current rural NHSC-approved SUD facilities, visit [HRSA's Health Workforce Connector](#).
- To learn how to become an NHSC site, visit the [NHSC website](#).

In 2019, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Rural Health Task Force developed the "Healthy Rural Hometown Initiative" (HRHI). The HRHI is an effort that seeks to address the underlying factors that are driving growing rural health disparities related to the five leading causes of avoidable death (heart disease, cancer, unintentional injury/substance use, chronic lower respiratory disease, and stroke). RCORP-Implementation supports the HRHI initiative by aiming to reduce mortality from unintentional injury resulting from drug overdose. While applicants and award recipients to RCORP-Implementation do not need to explicitly link their activities to the HRHI, HRSA may plan to use the performance data submitted by RCORP-Implementation award recipients to demonstrate how RCORP-Implementation supports the overall goal of the HRHI. For more information on the Healthy Rural Hometown Initiative, [see page 29 of the HHS Rural Action Plan](#).

For information on other HRSA-supported SUD/ODU funding opportunities, resources, technical assistance, and training, visit <https://www.hrsa.gov/opioids>. For information on other federal SUD/ODU resources, please see **Appendix B**.



## II. Award Information

### 1. Type of Application and Award

Types of applications sought: New and Competing Continuation

HRSA will provide funding in the form of a grant.

### 2. Summary of Funding

HRSA estimates approximately \$50,000,000 to be available to fund approximately 50 recipients over a three-year period of performance. The actual amount available will not be determined until the enactment of the final FY 2022 federal appropriation. You may apply for a ceiling amount of up to \$1,000,000 total cost (includes both direct and indirect, facilities and administrative costs). This program notice is subject to the appropriation of funds, and is a contingency action taken to ensure that, should funds become available for this purpose, HRSA can process applications and award funds appropriately.

The period of performance is September 1, 2022 through August 31, 2025 (three years). Award recipients will receive the full award amount in the first year of the three-year period of performance, and must allocate the funding across each of the three years. Additionally, recipients must submit a budget and budget narrative for each of the three years of the period of performance. While you must distribute the funding across each of the three years, the budget does not need to be evenly split across the three-year period of performance, and can vary based on your community's needs.

All HRSA awards are subject to the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements at [45 CFR part 75](#).

## III. Eligibility Information

### 1. Eligible Applicants

#### *Applicant Organization Specifications*

Eligible applicants include all domestic public or private, non-profit or for-profit entities, including faith-based and community-based organizations, tribes, and tribal organizations. In addition to the 50 U.S. states, organizations in the District of Columbia, Guam, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Federated State of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau may apply.

The applicant organization may be located in an urban or rural area and should have the staffing and infrastructure necessary to oversee program activities, serve as the fiscal agent for the award, and ensure that local control for the award is vested in the targeted rural communities.

### *Service Delivery Specifications*

All planned activities supported by this program **must exclusively target and be located in HRSA-designated rural counties and rural census tracts, as defined by the [HRSA Rural Health Grants Eligibility Analyzer](#)**. Within partially rural counties, **only** HRSA-designated rural census tracts are eligible to receive activities and services supported by this award.

NOTE: Beginning with FY 2022 grants, FORHP has modified its list of areas eligible for Rural Health funding. No areas were removed from the prior listing but 295 outlying Metro counties are now considered fully rural. Applicants can check the [Rural Health Grants Eligibility Analyzer](#) or the [List of Rural Census Tracts](#) document to determine eligibility status of an address or county.

While all service delivery sites supporting RCORP-Implementation projects must be exclusively located in [HRSA-designated rural areas](#), given the shortage of service delivery sites in HRSA-designated rural areas, some exceptions apply in the specific instances listed below. In order to qualify for one of these exceptions, the applicant must establish that the non-rural service delivery site is a primary service provider for the target rural service area and that the delivery site will directly contribute to building health service delivery infrastructure within the target rural service area (see [Attachment 9](#) for additional instructions on submitting required documentation for these exceptions).

- Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs) that are not located in HRSA-designated rural areas.
- Entities eligible to receive Small Rural Hospital Improvement (SHIP) funding and that are not located in HRSA-designated rural areas. Eligible entities under this exception include hospitals that are non-federal, short-term general acute care and that: (i) are located in a rural area as defined in 42 U.S.C. 1395ww(d) and (ii) have 49 available beds or less, as reported on the hospital's most recently filed Medicare Cost Report.
- Entities that are located in urban areas of partially rural counties in their target service area if the service delivery site is located in an incorporated city, town, or village, or unincorporated census-designated place (CDP), with 49,999 or fewer people.
- Telehealth service delivery sites located in an urban facility, but exclusively serving patients in HRSA-designated rural areas

## Consortium Specifications

HRSA requires that applicants be part of broad, multi-sectoral consortia comprised of the following:

- At least four or more separately owned entities, including the applicant organization. The entities should all have different EINs and have established working relationships. Tribal applicants may be eligible for an exception to the EIN requirement, as described in the Eligibility section.
- At least 50 percent, of members in each consortium must be located within HRSA-designated rural areas or census tracts, as defined by the [HRSA Rural Eligibility Analyzer](#). Applicants must provide a single letter of commitment signed by **all consortium members reflected in the proposed work plan**. See Attachment 3 for additional information.
- Members from multiple sectors and/or disciplines that have a demonstrated history of collaborating to address SUD/ODU in a rural area. Applicants are encouraged to incorporate individuals and community sectors particularly affected by SUD/ODU, including health and social service organizations, employers, individuals in recovery, law enforcement and first responders, teachers and school systems, child welfare agencies, etc.
  - Note while individuals may be included as consortium members, there must also be at least four separately owned **entities/organizations** to meet HRSA's required consortium specifications. See **Appendix C** for a non-exhaustive list of potential consortium partners.

If awarded, recipients must notify consortium members who will be serving as subcontractors/subrecipients that they must be registered in SAM.

NOTE: HRSA is aware that tribes and tribal governments may have an established infrastructure without separation of services recognized by filing for EINs. In the case of tribes and tribal governments, only a single EIN located in a HRSA designated rural area is necessary for eligibility as long as the EIN is associated with an entity located in a [HRSA-designated rural area](#). **Tribes and tribal entities under the same tribal governance must still meet the consortium criteria of four or more entities committed to the proposed approach**

*FY 2020 and FY 2021 RCORP-Implementation Award Recipients and Consortium Members:*

Applicants that are FY 2020 or FY 2021 RCORP-Implementation award recipients and/or Consortium Members are **ONLY** eligible to apply for this funding opportunity if they meet the following conditions:

1. **Target Geographic Rural Service Area:** The target geographic rural service area proposed in this application does not overlap **at all** with the one currently served by the consortium for the FY 20 or FY 21 RCORP-Implementation award and all proposed services are delivered in the new target rural service area. FY

2020 and FY 2021 RCORP-Implementation award recipients and/or consortium members should demonstrate they meet these conditions in **Attachment 7**; and

- 2. **Consortium Membership:** At least 50 percent of the consortium members proposed in this application are physically located in the new service area and are signatories to the letter of commitment (**Attachment 3**).

## 2. Cost Sharing/Matching

Cost sharing/matching is not required for this program.

## 3. Other

HRSA may not consider an application for funding if it contains any of the non-responsive criteria below:

- Exceeds the ceiling amount;
- Fails to satisfy the deadline requirements referenced in Section IV.4; and/or
- Exceeds the page limit (80 pages).

HRSA will only accept your **last** validated electronic submission, under the correct funding opportunity number, before the Grants.gov application due date as the final and only acceptable application.

NOTE: Organizations may not serve as the applicant organization on more than one FY 2022 RCORP-Implementation application. Only one application can be associated with an EIN.

- **Exception to Multiple Submissions Policy:** In general, multiple applications associated with the same EIN are not allowable. However, HRSA recognizes a growing trend towards greater consolidation within the rural health care industry and the possibility that multiple organizations with the same EIN could be located in **different** rural service areas that have a need for SUD/OD services. **Therefore, at HRSA’s discretion, separate applications associated with a single EIN may be considered for this funding opportunity if the applicants provide HRSA with the following information in Attachment 8:**
  1. Names, street addresses, and EINs of the applicant organizations;
  2. Name, street address, and EIN of the parent organization;
  3. Names, titles, email addresses, and phone numbers for points of contact at each of the applicant organizations and the parent organization;
  4. Proposed RCORP-Implementation service areas for each applicant organization (these should not overlap);

5. Justification for why each applicant organization must apply to this funding opportunity separately as the applicant organization, as opposed to serving as consortium members on other applications;
6. Assurance that the applicant organizations will each be responsible for the planning, program management, financial management, and decision making of their respective programs, independent of each other and/or the parent organization; and
7. Signatures from the points of contact at each applicant organization and the parent organization.

Applications associated with the same EIN must be independently developed and written. HRSA reserves the right to deem applications that provide insufficient information in **Attachment 8** to be ineligible. In this instance, assuming all other eligibility criteria are met, HRSA will only accept the last validated electronic submission associated with the EIN.

Note that this exception does not apply to a single organization (e.g., a parent organization/headquarters) that wants to apply more than once for this funding opportunity on behalf of its satellite offices or clinics.

If multiple entities that share an EIN apply for this funding opportunity, the applicant organization names (as reflected in Box 8A of the SF-424 Application Page) should be different and reflect the names of the satellite offices/clinics. If HRSA receives multiple FY 2022 RCORP-Implementation applications with the same applicant organization name (as reflected in Box 8A of the SF-424 Application Page), only the last submitted and validated application will be reviewed.

## IV. Application and Submission Information

### 1. Address to Request Application Package

HRSA **requires** you to apply electronically. HRSA encourages you to apply through [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) using the SF-424 workspace application package associated with this notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) following the directions provided at <http://www.grants.gov/applicants/apply-for-grants.html>.

The NOFO is also known as “Instructions” on Grants.gov. You must select “Subscribe” and provide your email address for HRSA-22-057 in order to receive notifications including modifications, clarifications, and/or republications of the NOFO on Grants.gov. You will also receive notifications of documents placed in the RELATED DOCUMENTS tab on Grants.gov that may affect the NOFO and your application. *You are ultimately responsible for reviewing the [For Applicants](#) page for all information relevant to this NOFO.*

## 2. Content and Form of Application Submission

### Application Format Requirements

Section 4 of HRSA's [SF-424 Application Guide](#) provides general instructions for the budget, budget narrative, staffing plan and personnel requirements, assurances, certifications, etc. You must submit the information outlined in the HRSA SF-424 Application Guide in addition to the program-specific information below. You are responsible for reading and complying with the instructions included in HRSA's [SF-424 Application Guide](#) except where instructed in the NOFO to do otherwise. You must submit the application in the English language and in the terms of U.S. dollars (45 CFR § 75.111(a)).

See Section 8.5 of the *HRSA SF-424 Application Guide* for the Application Completeness Checklist.

### Application Page Limitation

The total size of all uploaded files included in the page limit may not exceed the equivalent of **80 pages** when printed by HRSA. The page limit includes the abstract, project and budget narratives, attachments, and letters of commitment and support required in the *Application Guide* and this NOFO. Standard OMB-approved forms that are included in the workspace application package do not count in the page limit. Please note: If you use an OMB-approved form that is not included in the workspace application package for HRSA-22-057, it may count against the page limit. Therefore, we strongly recommend you only use Grants.gov workspace forms associated with this NOFO to avoid exceeding the page limit. Indirect Cost Rate Agreement and proof of non-profit status (if applicable) do not count in the page limit.

**It is the responsibility of the applicant to take appropriate measures to ensure your application does not exceed the specified page limit.**

**Applications must be complete, within the specified page limit, and validated by Grants.gov under the correct funding opportunity number prior to the deadline.**

### Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility, and Voluntary Exclusion Certification

- 1) You certify on behalf of the applicant organization, by submission of your proposal, that neither you nor your principals are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any federal department or agency.
- 2) Failure to make required disclosures can result in any of the remedies described in [45 CFR § 75.371](#), including suspension or debarment. (See also 2 CFR parts 180 and 376, and 31 U.S.C. § 3321).
- 3) If you are unable to attest to the statements in this certification, you must include an explanation in *Attachments 10-15: Other Relevant Documents*.

See Section 4.1 viii of HRSA's [SF-424 Application Guide](#) for additional information on all certifications.

## Program Requirements and Expectations

HRSA requires that applicants be part of a broad, multi-sectoral consortia. For the purposes of RCORP-Implementation, a consortium is an organizational arrangement among four or more separately owned domestic public or private entities, including the applicant organization, with established working relationships. The entities, including the applicant organization, must all have different Employment Identification Numbers (EINs).<sup>9</sup>

HRSA expects that consortia funded by RCORP-Implementation will sustain the SUD/ODU-related services in rural areas made possible by this funding opportunity both during and beyond the period of performance. Over the course of the three-year period of performance, RCORP-Implementation award recipients will complete detailed plans for sustaining their consortia and SUD/ODU services beyond the RCORP-Implementation period of performance.

Finally, RCORP-Implementation award recipients are expected to work closely with a HRSA-funded technical assistance (TA) provider throughout the three-year period of performance. Targeted TA is provided to each award recipient at no additional cost, and is intended to help recipients achieve desired project outcomes, sustain services, align their performance reporting/evaluative activities, implement quality improvement efforts, and overcome challenges to project implementation. HRSA will provide more information about TA support upon receipt of award.

## Program-Specific Instructions

In addition to application requirements and instructions in Section 4 of HRSA's [SF-424 Application Guide](#) (including the budget, budget narrative, staffing plan and personnel requirements, assurances, certifications, and abstract), include the following:

### *Core Activities*

Over the course of the three-year period of performance, consortia must implement **all core activities** described below, which are aimed at improving health care in HRSA-designated rural areas. If a consortium is already implementing one or more of the core activities within the service area, applicants may propose to expand or enhance those activities.

Note: Applicants must make progress on each core activity in every year of the grant. Consortium members do not have to complete all required core activities individually, nor do all core activities have to be implemented in every part of the target rural service area. Implementation of the core activities should reflect the demonstrated needs and capacity of the target rural service area.

### **Foundational Core Activities**

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<sup>9</sup>Tribal entities may be exempt from this requirement. Please reference [Eligible Applicants](#) for more information.

- Track and collect aggregate data and other information from consortium members to fulfill HRSA reporting requirements, and use this data to support continuous improvement of services and activities.
- Develop processes for achieving financial and programmatic sustainability beyond the period of performance, including (but not limited to) training providers, administrative staff, and other relevant stakeholders to optimize reimbursement for clinical encounters through proper coding and billing across insurance types.
- Address the SUD-related needs of populations that have historically suffered from poorer health outcomes or health disparities, as compared to the rest of the target rural population. Examples of these populations include, but are not limited to, persons/people experiencing homelessness, racial and ethnic minorities, people who are pregnant, adolescents and youth, LGBTQ individuals, the elderly, individuals with disabilities, etc.
- Leverage partnerships at the local/community, state, and regional levels, including with rural counties and municipalities, health plans, law enforcement, community recovery organizations, faith-based organizations, and others to secure buy-in for the proposed project and ensure that it complements (versus duplicates) existing SUD/ODU resources.

### **Prevention Core Activities**

- Support culturally and linguistically appropriate substance use prevention activities and evidence-based programs, delivered in diverse environments (e.g., schools, community centers) and to diverse participants.
- Increase access to naloxone within the target rural service area and provide training on overdose prevention and naloxone administration for community members likely to respond to an overdose.
- Train community members and other stakeholders on safe storage and disposal of prescription drugs with potential for misuse.
- Identify and screen individuals at risk for SUD/ODU and co-occurring disorders (including HIV, viral hepatitis, mental illness, etc.), and provide, or make referrals to, prevention, harm reduction, early intervention, treatment, and other support services.
- Train and strengthen collaboration with and between law enforcement and first responders to enhance their capability of responding and/or providing emergency treatment to those with SUD/ODU.



## **Treatment and Recovery Core Activities**

- Recruit, train, mentor, and retain interdisciplinary teams of clinical and social service providers, to support an integrated approach to SUD/ODU treatment, including evidence-based behavioral therapy (e.g., cognitive behavioral therapy, community reinforcement approach, etc.), U.S Food and Drug Administration-approved pharmacotherapy (e.g., buprenorphine, naltrexone), and any other necessary supportive services. This activity must include providing support to providers who are seeking DATA 2000 waivers.
- Create community linkages and referral systems for a seamless entry into MAT/SUD treatment from primary care, emergency departments, law enforcement/first responders, community-based organizations, social service organizations, etc.
- Ensure linkages to and coordination with home and community-based social services (such as case management, housing, employment, food assistance, transportation, etc.) to support individuals in recovery, including those discharged from inpatient treatment facilities and/or the criminal justice system.
- Expand the peer workforce to provide support in various settings, including hospitals, emergency departments, law enforcement departments, jails, SUD/ODU treatment programs, and in the community.
- Support the development of recovery support services such as recovery community organizations, recovery homes, mutual aid groups, and other recovery resources and infrastructure to expand the availability of and access to recovery support services.

## **Additional Activities**

If capacity exists, award recipients may use funding to implement additional activities that strengthen the consortium's ability to deliver prevention, treatment, and/or recovery services for SUD/ODU that improve health care in their service area. Applicants must provide detailed descriptions of all additional activities in the Project Narrative, as well as justifications for how those activities will advance RCORP-Implementation's goal and fulfill the needs of the target population. No funding priority or preference is associated with proposing additional activities. Please see **Appendix D** for a non-exhaustive list of allowable additional activities

## **Requirements for Service Provision**

All activities funded by this award must exclusively occur in HRSA-designated rural areas, as defined by the [Rural Health Grants Eligibility Analyzer](#). Please note the exceptions under [Eligible Applicants](#). Additionally, RCORP-Implementation is a payer of last resort, and award recipients should bill for all services covered by a reimbursement plan and make every reasonable effort to obtain payments. At the same time, award recipients may not deny services to any individual because of an inability to pay.

Services should aim to eliminate pre-requisites to entering MAT, be individualized to the needs and circumstances of the patient, promote retention in treatment, recognize the need to manage recurrence of substance use and address ambivalence in patient motivation.

### **Target Population**

The target population for this award are: 1) individuals who are at risk for, have been diagnosed with, and/or are in treatment and/or recovery for OUD; 2) their families and/or caregivers; and 3) other community members<sup>10</sup> who reside in HRSA-designated rural areas, as defined by the [Rural Health Grants Eligibility Analyzer](#).

Applicants are encouraged to focus on rural populations that have historically suffered from poorer health outcomes, health disparities, and other inequities, as compared to the rest of the target population, when addressing SUD in the proposed service area. Examples of these populations include, but are not limited to, racial and ethnic minorities, people/persons experiencing homelessness, pregnant women, youth and adolescents, etc.

#### ***i. Project Abstract***

Use the Standard OMB-approved Project Abstract Summary Form 2.0 that is included in the workspace application package. Do not upload the abstract as an attachment or it will count toward the page limitation. For information required in the Project Abstract Summary Form, see Section 4.1.ix of HRSA's [SF-424 Application Guide](#).

Please include the following information in your abstract:

1. Project Title
2. Requested Award Amount
3. Applicant Organization Name
4. Applicant Organization Address
5. Applicant Organization Facility Type (e.g., Rural Health Clinic, Critical Access Hospital, Tribe/Tribal Organization, Health System, Institute of Higher Learning, Community-based Organization, Foundation, Rural Health Network, etc.)
6. Project Director Name and Title
7. Project Director Contact Information (phone and email)
8. Are you a current FY20 or FY21 RCORP-Implementation award recipient?
9. EIN Exception Request in **Attachment 8**? (Y/N) - Note: HRSA reserves the right to deem applications that provide insufficient information in **Attachment 8**, or are nearly identical in content, to be ineligible. In this instance, assuming all other eligibility criteria are met, HRSA will only accept the last submitted application associated with the EIN.
10. How the Applicant **First** Learned About the Funding Opportunity (**select one**: State Office of Rural Health, HRSA News Release, Grants.gov, HRSA Project

<sup>10</sup> Applicants are encouraged to include individuals in the community who are involved in improving health care in rural areas.

- Officer, HRSA Website, Technical Assistance Provider, State/Local Health Department)
11. Number of Consortium Members & List of Consortium Members
  12. Previous or Current RCORP Award Recipient? (**specify:** FY18 RCORP-Planning Applicant Organization; FY18 RCORP-Planning Consortium Member; FY19 RCORP-Planning Applicant Organization; FY19 RCORP-Planning Consortium Member; FY20 RCORP-Planning Applicant Organization; FY20 RCORP-Planning Consortium Member; FY19 RCORP-MAT Expansion; FY19 RCORP-Implementation Applicant Organization; FY19 RCORP-Implementation Consortium Member, FY20 RCORP-Implementation Applicant Organization; FY20 RCORP-Implementation Consortium Member; FY 21 RCORP-Implementation Applicant Organization; FY21 RCORP-Implementation Consortium Member; FY20 RCORP-NAS Applicant Organization; FY20 RCORP-NAS Consortium Member; FY21 RCORP-Psychostimulant Support Applicant Organization; FY21 RCORP-Psychostimulant Support consortium member)
  13. Brief Description of the Target Population
    - Indicate approximately what percentage (if any) of the target population is American Indian/Alaskan Native;
    - If applicable, provide 2-3 sentences regarding how this project specifically targets tribal populations;
    - If applicable, provide 2-3 sentences regarding how this project will target populations who have historically suffered from poorer health outcomes or health disparities, as compared to the rest of the target rural population (e.g., racial/ethnic minorities; persons/people experiencing homelessness; veterans; etc.).
  14. Target Service Area (**must be exclusively rural, as defined by the [Rural Health Grants Eligibility Analyzer](#)**)
    - Fully Rural Counties: Provide the county name and state
    - Partially-Rural Counties: Provide county name, state, **and** the rural census tract ([list of rural census tracts](#))
  15. Does target service area overlap with an existing FY 19 or FY 20 RCORP-Implementation award recipient's service area? (Y/N)

## NARRATIVE GUIDANCE

To ensure that you fully address the review criteria, the table below provides a crosswalk between the narrative language and where each section falls within the review criteria. Any forms or attachments referenced in a narrative section may be considered during the objective review.

| <u>Narrative Section</u>                  | <u>Review Criteria</u>  |
|---|---|
| Introduction                              | (1) Need  |
| Needs Assessment                          | (1) Need  |
| Methodology                               | (2) Response  |
| Work Plan                                 | (2) Response  |
| Resolution of Challenges                  | (2) Response  |
| Evaluation and Technical Support Capacity | (3) Evaluative Measures and<br>(4) Impact   |
| Organizational Information                | (3) Evaluative Measures and<br>(5) Resources/Capabilities   |
| Budget Narrative                          | (6) Support Requested - the budget narrative section should include sufficient justification to allow reviewers to determine the reasonableness of the support requested. |

**ii. Project Narrative**

This section provides a comprehensive description of all aspects of the proposed project. It should be succinct, self-explanatory, consistent with forms and attachments, and organized in alignment with the sections and format below so that reviewers can understand the proposed project.

Use the following section headers for the narrative:

- **INTRODUCTION** -- Corresponds to [Section V's Review Criterion #1 – "Need"](#)

This section should clearly and succinctly summarize the overarching goals of the proposed project. In particular, you should provide a description of the target rural service area counties and/or rural census tracts; the characteristics and needs of the target population and service area; the consortium's proposed approach to meeting those needs; and the consortium's history of collaborating to address SUD/OD in rural areas and capacity to implement the proposed project.

- **NEEDS ASSESSMENT** -- Corresponds to [Section V's Review Criterion #1 – "Need"](#)

Describe, in detail, the needs of the target rural population as they relate to the core activities and any additional proposed activities. Provide supporting data and statistics from appropriate sources (e.g., local, state, tribal, and federal) that reflects the most recent timeframe available. Where possible, compare the data for the target rural population to regional, statewide, and/or national data to

demonstrate need. Please cite the data sources (including year) you use to provide this data.

Applicants encountering difficulty obtaining data are encouraged to contact their state or local health departments and/or refer to data and information provided by the [Rural Health Information Hub](#) and the [Opioid Misuse Community Assessment Tool developed by NORC at the University of Chicago](#). If you are still unable to locate appropriate and accurate data, please provide an explanation for why the data could not be found and how you will leverage the RCORP-Implementation award to strengthen the quality and availability of OUD/SUD data in your target rural service area.

Specifically, the Needs Assessment section should include detailed, quantitative descriptions of the following:

- The target rural population, including demographic and social determinants of health indicators;
  - Describe the extent to which the population you propose to serve includes subpopulations that have historically suffered from poorer health outcomes, health disparities, and other inequities compared to the rest of the target population. Examples of these populations include, but are not limited to, persons/people experiencing homelessness, racial and ethnic minorities, people who are pregnant, adolescents and youth, LGBTQ individuals, the elderly, individuals with disabilities, etc.
  - Describe which segments of the target rural population are most at risk for, and/or are most likely to be diagnosed with, OUD. This may include certain age groups, racial/ethnic groups, persons/people experiencing homelessness, etc.
- The prevalence and impact of SUD/ODU in the target rural service area. Examples can include, but are not limited to, the number/ percentage of children in the foster care system as a result of their caregivers' OUD; number of individuals with infectious complications as a result of OUD; the number of SUD/ODU hospitalizations and/or emergency room visits; etc.
- Overview of existing SUD/ODU-related prevention, treatment, and recovery support services in the target rural service area, including any federal, state, or locally funded SUD/ODU initiatives such as other RCORP projects.
  - Please reference the [RCORP website](#) for a list of RCORP award recipients in each program—Planning, Implementation, Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome, and MAT Expansion—as well as [this table](#) of RCORP award recipient service areas for more information.
- SUD/ODU-related health care needs and gaps in prevention, treatment, and recovery services in the **target rural service area**.

- **METHODOLOGY**-- Corresponds to [Section V's Review Criterion #2 – "Response"](#)

The Methodology Section should provide clear, actionable strategies for how you will achieve each of the core activities. Your methodology should directly link to and reflect the data and information provided in the "Needs Assessment" section of the Project Narrative.

**The methodology should include a thorough, detailed explanation of how you will achieve each core activity and how you will collaborate, and not duplicate, existing OUD/SUD programming in the target rural service area, including other RCORP awards. In addition, the methodology should also address the following for each set of core activities:**

### **Foundational Core Activities**

Explain in detail how your proposed approach to achieving the foundational core activities will improve health care in the target rural area and:

- Support consortium members to ensure that they are able to collect and report accurate, reliable data to fulfill HRSA reporting requirements. Examples can include, but are not limited to, providing financial support to consortium members to strengthen their capacity to track and report data, and/or designating an individual at each consortium member organization who will be responsible for reporting that organization's data to the applicant organization (in addition to the required Data Coordinator described in the Staffing Plan);
- Ensure that all activities and services complement, and do not duplicate, any existing initiatives and efforts in the target rural service area.
- Utilize the data collected as part of HRSA's reporting requirements to inform and improve the project's activities and service delivery;
- Ensure that activities and services are sustainable beyond the period of performance, particularly for underinsured/uninsured populations, and for those populations that have historically suffered from poorer health outcomes or health disparities, as compared to the rest of the target rural population (examples of these populations include, but are not limited to, persons/people experiencing homelessness, racial and ethnic minorities, people who are pregnant, adolescents and youth, LGBTQ individuals, the elderly, individuals with disabilities, etc.);
- Sustain consortium membership beyond the period of performance;
- Secure target population support and engagement; and
- Ensure that proper coding and billing across insurance types is implemented across the consortium and that billing/coding information/education is available to other key service providers in the target rural service area, as needed.

### **Prevention Core Activities**

Explain in detail how your proposed approach to achieving the prevention core activities will improve health care in the target rural area and will:

- Directly address the demonstrated need of the target rural service area;
- Improve family members', caregivers', and the public's understanding of evidence-based prevention, treatment, and recovery strategies for SUD/OD,
- Reduce stigma associated with SUD/OD;
- Reach populations that have historically suffered from poorer health outcomes or health disparities, as compared to the rest of the rural population. Examples of these populations include, but are not limited to, persons/people experiencing homelessness, racial and ethnic minorities, people who are pregnant, adolescents and youth, LGBTQ individuals, the elderly, individuals with disabilities, etc.
- Ensure that those who are most likely to witness an overdose are prepared to respond;
- Minimize the potential for the development of SUD/OD; and,
- Minimize the potential for those with SUD/OD to develop infectious complications or other co-occurring disorders.

### **Treatment and Recovery Core Activities**

Explain in detail how your proposed approach to achieving the treatment and recovery core activities will improve health care in the target rural area and will:

- Reduce stigma and other barriers to care;
- Enable individuals, families, and caregivers to find, access, and navigate evidence-based, affordable treatments for SUD/OD;
- Support integration of health care delivery and social service entities for seamless, coordinated, whole-person-oriented care;
- Ensure access to care and supportive services for populations that have historically suffered from poorer health outcomes or health disparities, as compared to the rest of the rural population. Examples of these populations include, but are not limited to, persons/people experiencing homelessness, racial and ethnic minorities, people who are pregnant, adolescents and youth, LGBTQ individuals, the elderly, individuals with disabilities, etc.

### **Additional Activities (if applicable)**

- If proposing additional activities, you must provide a detailed description of the activities, clearly justify why they are needed, and explain how they will improve health care in the target rural area and benefit the target population.

▪ *WORK PLAN* -- Corresponds to [Section V's Review Criterion #2 – "Response"](#)

This section describes the processes that you will use to achieve the strategies in the "Methodology" section. Note that while the "Methodology" section of the Project Narrative centers on the overall strategy for fulfilling the core/additional activities, the work plan is more detailed and focuses on the tasks, activities, and timelines by which you will execute your strategy.

The work plan activities should align with your methodology section, and should include the following:

- Specific tasks/sub-activities that you will undertake to achieve all core activities and, if applicable, any additional activities, (as outlined in the "Program-Specific Instructions" section of this NOFO);
- Responsible individual(s) and/or consortium member(s) for each task/sub-activity;
- Timeframes to accomplish all tasks/sub-activities;
- How the proposed task/sub-activity will improve the health care delivery system in the target rural service area;
- Any products/deliverables associated with each task/required core activity/additional activity.

The work plan must reflect a three-year period of performance. Each task/activity in the work plan should have beginning and completion dates. It is not acceptable to list "ongoing" as a timeframe. Note that while award recipients should make progress towards completing each core activity during each year of the award, activities do not need to be **completed** until the end of the three-year period of performance.

Please provide your work plan in **Attachment 1**. (It is appropriate to refer reviewers to **Attachment 1** in this section instead of including the work plan twice in the application.)

**It is strongly encouraged that you provide your work plan in a table format and that you clearly delineate which tasks/deliverables/sub-activities correspond to which core and/or additional activities.**



- **RESOLUTION OF CHALLENGES** -- Corresponds to [Section V's Review Criterion #2 – "Response"](#)

Describe challenges that your consortium is likely to encounter in implementing the proposed work plan and the approaches you will use to resolve each challenge. You should highlight both internal challenges (e.g., maintaining cohesiveness among consortium members) and external challenges (e.g., stigma around SUD/ODU in the target rural service area, securing patient engagement in treatment, geographical limitations, policy barriers, etc.). **You must detail potential challenges to sustaining services after the period of performance ends and how your consortium intends to overcome them.**

- **EVALUATION AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT CAPACITY** -- Corresponds to [Section V's Review Criterion\(a\) #s 3 and 4 – "Evaluative Measures" and "Impact"](#)

Describe the process (including staffing and workflow) for how you will track, collect, aggregate, and report data and information from all consortium members to fulfill HRSA [reporting requirements](#). **You must clearly demonstrate how the applicant organization will support and enable consortium members to collect accurate data in response to HRSA reporting requirements.** Examples include, but are not limited to, allocating a portion of award funding to each consortium member to support data collection, and/or designating an individual at each member organization who will be responsible for collecting and reporting the HRSA-required data to the application organization.

Applicants should also demonstrate that the consortium has the capacity and is committed to working with a HRSA-funded evaluator to take part in a larger, RCORP-wide evaluation. Finally, applicants should clearly describe their plan for updating participating entities, the target rural service area, and the broader public on the program's activities, lessons learned, and success stories. You should provide examples of mediums and platforms for disseminating this information.

It is the applicant organization's responsibility to ensure compliance with HRSA [reporting requirements](#). Applicants should make every reasonable effort to track, collect, aggregate, and report data and information from all consortium members throughout the period of performance. Finally, consortium members should commit to sharing aggregate (**not** patient-level or other personally identifiable information) performance data and information with the applicant organization to fulfill HRSA [reporting requirements](#) in the signed Letter of Commitment (**Attachment 3**).

- **ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION** -- Corresponds to [Section V's Review Criterion #s 3 and 5 – "Evaluative Measures" and "Resources and Capabilities"](#)

This section provides insight into the organizational structure of the consortium and the consortium's ability to implement the activities outlined in the work plan. See the [Program-Specific Instructions](#) and the [Eligibility](#) sections for additional information on consortium requirements and specifications.

**NOTE: It is appropriate to refer reviewers to the relevant attachment(s) in this section instead of including the information twice in the application.**

Applicants should include the following information:

### **Consortium Membership (Attachment 2)**

For each member of the consortium reflected on the proposed work plan, including the applicant organization, include the following information. It is **highly encouraged** that you provide this information in a table format.

- Organization (or individual) name;
- Street address;
- Contact information (Consortium member representative's name, title, email);
- EIN (tribal entities may be exempt from this requirement; for individuals, indicate N/A);
- Service delivery sites (street address, including county) where services supported by the RCORP-Implementation award will be administered;
- Sector represented (e.g., health care, public health, education, law enforcement, tribal entity, etc.);
- Current and/or previous RCORP awards received (list award name, year, and whether the entity served as the applicant organization or consortium member);
- Specify (yes/no) whether consortium member is a National Health Service Corps (NHSC) site or NHSC-eligible site (see <https://nhsc.hrsa.gov/sites/eligibility-requirements.html> for more details);
- Specify (yes/no) whether consortium member is located in a HRSA-designated rural county or rural census tract of an urban county, as defined by the [Rural Health Grants Eligibility Analyzer](#); and
- Specify (yes/no) whether consortium member has signed the Letter of Commitment (**Attachment 3**).

### **Consortium Letter of Commitment (Attachment 3)**

All consortium members reflected in the proposed work plan, including the applicant organization, must sign and date a **single** letter of commitment (**Attachment 3**) that delineates the expertise, roles, responsibilities, and commitments of each consortium member. At least 50 percent of signatories must be physically located in HRSA-designated rural areas, as defined by the [Rural Health Grants Eligibility Analyzer](#). Consortium members must represent diverse sectors and disciplines. Electronic signatures are acceptable. If you are unable to obtain a given signature, please provide a brief explanation why.

The letter of commitment must identify each consortium member organization's roles and responsibilities in the project, the activities in which they will be included, how the organization's expertise is pertinent to the project, and the length of commitment to the project. The letter must also include statements indicating that:

- Consortium members understand that the RCORP-Implementation award is to be used for the activities proposed in the work plan;

- That the activities must exclusively benefit populations in the target rural service area and that the award is not to be used for the exclusive benefit of any one consortium member; and
- A commitment to sharing accurate, aggregate (**not** patient-level or other personally identifiable information) performance data and information with the applicant organization to fulfill HRSA [reporting requirements](#).

Stock or form letters are not recommended.

**Letters of Commitment should be submitted as part of the electronic application package through Grants.gov. HRSA will not accept or consider Letters of Commitment or Support received through other means, including through the mail, e-mail, etc.**

**Organizational Chart (Attachment 4)**

Provide a one-page organizational chart that clearly depicts the relationships and/or hierarchy among all consortium members participating in the project.

**Staffing Plan (Attachment 5)**

Provide a detailed and clear staffing plan that includes the following information for each proposed project staff member reflected in the proposed work plan. It is recommended that you provide this information in a table format:

- Name;
- Title;
- Organizational affiliation;
- Full-time equivalent (FTE) devoted to the project;
- Roles/responsibilities on the project; and
- Timeline and process for hiring/onboarding, if applicable.

The staffing plan should directly link to the activities proposed in the work plan. If a staff member has yet to be hired (TBH), please put “TBH” in lieu of a name and detail the process and timeline for hiring and onboarding the new staff, as well as the qualifications and expertise required by the position. All key staff associated with the project should be hired within 60 days of the project start date.

All staffing plans must include a Project Director and a Data Coordinator (although not recommended, the same individual can serve both roles):

- **Project Director:** The Project Director is the point person on the award and makes staffing, financial, and other decisions to align project activities with project outcomes. You should detail how the Project Director will facilitate collaborative input and engagement across consortium members to complete the proposed work plan during the period of performance. **The Project Director is a key staff member and an FTE of at least 0.25 is required for this position. If awarded, the Project Director is expected to attend monthly calls with HRSATechnical Assistance team.** If the Project Director serves as a Project Director for other federal awards, please list the federal awards as well as the percent FTE for that respective federal award. Any given staff member, including the Project Director, may not bill

for more than 1.0 FTE across federal awards. **More than one Project Director is allowable in the staffing plan. However, only one Project Director can be designated in Box 8f of the SF-424 A Application Page. If awarded, this is the Project Director who will be officially reflected in the Notice of Award. If there is more than one Project Director, a total FTE of at least 0.25 between the two Project Directors is allowable.**

- **Data Coordinator:** Applicants must designate at least one individual in the staffing plan to serve as a “Data Coordinator.” The Data Coordinator is responsible for tracking, collecting, aggregating, and reporting quantitative and qualitative data and information from consortium members to fulfill HRSA’s quarterly and biannual [reporting requirements](#). Though not required, this position may include analyzing the data or utilizing the data to inform process or quality improvement. There is no minimum FTE for this position.

Finally, applicants should designate staff to attend regular meetings of the FY22 RCORP-Implementation Learning Collaborative. Further details will be available upon award.

### **Staff Biographical Sketches (Attachment 6)**

All proposed staff members should have the appropriate qualifications and expertise to fulfill their roles and responsibilities on the award. For each staff member reflected in the staffing plan, provide a brief biographical sketch (not to exceed one page per staff member) that directly links their qualifications and experience to their designated RCORP-Implementation project activities. The names reflected in the staffing plan must align with the names identified in the biographical sketches

If a staff member will serve two separate and distinct roles on the award that do not overlap, please submit two separate biosketches for that individual. Please note that the individual must not exceed 1.0 FTE.

### **iii. Budget**

The directions offered in the SF-424 Application Guide may differ from those offered by Grants.gov. Follow the instructions in Section 4.1.iv of HRSA’s [SF-424 Application Guide](#) and the additional budget instructions provided below. A budget that follows the Application Guide will ensure that, if HRSA selects your application for funding, you will have a well-organized plan and, by carefully following the approved plan, may avoid audit issues during the implementation phase.

**Reminder:** The Total Project or Program Costs are the total allowable costs (inclusive of direct **and** indirect costs) you incur to carry out a HRSA-supported project or activity. Total project or program costs include costs charged to the award and costs borne by you to satisfy a matching or cost-sharing requirement, as applicable.

The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (P.L. 116-260), Division H, § 202 states, “None of the funds appropriated in this title shall be used to pay the salary of an individual, through a grant or other extramural mechanism, at a rate in excess of Executive Level II.” See Section 4.1.iv Budget – Salary Limitation of HRSA’s SF-424 Application Guide for additional information. Note that these or other salary limitations may apply in the following fiscal years, as required by law.

Indirect costs are those costs incurred for common or joint objectives, which cannot be readily and specifically identified with a particular project or program but are necessary to the operations of the organization, e.g., the cost of operating and maintaining facilities, depreciation, and administrative salaries. For some institutions, the term “facilities and administration” (F&A) is used to denote indirect costs. If your organization does not have an indirect cost rate, you may wish to obtain one through HHS’s Cost Allocation Services (CAS) (formerly the Division of Cost Allocation (DCA)). Visit [CAS’s website](#) to learn more about rate agreements, the process for applying for them, and the regional offices, which negotiate them. If indirect costs are included in the budget, attach a copy of the indirect cost rate agreement. If the indirect cost rate agreement is required per the NOFO, it will not count toward the page limit. Any non-federal entity that has never received a negotiated indirect cost rate, (except a governmental department or agency unit that receives more than \$35 million in direct federal funding) may elect to charge a de minimis rate of 10 percent of modified total direct costs (MTDC) which may be used indefinitely. If chosen, this methodology once elected must be used consistently for all federal awards until such time as a non-federal entity chooses to negotiate for a rate, which the non-federal entity may apply to do at any time.

In addition, RCORP-Implementation requires the following:

1. **Technical Assistance Workshop:** Applicants should budget for two individuals to travel **annually** to a workshop. The workshop will likely be located in the Washington, DC area. If funded, more information will be provided upon receipt of award. Project officers will work with award recipients to make any budget adjustments if necessary once the details of these meetings are finalized.

#### ***iv. Budget Narrative***

See Section 4.1.v. of HRSA’s [SF-424 Application Guide](#).

In addition, the RCORP Implementation program requires the following:

RCORP-Implementation award recipients will receive the full award amount in the first year, but must allocate the award funding across each year of the three-year period of performance. Applicants are required to submit a budget and budget narrative for each of the three years of the grant.

***Reminder: The Budget, SF-424A, and Budget Narrative amounts must align and cannot exceed the budget ceiling amount.***

## v. Attachments

Provide the following items in the order specified below to complete the content of the application. **Unless otherwise noted, attachments count toward the application page limitation.** Your indirect cost rate agreement and proof of non-profit status (if applicable) will not count toward the page limitation. **Clearly label each attachment.** You must upload attachments into the application. Any *hyperlinked* attachments will *not* be reviewed/opened by HRSA.

### *Attachment 1: Work Plan*

Attach the work plan for the project that includes all information detailed in [Section IV.2.ii. Project Narrative](#)

### *Attachment 2: Consortium Membership*

Attach the information for each consortium member detailed in the work plan (see [Section IV.2.ii. Project Narrative](#)). As a reminder, the consortium must consist of at least four separately owned entities (i.e., different EINs), including the applicant organization, and a majority (or at least 50 percent) must be located in a HRSA-designated rural area, as defined by the Rural Health Grants Eligibility Analyzer.

### *Attachment 3: Letter of Commitment*

Attach a **single** letter of commitment signed by **all consortium members reflected in the proposed work plan**, including the applicant organization that delineates the expertise, roles, responsibilities, and commitments of each consortium member. At least 50 percent of signatories must be physically located in HRSA-designated rural areas, as defined by the [Rural Health Grants Eligibility Analyzer](#). Electronic signatures are acceptable. If you are unable to obtain a given signature, please provide a brief explanation why.

The letter of commitment must identify each consortium member organization's roles and responsibilities in the project, the activities in which they will be included, how the organization's expertise is pertinent to the project, and the length of commitment to the project. The letter must also include a statement indicating that consortium members understand that the RCORP-Implementation award is to be used for the activities proposed in the work plan; that the activities must exclusively benefit populations in the target rural service area; and that the award is not to be used for the exclusive benefit of any one consortium member. Finally, consortium members should commit to sharing aggregate (**not** patient-level or other personally identifiable information) performance data and information with the applicant organization to fulfill HRSA [reporting requirements](#). Stock or form letters are not recommended.

### *Attachment 4: Organizational Chart*

Attach the one-page organizational chart in accordance with the instructions provided in [Section IV.2.ii. Project Narrative](#).

**Attachment 5: Staffing Plan**

Attach the staffing plan that includes all of the information detailed in [Section IV.2.ii. Project Narrative](#). As a reminder, all staffing plans should include a Project Director and a Data Coordinator position (the same individual may serve both roles).

**Attachment 6: Staff Biographical Sketches**

Attach brief biographical sketches (not to exceed one page per staff member) for each of the staff members listed on the staffing plan in accordance with the instructions provided in [Section IV.2.ii. Project Narrative](#).

**Attachment 7: Other RCORP Awards (if applicable)**

Provide the following information for each additional past or current RCORP award the applicant organization has received (it is recommended you provide this information in a table format):

- Name of RCORP award (e.g., RCORP-Planning)
- Dates of award (e.g., September 30, 2018 to September 29, 2019)
- Indicate whether you serve/d as the applicant organization or consortium member
- Target rural service area for past or current RCORP award
  - o For fully rural counties, list the county and state
  - o For partially rural counties, list the county, state, and eligible rural census tract(s)
- Target rural service area for proposed FY 22 RCORP-Implementation award
  - o For fully rural counties, list the county and state
  - o For partially rural counties, list the county, state, and eligible rural census tract(s)
- List of consortium members for past or current RCORP award
- List of consortium members for proposed FY 22 RCORP-Implementation award
- Detail how, if funded, activities performed under the RCORP-Implementation award will complement—and not duplicate—activities performed under current or previous RCORP awards.

Note that an applicant organization who is a current recipient of an FY20 or FY 21 RCORP-Implementation award, as either the applicant organization or consortium member, is not eligible to apply for this funding opportunity unless certain criteria are met, as detailed in the [Eligibility Section](#) of this NOFO.

**Attachment 8: EIN Exception Request (if applicable)**

In general, multiple applications associated with the same EIN are not allowable. However, HRSA recognizes a growing trend towards greater consolidation within the rural health care industry and the possibility that multiple organizations with the same EIN could be located in different rural service areas that have a need for SUD/ODD services. **Therefore, at HRSA discretion, separate applications associated with a single EIN may be considered for this funding opportunity if the applicants provide HRSA with the following information in Attachment 8:**

1. Names, street addresses, or EINs of the applicant organizations;
2. Name, street address, or EIN of the parent organization;
3. Names, titles, email addresses, and phone numbers for points of contact at each of the applicant organizations and the parent organization;
4. Proposed RCORP-Implementation service areas for each applicant organization (these should not overlap);
5. Justification for why each applicant organization must apply to this funding opportunity separately as the applicant organization, as opposed to serving as consortium members on other applications;
6. Assurance that the applicant organizations will each be responsible for the planning, program management, financial management, and decision making of their respective projects, independent of each other and/or the parent organization; and
7. Signatures from the points of contact at each applicant organization and the parent organization.

Applications associated with the same EIN should be independently developed and written. HRSA reserves the right to deem applications that provide insufficient information in **Attachment 8**, or are nearly identical in content, to be ineligible. In this instance, assuming all other eligibility criteria are met, HRSA will only accept the last submitted application associated with the EIN.

If multiple entities that share an EIN apply for this funding opportunity, the applicant organization names (as reflected in Box 8A of the SF-424 Application Page) should be different and reflect the names of the satellite offices/clinics. If HRSA receives multiple FY 2021 RCORP-Implementation applications with the same applicant organization name (as reflected in Box 8A of the SF-424 Application Page), only the last submitted and validated application will be reviewed.

#### *Attachment 9: Exceptions to Service Delivery Sites*

All exception requests must include a statement attesting that either the non-rural service delivery site is a primary service provider for the target rural service area and that the delivery site will directly contribute to building health service delivery infrastructure within the target rural service area (e.g., by providing mentorship/training opportunities for rural providers).

- a) **Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs) that are not located in HRSA-designated rural areas** must provide the six-digit CMS Certification Number/Medicare Provider Number for the relevant service delivery site(s) in **Attachment 9**. If the service delivery site has been recently designated a CAH (less than a year ago), please submit the CAH approval letter from CMS in **Attachment 9**.



- b) **Entities eligible to receive Small Rural Hospital Improvement (SHIP) funding and that are not located in HRSA-designated rural areas** must provide their six-digit CMS Certification Number/Medicare Provider Number for the relevant service delivery site(s) in **Attachment 9**. Eligible entities under this exception include hospitals that are non-federal, short-term general acute care and that: (i) are located in a rural area as defined in 42 U.S.C. 1395ww(d) and (ii) have 49 available beds or less, as reported on the hospital's most recently filed Medicare Cost Report.
- c) **Entities that are located in urban areas of partially rural counties in their target service area** must provide a screenshot from the [census website \(2010 Census\)](#) documenting that service delivery sites are located in an incorporated city, town, or village, or unincorporated census-designated place (CDP), with 49,999 or fewer people. If the applicant searches a place and it does not appear in the Quick Facts dropdown list, this means that the place has less than 5,000 residents, and therefore, the site would be eligible. In this instance, please include screenshot documentation.

*Attachments 10-15: Other Documents (if applicable)*

If applicable, include other relevant documents including indirect cost rate agreements, letters of support from non-consortium members, etc.

### **3. Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) Number Transition to the Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) and System for Award Management (SAM)**

You must obtain a valid DUNS number, also known as the Unique Entity Identifier (UEI), and provide that number in the application. In April 2022, the \*DUNS number will be replaced by the UEI, a "new, non-proprietary identifier" requested in, and assigned by, the System for Award Management ([SAM.gov](#)). For more details, visit the following webpages: [Planned UEI Updates in Grant Application Forms](#) and [General Service Administration's UEI Update](#).

You must register with SAM and continue to maintain active SAM registration with current information at all times during which you have an active federal award or an application or plan under consideration by an agency (unless you are an individual or federal agency that is exempted from those requirements under 2 CFR § 25.110(b) or (c), or you have an exception approved by the agency under 2 CFR § 25.110(d)). For your SAM.gov registration, you must submit a [notarized letter](#) appointing the authorized Entity Administrator.

If you are chosen as a recipient, HRSA will not make an award until you have complied with all applicable SAM requirements. If you have not fully complied with the requirements by the time HRSA is ready to make an award, you may be deemed not qualified to receive an award, and HRSA may use that determination as the basis for making an award to another applicant.

If you have already completed Grants.gov registration for HRSA or another federal agency, confirm that the registration is still active and that the Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) has been approved.

Currently, the Grants.gov registration process requires information in three separate systems:

- Dun and Bradstreet (<https://www.dnb.com/duns-number.html>)
- System for Award Management (SAM) (<https://sam.gov/content/home> | [SAM.gov Knowledge Base](#))
- Grants.gov (<https://www.grants.gov/>)

For more details, see Section 3.1 of HRSA's [SF-424 Application Guide](#).

In accordance with the Federal Government's efforts to reduce reporting burden for recipients of federal financial assistance, the general certification and representation requirements contained in the Standard Form 424B (SF-424B) – Assurances – Non-Construction Programs, and the Standard Form 424D (SF-424D) – Assurances – Construction Programs, have been standardized. Effective January 1, 2020, the forms themselves are no longer part of HRSA's application packages; instead the updated common certification and representation requirements will be stored and maintained within SAM. Organizations or individuals applying for federal financial assistance as of January 1, 2020, must validate the federally required common certifications and representations annually through [SAM.gov](#).

**If you fail to allow ample time to complete registration with SAM or Grants.gov, you will not be eligible for a deadline extension or waiver of the electronic submission requirement.**

#### 4. Submission Dates and Times

##### Application Due Date

The due date for applications under this NOFO is *January 13, 2022 at 11:59 p.m. ET*. HRSA suggests submitting applications to Grants.gov at least **3 calendar days before the deadline** to allow for any unforeseen circumstances. See Section 8.2.5 – Summary of emails from Grants.gov of HRSA's [SF-424 Application Guide](#) for additional information.

#### 5. Intergovernmental Review

RCORP-Implementation is subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12372, as implemented by 45 CFR part 100.

See Section 4.1 ii of HRSA's [SF-424 Application Guide](#) for additional information.

## 6. Funding Restrictions

You may request funding for a three-year period of performance for a ceiling amount of \$1,000,000 (inclusive of direct **and** indirect costs). This program notice is subject to the appropriation of funds, and is a contingency action taken to ensure that, should funds become available for this purpose, HRSA can process applications and award funds appropriately.

The General Provisions in Division H of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (P.L. 116-260) and Division A of the FY 2022 Extending Funding and Emergency Assistance Act (P.L. 117-43) are in effect at the time this NOFO is posted. Please see Section 4.1 of HRSA's SF-424 Application Guide for additional information. Awards will be made subsequent to enactment of the FY 2022 appropriation. The NOA will reference the FY 2022 appropriation act and any restrictions that may apply. Note that these or other restrictions will apply in the next fiscal year, as required by law.

You cannot use funds under this notice for the following purposes:

- To acquire real property;
- To purchase syringes;
- To supplant any services that already exist in the service area;
- For construction; and
- To pay for any equipment costs not directly related to the purposes of this award.

You are required to have the necessary policies, procedures, and financial controls in place to ensure that your organization complies with all legal requirements and restrictions applicable to the receipt of federal funding including statutory restrictions on use of funds for lobbying, executive salaries, gun control, abortion, etc. Like all other applicable grants requirements, the effectiveness of these policies, procedures, and controls is subject to audit.

Be aware of the requirements for HRSA recipients and subrecipients at 2 CFR § 200.216 regarding prohibition on certain telecommunications and video surveillance services or equipment. For details, see the [HRSA Grants Policy Bulletin Number: 2021-01E](#).

All program income generated as a result of awarded funds must be used for approved project-related activities. Any program income earned by the recipient must be used under the addition/additive alternative. You can find post-award requirements for program income at [45 CFR § 75.307](#).

### **Minor Alteration and Renovation (A/R) Costs**

Minor alteration and renovation (A/R) costs to enhance the ability of the consortium to deliver SUD/ODD services are allowable, but must not exceed \$200,000 total over the three-year period of performance (or 20 percent of the total award amount). Additional post-award submission and review requirements apply if you propose to use RCORP-Implementation funding toward minor A/R costs. **You may not begin any minor A/R activities or purchases until you receive HRSA approval.** You should develop appropriate contingencies to ensure delays in receiving HRSA approval of your minor

A/R plans do not affect your ability to execute work plan activities and HRSA deliverables on time.

Examples of minor A/R include, but are not limited to:

- Reconfiguring space to facilitate co-location of SUD, mental health, and primary care services teams;
- Creating space to deliver virtual care that supports accurate clinical interviewing and assessment, clear visual and audio transmission, and ensures patient confidentiality;
- Creating or improving spaces for patients to participate in counseling and group visit services, and to access and receive training in self-management tools; and
- Modifying examination rooms to increase access to pain management options, such as chiropractic, physical therapy, acupuncture, and group therapy services.

The following activities are not categorized as minor A/R:

- Construction of a new building;
- Installation of a modular building;
- Building expansions;
- Work that increases the building footprint; and
- Significant new ground disturbance.

RCORP-Implementation award funds for minor renovations may not be used to supplement or supplant existing renovation funding; funds must be used for a new project. Pre-renovation costs (Architectural & Engineering costs prior to 90 days before the budget period start date) are unallowable.

### **Telehealth Infrastructure**

If a service delivery site is located in an urban setting, the applicant organization may use RCORP-Implementation funds to purchase telehealth infrastructure for that site if the infrastructure will exclusively be used to provide services to rurally-located facilities within the target HRSA-designated rural service area.

### **Mobile Units or Vehicles**

Mobile units or vehicles purchased with RCORP-Implementation award funds must be reasonably priced and used exclusively to carry out award activities. Additional post-award submission and review requirements apply if you propose to use RCORP-Implementation funding toward mobile units or vehicles. You may not begin any purchases until you receive HRSA approval. You should develop appropriate contingencies to ensure delays in receiving HRSA approval of your mobile unit or vehicle purchase do not affect your ability to execute work plan activities and HRSA deliverables on time.

### **Participant Support Costs**

Participant support costs—i.e., direct costs for items such as stipends or subsistence allowances, travel allowances, and registration fees paid to or on behalf of participants or trainees (but not employees) in connection with conferences, or training projects—are allowable costs, subject to HRSA review and approval upon receipt of award.

NOTE: For the purposes of participant support costs, “employees” refer to individuals directly employed on an hourly, salaried or employment contract basis by the applicant

organization/award recipient. Individuals employed by subcontractors, consortium members and subrecipients are not included in this definition.

### **Medication**

Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved opioid agonist medications (e.g., methadone, buprenorphine products including buprenorphine/naloxone combination and buprenorphine mono-product formulations) for the maintenance treatment of OUD, opioid antagonist medication (e.g., naltrexone products) to prevent relapse to opioid use, and naloxone to treat opioid overdose are all allowable costs under RCORP-Implementation.

### **Payer of Last Resort**

If awarded, recipients may use RCORP-Implementation funding as a payer of last resort -- i.e., all services covered by reimbursement should be billed and every effort should be made to obtain payment from third-party payers. Only after award recipients receive a final determination from the insurer regarding lack of full reimbursement can the RCORP-Implementation award be used to cover the cost of services for underinsured individuals. RCORP-Implementation award funds can also be used to cover the cost of services for uninsured patients.

*RCORP-Implementation funds **cannot** be used for the following purposes:*

- To supplant existing funding sources;
- To pay down bad debt. Bad debt is debt that has been determined to be uncollectable, including losses (whether actual or estimated) arising from uncollectable accounts and other claims. Related collection and legal costs arising from such debts after they have been determined to be uncollectable are also unallowable.
- To pay the difference between the costs to a provider for performing a service and the provider's negotiated rate with third-party payers (i.e., anticipated shortfall).

## **V. Application Review Information**

### **1. Review Criteria**

HRSA has procedures for assessing the technical merit of applications to provide for an objective review and to assist you in understanding the standards against which your application will be reviewed. HRSA has critical indicators for each review criterion to assist you in presenting pertinent information related to that criterion and to provide the reviewer with a standard for evaluation.

These criteria are the basis upon which the reviewers will evaluate and score the merit of the application. The entire proposal will be considered during objective review.

Six review criteria are used to review and rank RCORP-Implementation applications. Below are descriptions of the review criteria and their scoring points.

*Criterion 1: NEED (20 points) – Corresponds to Section IV’s [“Introduction”](#) and [“Needs Assessment”](#) sections*

- The extent to which the applicant clearly outlines the project goals and anticipated outcomes of the project.
- The extent to which the applicant clearly defines and describes the target rural service area.
- The quality and relevance of the data that the applicant provides to demonstrate the target rural service area’s need in the “Needs Assessment” section of the Project Narrative.
- The quality and appropriateness of the sources used to provide the data/information in the “Needs Assessment” section of the Project Narrative, **or** if the applicant is unable to locate appropriate and accurate data, the extent to which they provide an explanation for why the data could not be found and how they will leverage the RCORP-Implementation award to strengthen the quality and availability of OUD/SUD data in their target rural service area;
- The extent to which the applicant demonstrates that the target population’s need for SUD/ODU prevention, treatment, and recovery services is high compared to the rest of the state, region, and/or country.
- The level of detail and clarity with which the applicant describes the target rural population, including the subpopulations most at risk for and/or most likely to be diagnosed with OUD and those who have historically suffered from poorer health outcomes, health disparities, and other inequities compared to the rest of the target population.
- The thoroughness with which the applicant details the existing SUD/ODU services in the target rural service area, including the anticipated impact the RCORP-Implementation project will have on those services.
- The thoroughness with which the applicant details the SUD/ODU needs and gaps within the target rural service area.

*Criterion 2: RESPONSE (30 points) – Corresponds to Section IV’s [“Methodology,”](#) [“Work Plan,”](#) and [“Resolution of Challenges”](#) sections*

**Methodology (10 points):**

- The clarity and comprehensiveness of the applicant’s proposed methods for fulfilling all core activities, as outlined in [Section IV.2](#) of the NOFO.
  - o If applicable, the extent to which the applicant details methods for fulfilling any additional activities and provides compelling justification for how those activities will advance RCORP’s goal and fulfill the needs of the target population.
- The extent to which the proposed methods improve health care in the target rural area and:
  - o Reduce stigma associated with SUD/ODU and other barriers to care;
  - o Minimize the potential for developing SUD/ODU
  - o Minimize the potential for individuals with SUD/ODU to develop infectious complications and other co-occurring disorders;
  - o Support integration of health care delivery and social services;

- Improve health access and reduce outcome disparities experienced by vulnerable populations within the target rural service area;
  - Secure target populations support and engagement;
  - Support the consortium's ability to report accurate, reliable data to fulfill HRSA's reporting requirements; and
  - Improve family, caregivers, and community members' understanding of SUD/ODD services and their ability to navigate SUD/ODD treatment options.
- The appropriateness of the methods proposed for fulfilling all core and additional activities given the needs and characteristics of the target population.
  - The clarity and comprehensiveness of the applicant's proposed methods to ensure programmatic and financial sustainability of the proposed activities beyond the period of performance.

**Work Plan (15 points):**

- The clarity and completeness of the proposed work plan, including its inclusion of:
  - Responsible individuals and/or consortium members;
  - Feasible timeframes for achieving tasks/sub-activities ("ongoing" is not an acceptable timeframe);
  - Description of how each proposed task will improve health care delivery in rural areas;
  - Specific tasks/sub-activities to achieve all core activities and the deliverables associated with each core activity and, if applicable, additional activity(ies).
- The clarity with which the work plan reflects a three-year period of performance;
- The comprehensiveness and feasibility of the processes detailed for decreasing health access and outcome disparities within the target rural service area as identified by the applicant in the needs assessment;
- The extent to which the work plan details processes for achieving financial and programmatic sustainability beyond the period of performance, including the deliverables, responsible individuals and/or consortium members, and timelines associated with these processes; and
- The extent to which the work plan includes specific activities related to the tracking and collection of aggregate data and other information from consortium members to fulfill reporting requirements.

**Resolution of Challenges (5 points):**

- The clarity with which the applicant describes both internal and external challenges they are likely to face in implementing their proposed work plan, and the quality and feasibility of the solutions proposed to address them; and
- The extent to which the applicant details potential challenges and solutions to sustaining services after the period of performance ends.

*Criterion 3: EVALUATIVE MEASURES (10 points) – Corresponds to Section IV’s [“Evaluation and Technical Support Capacity”](#) and [“Organizational Information”](#) sections*

- The clarity and comprehensiveness of the applicant’s proposed processes (including staffing and workflow) for tracking, collecting, aggregating, and reporting data and information from all consortium members to fulfill HRSA reporting requirements;
- The clarity with which the applicant designates at least one qualified individual in the staffing plan (**Attachment 5**) to serve as a “Data Coordinator”; and
- The extent to which the Letter of Commitment (**Attachment 3**) contains an explicit commitment by consortium members to sharing aggregate (**not** patient-level or other personally identifiable information) performance data and information with the applicant organization to fulfill HRSA reporting requirements.

*Criterion 4: IMPACT (10 points) – Corresponds to Section IV’s [“Evaluation and Technical Support Capacity”](#) section*

- The clarity and comprehensiveness of the applicant’s proposed plan for updating participating entities, the target rural service area, and the broader public on the program’s activities, lessons learned, and success stories; and
- The extent to which the applicant provides examples of mediums and platforms for disseminating this information.

*Criterion 5: RESOURCES/CAPABILITIES (20 points) – Corresponds to Section IV’s [“Organizational Information”](#) section*

- The clarity with which the applicant demonstrates that the consortium is comprised of at least four separately owned (i.e., different EINs) entities, including the applicant organization (**see Attachment 2**);
  - o **Note: Tribal applicants are exempt from this requirement (applicant organizations will indicate whether they are a tribal entity in the Project Abstract). Applicants who meet this exception should not be penalized for not meeting this criteria during the review process**
- The clarity with which the applicant demonstrates that at least 50 percent of the consortium members are physically located in HRSA-designated rural areas, as defined by [Rural Health Grants Eligibility Analyzer](#) (**see Attachment 2**);
- The clarity with which the applicant details consortium members representation of diverse sectors and disciplines;
- The clarity with which the applicant demonstrates that all services will be provided exclusively in HRSA-designated rural areas, as defined by [Rural Health Grants Eligibility Analyzer](#) or meets the exception requirements (**Attachments 9, 10,12**);
- The extent to which all consortium members reflected in the proposed work plan, including the applicant organization, have signed and dated a **single** letter of commitment (**Attachment 3**) that contains, at a minimum, the following elements:
  - o Description of each consortium member organization’s roles and responsibilities in the project, the activities in which they will be included, how the organization’s expertise is pertinent to the project, and the length of commitment to the project;



- A statement indicating that consortium members understand that the RCORP-Implementation award is to be used for the activities proposed in the work plan; that the activities must exclusively benefit populations in the target rural service area; and that the award is not to be used for the exclusive benefit of any one consortium member; and
- An explicit commitment by consortium members to sharing aggregate (**not** patient-level or other personally identifiable information) performance data and information with the applicant organization to fulfill HRSA reporting requirements.
- **Note: Tribal applicants are exempt from the four separate EINs requirement.**
- The clarity of the Organizational Chart (**Attachment 4**) and extent to which it depicts the relationships and/or hierarchy among all consortium members participating in the project.

*Criterion 6: SUPPORT REQUESTED (10 points) – Corresponds to Section IV’s [“Budget and Budget Narrative”](#) section*

- The degree to which the estimated cost to the government for proposed award-funded activities is reasonable given the scope of work;
- The extent to which the applicant includes a budget and budget narrative for each of the three years of the award;
- The extent to which the applicant allocates the award across a three-year period of performance (i.e., the applicant should not plan to spend the entire award in the first two years); and
- The clarity and comprehensiveness of the budget narrative, including the extent to which the applicant logically documents how and why each line item request (such as personnel, travel, equipment, supplies, and contractual services) supports the goals and activities of the proposed work plan and project.

## 2. Review and Selection Process

The objective review process provides an objective evaluation of applications to the individuals responsible for making award decisions. The highest ranked applications receive consideration for award within available funding ranges. HRSA may also consider assessment of risk and the other pre-award activities described in Section 3 below. See Section 5.3 of HRSA’s [SF-424 Application Guide](#) for more details.

## 3. Assessment of Risk

HRSA may elect not to fund applicants with management or financial instability that directly relates to the organization’s ability to implement statutory, regulatory, or other requirements ([45 CFR § 75.205](#)).

HRSA reviews applications receiving a favorable objective review for other considerations that include past performance, as applicable; cost analysis of the project/program budget; assessment of your management systems, ensuring continued applicant eligibility; and compliance with any public policy requirements, including those requiring just-in-time submissions. HRSA may ask you to submit additional programmatic or administrative information (such as an updated budget or “other support” information) or to undertake certain activities (such as negotiation of an indirect cost rate) in anticipation of an award. However, even at this point in the process, such requests do not guarantee that HRSA will make an award. Following review of all applicable information, HRSA’s approving and business management officials will determine whether HRSA can make an award, if special conditions are required, and what level of funding is appropriate.

Award decisions are discretionary and are not subject to appeal to any HRSA or HHS official or board.

HRSA is required to review and consider any information about your organization that is in the [Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System \(FAPIS\)](#). You may review and comment on any information about your organization that a federal awarding agency previously entered. HRSA will consider your comments, in addition to other information in [FAPIS](#) in making a judgment about your organization’s integrity, business ethics, and record of performance under federal awards when completing the review of risk as described in 45 CFR § 75.205 HHS Awarding Agency Review of Risk Posed by Applicants.

HRSA will report to FAPIS a determination that an applicant is not qualified ([45 CFR § 75.212](#)).

## VI. Award Administration Information

### 1. Award Notices

HRSA will release the Notice of Award (NOA) on or around the start date of September 1, 2022. See Section 5.4 of HRSA’s [SF-424 Application Guide](#) for additional information.

### 2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

See Section 2.1 of HRSA’s [SF-424 Application Guide](#).

If you are successful and receive a NOA, in accepting the award, you agree that the award and any activities thereunder are subject to:

- all provisions of 45 CFR part 75, currently in effect or implemented during the period of the award,
- other federal regulations and HHS policies in effect at the time of the award or implemented during the period of award, and
- applicable statutory provisions.

## Accessibility Provisions and Non-Discrimination Requirements

Federal funding recipients must comply with applicable federal civil rights laws. HRSA supports its recipients in preventing discrimination, reducing barriers to care, and promoting health equity. Non-discrimination legal requirements for recipients of HRSA federal financial assistance are available at the following address:

<https://www.hrsa.gov/about/organization/bureaus/ocrdi#non-discrimination>. For more information on recipient civil rights obligations, visit the HRSA Office of Civil Rights, Diversity, and Inclusion [website](#).

## Executive Order on Worker Organizing and Empowerment

Pursuant to the [Executive Order on Worker Organizing and Empowerment](#), HRSA strongly encourages applicants to support worker organizing and collective bargaining and to promote equality of bargaining power between employers and employees. This may include the development of policies and practices that could be used to promote worker power. Applicants can describe their plans and specific activities to promote this activity in the application narrative.

## Requirements of Subawards

The terms and conditions in the NOA apply directly to the recipient of HRSA funds. The recipient is accountable for the performance of the project, program, or activity; the appropriate expenditure of funds under the award by all parties; and all other obligations of the recipient, as cited in the NOA. In general, the requirements that apply to the recipient, including public policy requirements, also apply to subrecipients under awards, and it is the recipient's responsibility to monitor the compliance of all funded subrecipients. See [45 CFR § 75.101 Applicability](#) for more details.

## Data Rights

All publications developed or purchased with funds awarded under this notice must be consistent with the requirements of the program. Pursuant to 45 CFR § 75.322(b), the recipient owns the copyright for materials that it develops under an award issued pursuant to this notice, and HHS reserves a royalty-free, nonexclusive, and irrevocable right to reproduce, publish, or otherwise use those materials for federal purposes, and to authorize others to do so. In addition, pursuant to 45 CFR § 75.322(d), the Federal Government has the right to obtain, reproduce, publish, or otherwise use data produced under this award and has the right to authorize others to receive, reproduce, publish, or otherwise use such data for federal purposes, e.g., to make it available in government-sponsored databases for use by others. If applicable, the specific scope of HRSA rights with respect to a particular grant-supported effort will be addressed in the NOA. Data and copyright-protected works developed by a subrecipient also are subject to the Federal Government's copyright license and data rights.

## 3. Reporting

Award recipients must comply with Section 6 of HRSA's [SF-424 Application Guide](#) and the following reporting and review activities:

- a) **Progress Report.** The recipient must submit a progress report to HRSA on a **biannual** basis. These progress reports should reflect data and information from across consortium members, not just the applicant organization. These

reports should reflect award recipients' progress towards completing the core/required activities as outlined in this NOFO to ensure that continuation of the award is in the best interests of the Federal government. More information will be provided upon receipt of award.

- b) **Performance Improvement Measurement System (PIMS) Reports.** The recipient must submit quantitative performance reports on a **biannual basis** to demonstrate that their project is advancing the overall goal of RCORP of strengthening and expanding prevention, treatment, and recovery services for rural individuals who misuse opioids to enhance their ability to access treatment and move towards recovery. These data should reflect the performance of all consortium members, not just the applicant organization. Performance indicators have been developed and approved for RCORP-Implementation and focus on service provision, workforce, sustainability, and demographics. As a reminder, RCORP-Implementation award recipients are expected to work with a HRSA-funded evaluator to take part in a larger, RCORP-wide evaluation. Further information will be provided upon receipt of award.
- c) **Sustainability Plan.** Building off the sustainability strategies outlined in your application, award recipients will submit a sustainability plan that identifies strategies for achieving programmatic and financial sustainability beyond the period of performance and ensuring that services remain accessible and affordable to individuals who need them most, including the uninsured and the underinsured. HRSA will provide further information during the period of performance.
- d) **Mental/Behavioral Health Disparities Impact Statement.** The award recipient will submit an "Impact Statement" within the first nine months of the award that describes how the consortium will reduce mental/behavioral health disparities in the target rural service area and continuously monitor and measure the project's impact on health disparities to inform process and outcome improvements. This deliverable will be modeled from the [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration \(SAMHSA\) Disparities Impact Statement \(DIS\)](#), and will entail developing a plan to improve access to care, use of service and outcomes related to behavioral health disparities of the identified subpopulation(s) within the target rural service area. The plan should identify subpopulation(s) within the target rural service area experiencing disparities, current access/use of care, capacity building needs, quality of care, prevalence of SUD and psychostimulant use. In this statement, you may be asked to include elements, including, but not limited to: (1) the number of individuals to be reached during the award period and identify subpopulations (i.e., racial, ethnic, sexual, and gender minority groups) vulnerable to behavioral health disparities; (2) a quality improvement plan for the use of program data on access, use, and outcomes to support efforts to decrease the differences in access to care, use of services, and outcomes of award activities; and (3) methods for the development of policies and procedures to ensure adherence to the [National Culturally and](#)

[Linguistically Appropriate Services Standards](#). Further information will be provided during the period of performance.

- e) **Federal Financial Report (FFR).** The FFR (SF-425) is required no later than January 30 for each budget period. The report is an accounting of expenditures under the project that year. The recipient must submit financial reports electronically. HRSA will provide more detailed information in the NOA.
- f) **Integrity and Performance Reporting.** The NOA will contain a provision for integrity and performance reporting in [FAPIIS](#), as required in [45 CFR part 75 Appendix XII](#).

Note that the OMB revisions to Guidance for Grants and Agreements termination provisions located at [2 CFR § 200.340 - Termination](#) apply to all federal awards effective August 13, 2020. No additional termination provisions apply unless otherwise noted.

## VII. Agency Contacts

You may request additional information and/or technical assistance regarding business, administrative, or fiscal issues related to this NOFO by contacting:

Benoit Mirindi, PhD, MPH.  
Grants Management Specialist  
Division of Grants Management Operations, OFAM  
Health Resources and Services Administration  
5600 Fishers Lane, Mailstop 10SWH03  
Rockville, MD 20857  
Telephone: (301) 443-6606  
Email: [bmirindi@hrsa.gov](mailto:bmirindi@hrsa.gov)

You may request additional information regarding the overall program issues and/or technical assistance related to this NOFO by contacting:

Sabrina Frost  
Public Health Analyst  
Attn: RCORP-Implementation  
Federal Office of Rural Health Policy  
Health Resources and Services Administration  
5600 Fishers Lane  
Rockville, MD 20857  
Telephone: (301) 945-5131  
Email: [sfrost@hrsa.gov](mailto:sfrost@hrsa.gov)

You may need assistance when working online to submit your application forms electronically. Always obtain a case number when calling for support. For assistance with submitting the application in Grants.gov, contact Grants.gov 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, excluding federal holidays at:

Grants.gov Contact Center  
 Telephone: 1-800-518-4726 (International callers, please dial 606-545-5035)  
 Email: [support@grants.gov](mailto:support@grants.gov)  
 Self-Service Knowledge Base: <https://grants-portal.psc.gov/Welcome.aspx?pt=Grants>

Successful applicants/recipients may need assistance when working online to submit information and reports electronically through [HRSA's Electronic Handbooks \(EHBs\)](#). Always obtain a case number when calling for support. For assistance with submitting information in the EHBs, contact the HRSA Contact Center, Monday–Friday, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. ET, excluding federal holidays at:

HRSA Contact Center  
 Telephone: (877) 464-4772 / (877) Go4-HRSA  
 TTY: (877) 897-9910  
 Web: <http://www.hrsa.gov/about/contact/ehbhelp.aspx>

## VIII. Other Information

### **Technical Assistance**

HRSA has scheduled following technical assistance:

#### *Webinar*

Day and Date: Wednesday, November 10, 2021  
 Time: 12:30 – 2:00 p.m. ET  
 Call-In Number: 1-833-568-8864  
 Meeting ID: 160 852 4742  
 Passcode: 23233962  
 Weblink: <https://hrsa.gov/zoomgov.com/j/1608524742?pwd=UFJvcGs5bHFiYXRkcGRleFd6REpnZz09>

The webinar will be recorded. Please email [ruralopioidresponse@hrsa.gov](mailto:ruralopioidresponse@hrsa.gov) for a link to the recording.

### **Tips for Writing a Strong Application**

See Section 4.7 of HRSA's [SF-424 Application Guide](#).

## Appendix A: Rural Communities Opioid Response Program (RCORP) and the National Health Service Corps (NHSC)

HRSA encourages award recipients to leverage National Health Service Corps funding to strengthen the SUD workforce in rural communities. The Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (P.L.116-260) appropriated funding to the NHSC for the purpose of expanding and improving access to quality Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) and other SUD treatment in underserved areas nationwide. A portion of the NHSC's funding will be used for rural workforce expansion to combat the opioid epidemic, which has had a particularly significant impact on rural communities. Accordingly, the NHSC Rural Community LRP will make loan repayment awards in coordination with the Rural Communities Opioid Response Program (RCORP) initiative within the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP).

A part of this initiative, the NHSC Rural Community Loan Repayment Program (LRP) will recruit and retain medical, nursing, and behavioral/mental health clinicians with specific training and credentials, and are part of an integrated care team, providing evidence-based SUD treatment and counselling in eligible communities of need, designated as Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs). The NHSC will make awards of up to \$100,000 for three years to eligible providers under the NHSC Rural Community LRP. HRSA seeks providers with Drug Addiction Treatment Act of 2000 (DATA) waivers and SUD-licensed or SUD-certified professionals to provide quality evidence-based SUD treatment health care services at SUD treatment facilities located in Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs). For this initiative, the NHSC Rural Community LRP has expanded the list of eligible disciplines to include pharmacists, registered nurses, SUD counselors and nurse anesthetists. NHSC Rural Community LRP will provide a funding preference for applicants serving at rural NHSC-approved SUD treatment facilities that are RCORP Consortium member sites.

### Eligibility

To be eligible for NHSC service, a provider must:

- Be a U.S. citizen or national;
- Currently work, or have accepted employment , at a rural-NHSC-approved site;
- Have unpaid government or commercial loans for school tuition, reasonable educational expenses, and reasonable living expenses, segregated from all other debts; and
- Be licensed to practice in state where the employer site is located.

### Eligible Occupations

Members of the SUD integrated treatment team who qualify for NHSC SUD expansion include:

#### *Primary Care:*

Physician (MD or DO)

Nurse Practitioner

Certified Nurse-Midwife

Physician Assistant

***New Program Disciplines:***

Substance Use Disorder Counselors  
 Pharmacists  
 Registered Nurses  
 Nurse Anesthetists (RCORP NHSC LRP only)

***Mental Health:***

Physicians (MD or DO)  
 Health Service Psychologist  
 Licensed Clinical Social Worker  
 Psychiatric Nurse Specialist  
 Marriage and Family Therapist  
 Professional Counselor  
 Physician Assistant  
 Nurse Practitioners

**Eligible Site Criteria**

NHSC-approved sites must:

- Be located in and serve a federally designated HPSA;
- Be an outpatient facility providing SUD services;
- Utilize and prominently advertise a qualified discounted/sliding fee schedule (SFS) for individuals at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level;
- Not deny services based on inability to pay or enrollment in Medicare, Medicaid, and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP);
- Ensure access to ancillary, inpatient, and specialty care;
- Have a credentialing process that includes a query of the National Practitioner Data Bank; and
- Meet all requirements listed in the NHSC Site Agreement.

For more complete information about site eligibility and the site application process, please see the NHSC Site webpage and the NHSC Site Reference Guide. For a list of current NHSC-approved sites, please see HRSA's Health Workforce Connector.

**Eligible Site Types*****Regular Application Process:***

1. Certified Rural Health Clinics;
2. State or Local Health Departments;
3. State Prisons;
4. Community Mental Health Centers;
5. School-Based Clinics;
6. Mobile Units/Clinics;
7. Free Clinics;
8. Critical Access Hospitals (CAH);
9. Community Outpatient Facilities; and
10. Private Practices.



*Newly-eligible SUD Site Types:*

1. Opioid Treatment Program (OTP);
2. Office-based Opioid Agonist Treatment (OBOT); and
3. Non-Opioid SUD treatment sites.

*Auto-Approval Process:*

1. Federally-Qualified Health Centers (FQHC);
2. FQHC Look-Alikes;
3. American Indian Health Facilities: Indian Health Service (IHS) Facilities, Tribally Operated 638 Health Programs, and Urban Indian Health Programs);
4. Federal Prisons; and
5. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Please note that all NHSC sites must deliver comprehensive mental/behavioral health on an outpatient basis, with the exception of CAHs and IHS hospitals. NHSC-approved sites must provide services for free or on a SFS to low-income individuals, and:

1. Offer a full (100 percent) discount to those at or below 100 percent of the federal poverty level;
2. Offer discounts on a sliding scale up to 200 percent of the federal poverty level;
3. Use the most recent HHS Poverty Guidelines;
4. Utilize family size and income to calculate discounts (not assets or other factors); and
5. Have this process in place for a minimum of 6 months.

*Note:*

- A health care organization of a consortium must receive NHSC site approval prior to members of their workforce applying for NHSC Rural Community Loan Repayment Program.
- Consortium members do not receive auto-approval based on their RCORP status.

Consortium members must meet all NHSC site eligibility criteria. All NHSC sites, except SUD treatment facilities, Critical Access Hospitals and Indian Health Service Hospitals, are required to provide an appropriate set of services for the community and population they serve. NHSC-approved sites must provide services for free or on a sliding fee schedule to low-income individuals. More information can be found [here](#).

Additional information on the SFS can be found in the recently updated SFS Information Package.

## Appendix B: Resources for Applicants

Several sources offer data and information that may help you in preparing the application. Please note HRSA is not affiliated with all of the resources provided, however, you are especially encouraged to review the reference materials available at the following websites:

### **HRSA Resources:**

- **HRSA Rural Communities Opioid Response Program (RCORP) Website**  
 Provides information regarding HRSA's RCORP initiative.  
 Website: <https://www.hrsa.gov/rural-health/rcorp>  
 RCORP Technical Assistance website: <https://www.rcorp-ta.org/>  
 RCORP-Rural Centers of Excellence on Substance Use Disorder:  
<https://www.hrsa.gov/rural-health/rcorp/rcoe>
- **HRSA Opioids Website**  
 Offers information regarding HRSA-supported opioid resources, technical assistance and training.  
 Website: <https://www.hrsa.gov/opioids>
- **HRSA Data Warehouse**  
 Provides maps, data, reports and dashboard to the public. The data integrate with external sources, such as the U.S. Census Bureau, providing information about HRSA's grants, loan and scholarship programs, health centers and other public health programs and services.  
 Website: <https://datawarehouse.hrsa.gov/>
- **Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America**  
 Learn how HRSA—in conjunction with other key HHS agencies, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Indian Health Service (IHS), and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)—is supporting the President's new initiative to reduce new HIV infections by 75 percent in the next five years and by 90 percent in the next 10 years.  
 Website: <https://www.hiv.gov/federal-response/ending-the-hiv-epidemic/overview>
- **UDS Mapper**  
 The UDS Mapper is a mapping and decision-support tool driven primarily from data within the Uniform Data System. It is designed to help inform users about the current geographic extent of U.S. federal (Section 330) Health Center Program award recipients and look-alikes. Applicants can use this resource to locate other collaborative partners.  
 Website: <https://www.udsmapper.org/index.cfm>
- **National Health Service Corps (NHSC)**  
 HRSA's Bureau of Health Workforce administers the NHSC Loan Repayment Program, which is authorized to provide loan repayment to primary health care professionals in exchange for a commitment to serve in a Health Professional Shortage Area.

- For general information about NHSC, please visit: <https://nhsc.hrsa.gov/>
- For state point of contacts, please visit here:  
<https://nhsc.hrsa.gov/sites/helpfullcontacts/drocontactlist.pdf>

- **Primary Care Offices (PCOs)**

The PCOs are state-based offices that provide assistance to communities seeking health professional shortage area designations and recruitment assistance as NHSC-approved sites. To locate contact information for all of the PCOs, visit here: <https://bhw.hrsa.gov/shortage-designation/hpsa/primary-care-offices>

#### **Other Resources:**

- **American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM)**  
Offers a wide variety of resources on addiction for physicians and the public.  
Website: <https://www.asam.org/resources/the-asam-criteria/about>
- **Case Study: Medication Assisted Treatment Program for Opioid Addiction**  
Learn about Vermont's Hub & Spoke Model for treating opioid addiction here:  
<http://www.astho.org/Health-Systems-Transformation/Medicaid-and-Public-Health-Partnerships/Case-Studies/Vermont-MAT-Program-for-Opioid-Addiction/>
- **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)**  
Offers a wide variety of opioid-related resources, including nationwide data, state-specific information, prescription drug monitoring programs, and other useful resources, such as the *Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain*.  
Website: <https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/opioids/index.html>
  - **Managing HIV and Hepatitis C Outbreaks Among People Who Inject Drugs: A Guide for State and Local Health Departments (March 2018):**  
<https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/pdf/programresources/guidance/cluster-outbreak/cdc-hiv-hcv-pwid-guide.pdf>
  - **National Center for Health Statistics**  
Provides health statistics for various populations.  
Website: <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/>
  - **Syringe Services Programs**  
For more information on these programs and how to submit a Determination of Need request visit here: <https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/risk/ssps.html>
- **Community Health Systems Development Team at the Georgia Health Policy Center**  
Offers a library of resources on topics such as collaboration, network infrastructure, and strategic planning.  
Website: <http://ruralhealthlink.org/Resources/ResourceLibrary.aspx>
- **Legal Services Corporation**  
Legal Services Corporation (LSC) is an independent nonprofit established by Congress in 1974 to provide financial support for civil legal aid to low-income Americans.  
Website: <https://www.lsc.gov/>

- **National Area Health Education Center (AHEC) Organization**  
 The National AHEC Organization supports and advances the AHEC Network to improve health by leading the nation in recruitment, training and retention of a diverse health work force for underserved communities.  
 Website: <http://www.nationalahec.org/>
- **National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO)** NACCHO created a framework that demonstrates how building consortiums among local health departments, community health centers, health care organizations, offices of rural health, hospitals, nonprofit organizations, and the private sector is essential to meet the needs of rural communities.  
 Website: <http://archived.naccho.org/topics/infrastructure/mapp/>
- **National Institutes of Health (NIH)**

  - **HEALing Communities Study:** Learn about the multi-site implementation research study launched by NIH and SAMHSA to test the impact of an integrated set of evidence-based practices across health care, behavioral health, justice, and other community-based settings.  
 Website: <https://heal.nih.gov/research/research-to-practice/healing-communities>
  - **National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA):** NIDA advances science on the causes and consequences of drug use and addiction and applies that knowledge to improve individual and public health.  
 Website: <https://www.drugabuse.gov/about-nida>
- **National Opinion Research Center (NORC) at the University of Chicago—Overdose Mapping Tool**  
 NORC and the Appalachian Regional Commission have created the Overdose Mapping Tool to allow users to map overdose hotspots in Appalachia and overlay them with data that provide additional context to opioid addiction and death.  
 Website: <http://overdosemappingtool.norc.org/>
- **National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health (NOSORH)—Toolkit**  
 NOSORH published a report on lessons learned from HRSA’s Rural Opioid Overdose Reversal Grant Program and compiled a number of tools and resources communities can use to provide education and outreach to various stakeholders.  
 Website: <https://nosorh.org/rural-opioid-overdose-reversal-program/>
- **Providers Clinical Support System**  
 PCSS is a program funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) created in response to the opioid overdose epidemic to train primary care providers in the evidence-based prevention and treatment of opioid use disorders (OUD) and treatment of chronic pain.  
 Website: <https://pcssnow.org/>
- **Primary Care Associations (PCAs)**  
 To locate contact information for all of the PCAs, visit here:  
<http://www.nachc.org/about-nachc/state-affiliates/state-regional-pca-listing/>

- **Rural Health Information Hub – Community Health Gateway**  
Offers evidence-based toolkits for rural community health, including systematic guides, rural health models and innovations, and examples of rural health projects other communities have undertaken.  
Website: <https://www.ruralhealthinfo.org/community-health>
  - **Rural Health Information Hub – Rural Response to Opioid Crisis**  
Provides activities underway to address the opioid crisis in rural communities at the national, state, and local levels across the country.  
Website: <https://www.ruralhealthinfo.org/topics/opioids>
  - **Rural Health Information Hub - Rural Prevention and Treatment of Substance Abuse Toolkit**  
Provides best practices and resources that organizations can use to implement substance abuse prevention and treatment programs.  
Website: <https://www.ruralhealthinfo.org/toolkits/substance-abuse>
- **Rural Health Research Gateway**  
Provides access to projects and publications of the HRSA-funded Rural Health Research Centers, 1997-present, including projects pertaining to substance use disorder.  
Website: <http://www.ruralhealthresearch.org/>
- **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)** Offers a wide variety of resources on the opioid epidemic, including data sources, teaching curriculums, evidence-based and best practices, and information on national strategies and initiatives.  
Website: <https://www.samhsa.gov/>
  - **SAMHSA Evidence-Based Practices Resource Center**  
Contains a collection of scientifically based resources for a broad range of audiences, including Treatment Improvement Protocols, toolkits, resource guides, clinical practice guidelines, and other science-based resources.  
Website: <https://www.samhsa.gov/ebp-resource-center>
  - **SAMHSA State Targeted Response to the Opioid Crisis Grants**  
This program awards grants to states and territories and aims to address the opioid crisis by increasing access to treatment, reducing unmet treatment need, and reducing opioid overdose related deaths through the provision of prevention, treatment and recovery activities for OUD.  
List of individual grant award activities:  
<https://www.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/grants/pdf/other/ti-17-014-opioid-str-abstracts.pdf>
  - **SAMHSA State Opioid Response Grants**  
The program aims to address the opioid crisis by increasing access to medication-assisted treatment using the three FDA-approved medications for the treatment of opioid use disorder, reducing unmet treatment need, and reducing opioid overdose related deaths through the provision of prevention, treatment and recovery activities for opioid use disorder (OUD) (including prescription opioids, heroin and illicit fentanyl and fentanyl analogs).

Website: <https://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grant-announcements/ti-18-015>  
 List of awarded states: <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/09/04/state-opioid-response-grants-by-state.html>

- **SAMHSA Peer Recovery Resources**
  - <https://www.samhsa.gov/brss-tacs>
  - <https://www.samhsa.gov/brss-tacs/recovery-support-tools/peers/core-competencies-peer-workers>
  
- **Other Opioid Use Disorder Resources**
  - “TIP 63: Medications for Opioid Use Disorder”  
<https://store.samhsa.gov/product/TIP-63-Medications-for-Opioid-Use-Disorder-Full-Document/PEP20-02-01-006>
  - “The ASAM National Practice Guideline for the Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder – 2020 Focused Update”  
<https://www.asam.org/Quality-Science/quality/2020-national-practice-guideline>
  
- **State Offices of Rural Health (SORHs)**  
 All 50 states have a SORH. These offices vary in size, scope, organization, and in services and resources, they provide. The general purpose of each SORH is to help their individual rural communities build health care delivery systems.  
 List of and contact information for each SORH: <https://nosorh.org/nosorh-members/nosorh-members-browse-by-state/>
  
- **State Rural Health Associations (SRHAs)**  
 To locate contact information for all of the SRHAs, visit here:  
<https://www.ruralhealthweb.org/programs/state-rural-health-associations>
  
- **U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)**  
 Provides information and resources—including relevant USDA funding opportunities such as the Community Facilities Loan and Grant Program—for rural communities that want to address the opioid epidemic. Visitors can also share feedback on what prevention, treatment and recovery actions have been effective in addressing the opioid epidemic in their rural communities.  
 Website: <https://www.usda.gov/topics/opioids>
  
- **U.S. Department of Labor**
  - **Federal Bonding Program:** The U.S. Department of Labor established The Federal Bonding Program in 1966 to provide Fidelity Bonds for “at-risk,” hard-to-place job seekers. The bonds cover the first six months of employment at no cost to the job applicant or the employer.  
 Website: <https://nicic.gov/federal-bonding-program-us-department-labor-initiative>
  
  - **Work Opportunity Tax Credit:** The Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) is a federal tax credit available to employers for hiring individuals from certain target groups who have consistently faced significant barriers to employment.  
 Website: <https://www.doleta.gov/business/incentives/opptax/>

- **U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)**  
Provides resources and information about the opioid epidemic, including HHS' 5-point strategy to combat the opioid crisis.  
<https://www.hhs.gov/opioids/>  
<https://www.outreach.usda.gov/USDALocalOffices.htm>

## Appendix C: Potential Consortium Members

Examples of potential partner organizations include, but are not limited to:

- Community Members, such as:
  - Individuals in Recovery;
  - Youth;
  - Parents;
  - Grandparents;
  - Individuals who have historically suffered from poorer health outcomes, health disparities, and other inequities, as compared to the rest of the target population;
- Health care providers, such as:
  - Critical access hospitals or other hospitals;
  - Rural health clinics
  - Local or state health departments;
  - Federally qualified health centers;
  - Ryan White HIV/AIDS clinics and community-based organizations;
  - Substance abuse treatment providers;
  - Mental and behavioral health organizations or providers;
  - Opioid Treatment Programs;
- HIV and HCV prevention organizations;
- Entities that are owned or managed by people from minority groups;
- Single State Agencies (SSAs);
- Prisons;
- Primary Care Offices;
- State Offices of Rural Health;
- Law enforcement;
- Cooperative Extension System Offices;
- Emergency Medical Services entities;
- School systems;
- Primary Care Associations;
- Poison control centers;
- Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program local implementing agencies;
- Universities;
- Healthy Start sites; and
- Other social service agencies and organizations.



## Appendix D: Allowable Additional Activities (Optional)

While RCORP-Implementation award recipients are required to implement all core/required activities outlined in the Program-Specific Instructions section of this NOFO, HRSA recognizes that some applicants may have the capacity (e.g., staffing, infrastructure, resources, etc.) to pursue additional activities beyond the core/required activities. Under these circumstances, award recipients may propose additional activities that aim to improve health care and reduce SUD/OD morbidities and mortality in high-risk rural communities.<sup>11</sup> Proposals for additional activities will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis by HRSA Program Staff. Examples include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Advance telehealth direct care and consultation approaches to MAT. Note that the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) has issued a [clarification of current law](#) allowing the prescribing of MAT via telehealth under certain circumstances.
2. Create space to deliver virtual care that supports accurate clinical interviewing and assessment, clear visual and audio transmission, and ensures patient confidentiality.
3. Purchase Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved opioid agonist medications (e.g., methadone, buprenorphine products including buprenorphine/naloxone combination and buprenorphine mono-product formulations) for the maintenance treatment of OUD, opioid antagonist medication (e.g., naltrexone products) to prevent relapse to opioid use, and naloxone to treat opioid overdose.
4. Perform minor renovations to facilitate co-location of SUD, mental health, and primary care services teams. Please reference the [Funding Restrictions section of the NOFO](#) for more information on minor renovations.
5. Provide training and education to patients, families, and communities on SUD prevention and treatment, mental health, neo-natal abstinence syndrome, trauma-informed care, suicide prevention, and opioid overdose.
6. Test and implement new payment models that facilitate and incentivize coordinated care.
7. Implement or expand access to evidence-based and/or promising practices that enhance better pain management through implementing opioid prescribing guidelines and other evidence-based methods of pain management.
8. Identify at least one individual within the consortium who has the capacity and ability to manage HIV care and treatment; understands the HIV care continuum to better identify gaps in HIV services; and can develop strategies to improve engagement in care and outcomes for people with HIV.

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<sup>11</sup> Applicants will demonstrate the level of need and risk in their communities in the Project Narrative section of this NOFO.

9. Provide support for pregnant and postpartum women to enter and adhere to family centered OUD treatment, reduce the risk of relapse, and prevent, and reduce and manage medical complications in the newborn and other children, using approaches that minimize stigma and other barriers to care, and to support the long-term recovery of the women.
10. Recruit, train, and mentor interdisciplinary teams, including clinical and social service providers, who can engage with, and provide evidence-based psychosocial treatment to, the target population and address underlying social determinants of health.
11. Address other SUD-related needs of the target population, given that many individuals with OUD are polysubstance users or have co-occurring conditions.

## Appendix E: Application Completeness Checklist

- ✓ Have I read this NOFO thoroughly and referred to the SF-424 Application Guide where indicated?
- ✓ Is my organization part of a multi-sector consortium comprised of at least four separately owned entities, at least fifty percent of whom are located in [HRSA-designated rural areas](#)?
- ✓ Are all of my proposed service delivery sites physically located in [HRSA-designated rural areas](#)?
  - If not, have I included an exception request in Attachment 9 and attested that the non-rural service delivery site is a primary service provider for the target rural service area and that the delivery site will directly contribute to building health service delivery infrastructure within the target rural service area?
- ✓ If I share an EIN with another applicant, have I submitted the information requested in Attachment 8?
- ✓ Does my budget total \$1,000,000 (or less), inclusive of direct and indirect costs?
- ✓ Have I submitted a budget and budget narrative for each of the three years of the period of performance?
- ✓ Does my proposed project reduce the morbidity and mortality of SUD/ODU within an exclusively rural service area, including among subpopulations that have historically faced health disparities, outcomes, and other inequities?
- ✓ Do my “Work Plan” and “Methodology” sections reflect all core activities outlined in the [Program-Specific Instructions](#) section of the NOFO?
- ✓ Does my work plan reflect a three-year period of performance?
- ✓ Have all consortium members reflected in the work plan signed and dated a single Letter of Commitment and are at least 50 percent of the signatories located in [HRSA-designated rural areas](#)?
- ✓ Have I designated a Project Director who will serve at least 0.25 FTE on the grant and a Data Coordinator?
- ✓ Have I completed all forms and attachments as requested in [Section IV](#) of this NOFO and in the SF-424 Application Guide?
- ✓ Will I apply at least 3 calendar days before the deadline to accommodate any unforeseen circumstances?
- ✓ Have I confirmed that my application does not exceed the 80-page limit?

## B. Voting on Motions.

In the case of debatable motions, the vote can be proposed in one of two ways:

(1) If debate has been completed and no other council member wishes to speak, the chair can call for the vote. If there are no objections, the chair can proceed with the vote;

(2) If the Chair calls for the vote and there is an objection, a council member may make a Motion to Call for the Question [Vote Immediately]. If this motion is approved by a two-thirds vote, debate will stop. The chair will then read the proposed motion to County Council and ask for the votes of the council members.

In the case of **privileged** motions, the vote shall occur immediately after the motion is recognized by the chair. The chair shall read the proposed motion to county council and then call for the vote.

## C. Voting to Elect **Agencies**, Boards, ~~Committees~~, and Commissions.

Prior to nominations for vacancies on any County **Agencies**, Boards, ~~committees~~ or Commissions, candidates must file with the Clerk to Council an application and authorization for a background check. Once the application ~~and background check~~ **is** complete, the Clerk to Council will notify the Chair for the appropriate Committee ~~that is liaison to the board, committee or commission applied to by the candidate~~. Nominations shall first arise out of Committee and be recommended to full Council.

The full Council shall consider the recommendation of Committee. Any other nominations may also be made at the Council meeting in which the nomination is considered, provided that the requisite application ~~and background check~~ **have has** been reviewed and approved by the Clerk to Council. ~~When council is voting to elect one or more persons to open positions on a board, committee, or commission,~~ Ballot elections should be used if the number of candidates exceeds the number of positions available. ~~As an alternative to the ballot method, a majority of council may decide to vote on each nominee individually, taking them up in the order nominated. If the number of vacant positions equals or exceeds the number of candidates available, the council may dispense with the process under this Rule and appoint by acclamation or similar method. (RONR §46).~~

Once Council votes to appoint a candidate, the decision is final and the candidate is appointed.

Once the election process begins, motions are limited to Rule 14 Privileged Motions (Adjourn, Recede, Raise a Question of Privilege, Convene an Executive Session, or Follow the Agenda); to the following Rule 15 Subsidiary Motions: Motion to Postpone and Motion to Commit; and to the Rule 16 Incidental Motion of the Point of Order. All other motions are out of order until the election process is completed.

With a ballot election, each council member shall vote—on one ballot—for up to as many positions as are open. Each member shall sign or otherwise mark his or her ballot and the minutes will reflect each member’s vote. Members may vote by ballot for someone who was not nominated.

Each ballot is considered one vote cast, and a candidate must receive a majority of votes to be elected. If no candidate receives a majority vote, balloting continues as needed until all positions are filled. If fewer than the proper number of candidates receive a majority vote, those candidates receiving a majority are elected, and balloting continues with all other candidates remaining on the ballot. If more candidates receive a majority vote than there are positions open, those receiving the largest number of votes will be elected and those receiving a majority, but tied for last of those receiving a majority, will remain on the ballot for repeat balloting, as needed. If all positions are not filled after the first vote, no candidates shall be involuntarily eliminated.

As a general rule, an election is a two-phase process. In the first, or nominating phase, the universe of potential candidates is reduced to a short list. In the second, or election phase, the successful candidate(s) is/are selected from the short list. RONR § 46 discusses the nominating and election processes, including potential problems that should be avoided. Nominations from the floor (by council members, including the chair), or by a nominating committee with additional nominations from the floor, seem to be the preferred methods. Generally, the nominating process should be inclusive, as opposed to restrictive, to encourage more interest and participation by the public. Nominations should not be closed if council members still have additional nominations they wish to make.

For a discussion of election procedures for unopposed appointments see RONR § 46.

If the number of candidates exceeds the number of available positions, the choice of election methods boils down to dealing with the nominees one by one or all at one time. Dealing with the candidates one by one may be done by voice vote, show of hands, or similar method. As each nominee is taken up in the order nominated, this method presents fairness problems to those who were not nominated first.

~~It will be seen that, under the procedure just described, it is necessary for members wishing to vote for a later nominee to vote against an earlier one. This fact gives an undue advantage to earlier nominees and, accordingly, a voice vote is not a generally suitable method for electing the officers of organized societies.~~

~~RONR § 46: For the reasons previously discussed, The ballot election method is preferred when there are more candidates than positions available. The ballot election method is set out in Model Rule 8C, above, and is discussed in RONR § 46.~~

~~Although no candidates shall be involuntarily eliminated, candidates receiving fewer votes may choose to withdraw their candidacy. RONR discourages runoff elections, as runoffs usually occur between two competing factions. Repeated balloting allows a third or fourth candidate receiving fewer votes, initially, to emerge as a compromise candidate.~~

## **Rule 9. Ordinances and Resolutions.**

County council shall take action by passing ordinances and resolutions. An ordinance is local legislation passed by the governing body of the county, duly enacted pursuant to proper authority, describing general, uniform and permanent rules of conduct relating to the corporate affairs of the county. A resolution is an expression of opinion or policy concerning some particular item of business coming within the county council's official cognizance and often deals with matters of special or temporary character.

Proposed ordinances and resolutions are introduced for discussion by any member of council offering the ordinance or resolution as a main motion. Resolutions are passed after a single period of debate (or reading) and vote; ordinances require a reading at three public meetings on separate days, with at least seven days between the second and third reading.

~~County council may introduce an ordinance and give first reading "by title only." When giving first reading by title only, the minutes of the meeting should show that council believed there was a valid reason for expediting the ordinance and that there was a general understanding by the council of what the first draft of the ordinance would have said, had it been in writing.~~  
(moved to section 3.1)

Emergency ordinances - valid for only 60 days - may be passed after a single reading if a public emergency exists affecting the life, health, safety, or property of people. An emergency ordinance is effective immediately upon enactment, without regard to reading, public hearing, publication requirements, or public notice requirements. Every emergency ordinance shall be designated as such and shall contain a declaration of the emergency and describe it. Emergency ordinances require a two-thirds majority for passage.

Legislation affecting the following issues can only be enacted by ordinance and require a public hearing, as set out in Rule 6, prior to passage:

1. Adopting annual operational and capital budgets;
2. Making appropriations, including supplemental appropriations;
3. Adopting building, housing, electrical, plumbing, gas, and all other regulatory codes;
4. Adopting zoning and subdivision regulations;
5. Levying taxes;
6. Selling, leasing or contracting to sell or lease real property owned by the county;
7. Development Agreements and/or Amendments to Development Agreements.

## **Rule 10. Debate.**

**(Added to Chapter 2, §6)** [Debate is the discussion on the merits of a pending question to determine if the issue should be adopted or not. Debate shall be managed by the chair in an impartial manner. Council members can participate in the debate only when they are recognized by the chair. Debate can be interrupted (i.e. a member may interrupt another member who has the floor), only to make a Motion to Adjourn, a Motion to Raise a Point of Privilege, a Motion to Raise a Point of Order, or a Motion to Convene an Executive Session. The council member making a motion is entitled to speak first; members who have not spoken on the issue shall be recognized ahead of those who have previously spoken.]

**Rule 11. Conflicts of Interest.**

**(added to Chapter 2, §7)** [No member of county council, or of a county board or commission, may knowingly use his or her official office to obtain an economic interest for himself or herself, an immediate family member, or an individual or business with whom he or she is associated. Any member who, in order to discharge his or her official responsibilities, is required to take an action that affects the economic interest of any such person or business shall prepare a written statement describing the matter requiring action or decision and the nature of the potential conflict of interest.] ~~A copy of the statement shall be furnished to the chair of county council, or other board or commission, as appropriate. The chair shall cause the statement to be printed in the minutes and require that the member be excused from any votes, deliberations, and other actions on the matter in which the potential conflict of interest exists. The chair will ensure that the disqualification and the reasons for it are noted in the minutes.~~

~~It is the responsibility of the individual member to notify the chair of the potential conflict and, once notification is made, to refrain from participating in the discussion, deliberation, and voting on the issue. It is generally expected that the member with the conflict will leave the council chambers while the issue is being discussed, deliberated, or voted upon, but the member may remain in the chamber if a quorum would be lost in his or her absence. If the council member remains in the chamber, the minutes should reflect this fact and should indicate a reason.~~

**(added to Chapter 2, §7)** [Enforcement of this Rule is left to the individual member. The chair will not require the member to leave the chamber, nor will the chair prohibit the member from participating in the debate or in voting.]



# BEAUFORT COUNTY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

|  |
|--|
| <b>ITEM TITLE:</b>   |
| APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT  |
| <b>MEETING NAME AND DATE:</b>  |
| EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>JANUARY 3, 2022</li></ul>   |
| <b>PRESENTER INFORMATION:</b>  |
| COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN SOMMERVILLE   |
| <b>ITEM BACKGROUND:</b>  |
| APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS FOR SPECIAL TAX DISTRICT -SEABROOK POINT POA, DEAN NADLER   |
| <b>PROJECT / ITEM NARRATIVE:</b>   |
| APPOINTMENT TO THE SPECIAL TAX DISTRICT -SEABROOK POINT POA  |
| <b>FISCAL IMPACT:</b>  |
| N/A  |
| <b>STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL:</b>   |
| APPROVE, MODIFY OR REJECT  |
| <b>OPTIONS FOR COUNCIL MOTION:</b>   |
| MOTION TO (APPROVE, MODIFY, REJECT) APPOINTMENT OF DEAN NADLER TO SEABROOK POINT - SPECIAL TAX DISTRICT AND MOVE FORWARD TO COUNTY COUNCIL FOR FINAL APPROVAL. |



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**Notice:** This communication and any attachments may include confidential or legally privileged information that is intended solely for individuals named above. If you are not an intended recipient, please immediately notify sender and then destroy all copies of this communication.

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**From:** Chris Hook [mailto: [REDACTED] ]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 12, 2021 7:44 AM  
**To:** [jpassiment@bcgov.net](mailto:jpassiment@bcgov.net)  
**Cc:** Wendy Orford; Terry Borgert; John Harris; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Seabrook Point - Special Tax District, Board of Commissioners (for Roads and Drainage)

Mr. Passiment,

Please will you have the Secretary to the County Council place this request on the agenda for your next Council meeting. Thanks in advance.

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Ladies and Gentlemen, Members of the Beaufort, SC County Council:

There is vacancy on the Board of Commissioners for our Special Tax District (formed under County Ordinance 90/7); the list of current Board members can be found at <https://beaufortcountysc.gov/special-purpose-tax-district/seabrook-point/members.html> and the Ordinance is attached, for your reference.

Pursuant to County Ordinance 90/7, this is a request for the Council to approve the nomination of Mr. Dean Nadler to fill the vacant position on this Board. Mr. Nadler is a property owner of record in [REDACTED] and has indicated his willingness to serve on the Board. Mr. Nadler resides at [REDACTED] and can be contacted by email at [REDACTED]

If you would kindly indicate when the Council will meet, and the process you will follow to consider and vote upon this request, I would be grateful. Once your decision is made and recorded, please communicate this to me so that I can inform parties in [REDACTED]

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully,  
Best regards,  
Chris Hook

**Secretary, Seabrook Point POA**

Cell phone [REDACTED]

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Respectfully,  
Best regards,  
Chris Hook

**Secretary, Seabrook Point POA**

Cell phone [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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**Vaughn, Tithanie**

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**From:** Weitz, Kristina  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 29, 2021 3:38 PM  
**To:** Vaughn, Tithanie  
**Subject:** RE: Can you check?

Good afternoon!

He is active, in CC 1 and here is his [REDACTED] .

Respectfully,

Kristina Weitz  
Voter Registration and Elections Manager

Board of Voter Registration and Elections of Beaufort County  
15 John Galt Road – Post Office Box 1228  
Beaufort, SC 29906 – Beaufort, SC 29901  
Voice: (843) 255-6900 -- Fax: (843) 255-9429 -- Website: <https://www.beaufortcountysc.gov/vote/>

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**From:** Vaughn, Tithanie <tithanie.vaughn@bcgov.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 29, 2021 15:30  
**To:** Weitz, Kristina <kweitz@bcgov.net>  
**Subject:** Can you check?

Good Afternoon,

Can you check

Dean Nadler  
[REDACTED]

Thank you,

T. Vaughn  
Senior Administrative Assistant to Clerk to Council  
Beaufort County Government, SC  
843-255-2182 (Office)