



Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance

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Questions and Answers for the Operational Support for AIDS Housing (OSAH) 2023-2024 RFP

Question 1:

Are partnerships allowed for this RFP? Specifically, can the lead not-for-profit applicant partner with a for-profit developer on projects that serve the targeted population? If partnerships are allowed, what kind of configuration is expected or prohibited?

Answer:

OSAH applications will be accepted from units of local government, local social services districts, tribal organizations and nonprofit corporations. These funds may be used to provide services and operational support to applicants that have received a capital grant awarded through the Homeless Housing and Assistance Program (HHAP) to provide housing specifically for homeless individuals and/or families living with HIV/AIDS. Eligibility to apply for OSAH funding through this Request for Proposals (RFP) is specifically limited to those projects developed with HHAP funds to serve homeless and/or formerly homeless persons living with HIV/AIDS. HHAP funds must have been used to construct or rehabilitate the specific AIDS housing units for which OSAH funding is requested.

Question 2:

For capital projects that last three to four years (assuming fewer activities in year one but more activities in year three or four), what kind of benchmarking is NYS OTDA expecting to use to evaluate the funds' performance at the end of each year's period?

Answer:

OSAH funds are for the provision of services and operational support to applicants that have received a capital grant awarded through the Homeless Housing and Assistance Program (HHAP) to provide housing specifically for homeless individuals and/or families living with HIV/AIDS. The requested amount may be reduced for projects that will not be operational for the full contract term. Applications will be prioritized based on demonstration of an urgent need for OSAH funds; projects providing employment and/or educational programs; and projects that demonstrate an ability to operate the program for the complete term of the contract. Contract start date is September 1, 2023.

OSAH program reports will be required on at least a quarterly basis, describing the progress of OSAH activities, certifying the number and types of services provided, the number of individuals served, certification of an HIV/AIDS diagnosis for program participants, the occupancy rate per month, and the number of available beds.

Question 3:

The RFP narrative says, “award amounts will be based on need, size of program, and target population served,” what range of funds is NYS OTDA expecting to issue? Please clarify if there is a 1) maximum and 2) minimum that an applicant can receive and if there is an estimate of the 3) total available funding. Also is there an impact formula or ratio you use to determine award sizes vs units created?

Answer:

The total anticipated OSAH funds to be awarded is approximately \$1,000,000. Proposals will be reviewed and assigned an overall competitive score. Proposals will be funded based upon the application’s score and will be subject to the availability of funds. Projects will be awarded OSAH funds in descending order, beginning with the highest ranked proposal, until the initial year’s funding is exhausted, with the following exceptions:

- Awards may be reduced during the application process or contract term if another source of funding becomes available, and is deemed appropriate, in which case OTDA may choose to dedicate those funds to other activities at its discretion;
- If there are additional proposals which qualify for funding, no one agency will be awarded more than 30% of the total funds available under this RFP;
- The lowest scored awarded proposal may not receive the entire requested amount if there are insufficient funds remaining;
- Awards may be proportionately reduced to ensure the availability of funds statewide;
- The requested amount of funding may be reduced by ineligible expenses;
- The requested amount may be reduced for projects that will not be operational for the full contract term; and
- The requested amount of funding may be reduced based on past OSAH spending practices. In the event OTDA has determined via a competitive scoring process that an existing grantee with a history of unspent contract monies should be awarded new funds, OTDA reserves the right to reduce the award based on the contractual spending history and the reasonableness of the request.

Applicants are encouraged to be responsive to the needs of the project balanced by a cost reasonableness given the amount of OSAH funds available. There is no minimum award amount.

Question 4:

Except for the three priority criteria listed on page 7, does the NYS OTDA consider geographic and/or demographic priorities when evaluating an application?

Answer:

There are no additional geographic or demographic priorities.

Question 5:

What percentage of the total awards can be allocated to the New York City region?

Answer:

There are no additional geographic or demographic priorities.