

School Mental Health Expansion Grant

RFP Questions and Responses

4/15/2024

- 1. If an organization submits two applications, is there a possibility of the same organization being chosen for two clusters? Or would two proposals only give us a chance to be selected for either one cluster or the other?**

Eligible organizations may apply for and be selected to serve more than one cluster. However, we are looking for organizations that have strong ties and/or prior experiencing with the communities they will be serving.

- 2. The RFP called for a full time non-clinical position. Can this position be filled by a family peer? If so, would we be able to bill for the family peer?**

Yes, this may be a family peer advocate. The minimum qualifications for this position are a Bachelor's degree in social work, child development, psychology or a related field OR have a minimum of 1 year experience in child service related work. Agencies may bill for any services OMH identifies as eligible services.

- 3. Just to clarify, are we opening clinics in each school building, and will there be OMH support in fast tracking the clinic licenses?**

Yes, clinics will be opened in each of the school buildings. OMH is aware of this project and has offered to support the licensing process where possible. SMH has done much of the pre-work to help this move ahead smoothly. We understand the realities of the licensing process.

- 4. Can we notify schools yet?**

No, agencies should not be discussing this grant with schools at this point. SMH will take the lead on school facing discussions until the RFP is finalized.

- 5. Are the schools already aware they have been selected and are they on board?**

The majority of schools have been notified that they have been selected to participate in this pilot program. All superintendents and central DOE are aware.

- 6. More than one Article 31 Clinic might apply to perform these services at School XYZ, yes? How will you advise School leadership if they should work with more than one Vendor on the applications?**

SMH will be reviewing the proposals, not schools. One agency will be selected to open an Article 31 clinic in each school building.

7. What specific set up related activities should grantees start doing on 6/17/24?

Set up activities will include the following: identifying and hiring staff, beginning the EZ PAR licensing process, and meeting with school leadership to identify school needs.

8. What does the contracting look like once the project ends? Are we contracting directly with the school?

Once the project ends, agencies will need to identify alternative sources of income if the program is not able to be sustained through insurance reimbursement. If schools are able to provide funds that would be a discuss the agency would need to have with the school with SMH guidance. Funding from the school is not guaranteed.

9. Do the organizational charts and documentation of licensure count toward the page limit for the proposal narrative? Our standard overall organizational chart is a full page and documentation of licensure will occupy another page.

No, organizational charts and documentation of licensure will not be counted toward the page limit for the proposal narrative.