



Office of Mental Health

Community Based Diversion Programs RFP#MH253022 Questions & Answers

Q1. Our question is regarding Section 2.4 where it states:

“Eligible Agencies

Prequalification is required for all not-for-profit organizations seeking grant funding from New York State. Please see Section 2.8 and Section 2.9 for additional Prequalification Information.

Eligible applicants are not-for-profit agencies with 501(c) (3) incorporation that have experience providing mental health services to persons with serious mental illness and a history of criminal justice involvement through a state, county, or municipal contract or memorandum of understanding. Applicants must currently be providing services in one of the following counties: Cayuga, Essex, Franklin, Fulton, Montgomery, Madison, Oneida, St. Lawrence Warren, or Washington.”

We a County LGU, but we also operate a MHOTRS clinic, employ a Court Navigator, operate social work services in the Madison County jail, and collaborate closely with 9-1-1, local police departments and local courts. Are we eligible to apply for this although we are not a not-for-profit agency as defined above?

A1. No, applicants need to be prequalified as a 501(c) (3) not-for-profit in SFS in order to apply for this RFP.

Q2. We are an agency that provides equal services to both the counties of Warren and Washington, and this RFP is targeting both of these specific counties for this funding. Given this information:

- As an agency serving both counties, can we submit one proposal that will include services in both counties, or is it required that there is one application for each county?
- If the answer to the above is that there must be one proposal for each county, is one agency allowed to submit more than one proposal (in that we would be submitting two, one for each county)?

A2. It is required that there is one application for each county. An agency may submit more than one proposal. Please see section 4.3 of the RFP for additional information on the process of awarding contract and 4.4 for additional information on initial awards and allocations.

Q3. If SMI Mapping was done, but it is four years old, is it still permissible to attach it if the applicant wishes to?

A3. Yes, it is permissible to attach the sequential intercept map (SIM), please be sure to indicate the date of the SIM map in the application materials.

Q4. Can you share based on the success of existing programs, how long an individual might be expected to be engaged in diversion? As a standard, I am thinking of Critical Time Intervention, which typically does not last past nine months. Is this likely to be shorter, the same?

A4. Currently funded programs serve individuals at various points of the criminal justice process, and the length of engagement varies from program to program. OMH's Diversion Center and OMH's Bureau of Forensic Evaluation Research and Data Analytics (BFERDA) are committed to working closely with funded programs to define what success looks like within each specific program. In partnership, the Diversion Center, BFERDA, and the funded program help identify meaningful indicators of success and develop data points that allow you to consistently measure and assess outcomes over time.

Q5. Question 6.4e asks for our sustainability plan. Is this because continued federal funding is not assured, or because only one round of funding is planned?

A5. Please see section 5.3 of the RFP. "Applicants are reminded that funding to support the operation of this program is contingent upon the continued availability of federal funding."