



YOR CALIFORNIA
California Youth Opioid Response

California Youth Opioid Response

Request for Applications

Application Responses Due:

5:00 p.m. PST

January 15, 2021



A joint effort of California Institute for Behavioral Health Solutions and Advocates for Human Potential, Inc., funded by the California Department of Health Care Services, Community Services Division

California Youth Opioid Response Request for Applications

At a Glance

\$11 million available to increase access to quality services for youth (ages 12-24) with opioid and/or stimulant use disorders!

Grant Funding

Implementation grant projects: \$375,000 to \$700,000

Implementation grantees build capacity and deliver direct services for youth.

Capacity-building only grant projects: \$50,000+

Capacity-building only grantees increase access to quality youth opioid use and stimulant use disorder services but do not deliver direct services.

**Submit completed application, budget, implementation plan, and required PDF attachment
January 15, 2020, 5 p.m. PST**

Introduction

The California Youth Opioid Response Program (YOR California) is supported through the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), as part of the state's Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) Expansion program. Funding to support this program was awarded to DHCS by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) through the agency's State Opioid Response (SOR) II Grant.

Background

In 2019, DHCS contracted with the California Institute for Behavioral Health Solutions (CIBHS) in collaboration with Advocates for Human Potential, Inc. (AHP) to expand and enhance access to services for youth (ages 12-24) with or at risk of opioid use disorders (OUDs) and their families through YOR California. In turn, the YOR California team (CIBHS/AHP) issued a request for applications (RFA) to support projects throughout California to expand access to MAT and other prevention, treatment, and recovery services to youth with or at risk of OUDs or overdose death.

YOR California works in partnership with stakeholders throughout California to reduce the impact of the opioid and stimulant crisis on California's youth and families. YOR California is committed to enhancing and expanding access to youth-relevant outreach, MAT, and other prevention, intervention, treatment, and recovery services, and its framework is based on [key principles](#) for successful outcomes.

As a result, YOR California funded 10 planning grants and 22 implementation grants across the state. Implementation grantees established innovative strategies providing outreach, engagement, and direct services, including screening, assessment, MAT, and other prevention, treatment, and recovery services to youth. Planning grantees convened community planning groups, established new partnerships,

engaged youth and families, and created community actions plans for improving access to OUD services for youth. Grantees included primarily Federally Qualified Health Centers, substance use disorder (SUD) treatment agencies, county behavioral health departments, and youth service alliances.

To date, YOR California grantees have:

- Screened 14,000 youth for OUDs.
- Served nearly 6,000 youth with or at risk of OUDs or overdose death.
- Provided MAT to 331 youth.
- Supported professional development education activities to over 400 behavioral health staff, teachers, school personnel, and other stakeholders.

YOR California Funding Opportunity

The YOR California team is expanding this work through additional DHCS funding received from a second SAMHSA SOR grant, and \$11 million is currently available to fund YOR California grant projects.

The aim is to strengthen capacity and increase access to MAT using the three U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved medications for the treatment of OUDs and reduce opioid overdose-related death among youth through evidence-based prevention, treatment, and recovery services. Funding also supports prevention, treatment, and services to address stimulant misuse and stimulant use disorders (StUDs), including cocaine and methamphetamine, among youth.

YOR California is seeking applicants who can demonstrate their ability to successfully address YOR California's goals and objectives. Applicants are encouraged to consider change management and sustainability strategies in the design and operation of their proposed program.

Funding and Scope of Services

The framework for this RFA is based on the experience, accomplishments, and lessons learned from YOR California grantees and activities. It combines funding for direct services, peer-to-peer learning through learning collaboratives, and technical assistance to support grantee efforts. YOR California will fund up to \$11 million in grants. These grants will fall into two categories – 1) implementation grants and 2) capacity-building only grants. It is anticipated that YOR California will award 20 to 25 implementation grants, along with several capacity-building only grants.

Implementation Grants

Funding. Implementation grants will be awarded to execute strategies that increase capacity and access to quality, youth-specific services for youth ages 12-24 with or at risk of OUD/StUDs. Although there is no set minimum or maximum budget amount for which an applicant may apply, YOR California anticipates award amounts for implementation grants to be in the range of \$375,000 to \$700,000.

Implementation grantees are expected to expand both access and quality of services for youth with OUD/StUDs. They will use evidence-based practices relevant for youth with OUD/StUDs, as well as the appropriate tools and curricula with *fidelity*. Implementation grantees may also use promising practices (those backed by research and/or with a demonstrated rationale for applicability) with the target population of youth served.

YOR California recognizes that some implementation grantees may not have all components of the youth services in place at the start of the grant and will provide technical assistance, including webinars,

coaching calls, YOR California learning collaboratives, and other resources to help grantees fully develop these services.

Throughout the YOR California project, implementation grantees are expected to establish or fine-tune partnerships; build workforce competencies; and identify and address gaps and barriers to reach, engage, and retain youth in services and supports. Implementation grantees will expand capacity, outreach, and access to the constellation of MAT and other elements of the YOR California MAT and Service Model (see page 6).

Implementation grantee requirements:

- Identify a PD/champion committed to leveraging resources and expanding access to services for youth.
- Develop and maintain relationships with subcontractors, other partners, and a constellation of community-based youth service agencies.
- Establish and implement a youth advisory group and/or other best practices for integrating youth voice into program design, policy, and implementation.
- Create, submit, and implement a communication and outreach plan by June 15, 2021. (The implementation plan will include delivery of MAT and other elements of the YOR California MAT and Service model, specific evidence-based practices to be used, and strategies for increasing capacity to meet the needs of youth.)
- Participate in YOR California learning collaboratives and technical assistance activities, including webinars and coaching calls.
- Meet all federal and state funding restrictions, reporting, and compliance requirements as determined by SAMHSA and DHCS for use of SOR funds. (See Attachment 4 for information on allowable costs).

Capacity-Building Only Grants

Capacity-building only grant funding is intended to help a lead agency and its partners plan and develop procedures, policies, and activities that improve access to services but do not provide direct services for youth.

While there is not a minimum/maximum for capacity-building only grants, most will be in the amount of \$50,000. Statewide or specialized organizations that are not proposing direct service but include deliverables resulting in increased access to quality youth-relevant services may apply for capacity-building only awards above \$50,000.

Capacity-building only grantee requirements:

- Identify a PD/champion committed to leveraging resources and expanding access to services for youth.
- Involve stakeholders and community partners who will work with the lead agency throughout the grant.
- Participate in YOR California learning collaboratives and technical assistance activities, including webinars and coaching calls.
- Establish a youth advisory council or other means for engaging youth input.
- Identify barriers to youth access and develop a final implementation plan with strategies and action items for improving access to OUD/StUD services for youth and submit for approval.

- Upon approval, put the implementation plan into action.
- Meet all federal and state funding restrictions, reporting, and compliance requirements as determined by SAMHSA and DHCS for use of SOR funds. (See Attachment 4 for information on allowable costs).

Capacity-building only grants will be awarded to support new or enhance existing efforts. Examples could include the following:

- Expand youth and family access to telehealth resources or recovery apps.
- Train MAT providers on the specific needs of youth.
- Develop target population-specific outreach and engagement strategies (e.g., African American youth ages 14-18 in foster care, youth ages 16-24 in farming communities, youth who are experiencing homelessness, Southeast Asian American high school youth, pregnant youth).
- Expand use of the Adolescent Community Reinforcement Approach (A-CRA) or another evidence-based practice in serving youth with OUD/StUDs.
- Support dialogue, training, and policies delivering culturally competent outreach, navigation, and support to link youth of color with treatment and recovery services.
- Expand use of positive youth development and pro-social activities in MAT and other youth treatment for OUD/StUDs (e.g., recovery sports, arts, leadership programs).
- Improve integration of health/medication for OUD and youth-specific behavioral health interventions.
- Improve Youth Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (YSBIRT) at schools and other youth settings.
- Expand access to recovery supports for youth with OUD/StUDs in schools.

Lead Agency. For each grant category, the YOR California application requires the identification of a lead agency that is responsible for managing funding, deliverables, and adherence to the program requirements. This agency is to describe how it is ready, willing, and able to be a youth services champion, cutting through challenges, seizing opportunities, and advocating for access to youth-relevant OUD/StUD services. Applicants must identify a YOR California project director (PD) who will lead this project. The PD will lead YOR California efforts, working with the agency's executive leadership, youth advisors, partners, and other community stakeholders. The PD is the project's point person and responsible for its implementation and outcomes. The amount of time budgeted for this position must be commensurate with the size and complexity of the proposed project.

Target Population. The target population is youth and young adults ages 12-24 and their families. More specifically, these are youth and young adults who are misusing opioids and/or stimulants, particularly with OUD/StUDs or who are at risk of overdose death. The application must identify and define the target population served; the population may be identified as a region or a specific population within a region. Programs may serve all youth ages 12-24 or a subset of this age-group.

Youth Services Network. YOR California grantees are expected to propose services that integrate and fill gaps in the County Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System (DMC-ODS) Specialty Care Plans and county adolescent service networks, as well as other health, mental health, and youth services. Partners may include schools, juvenile justice, and foster care services.

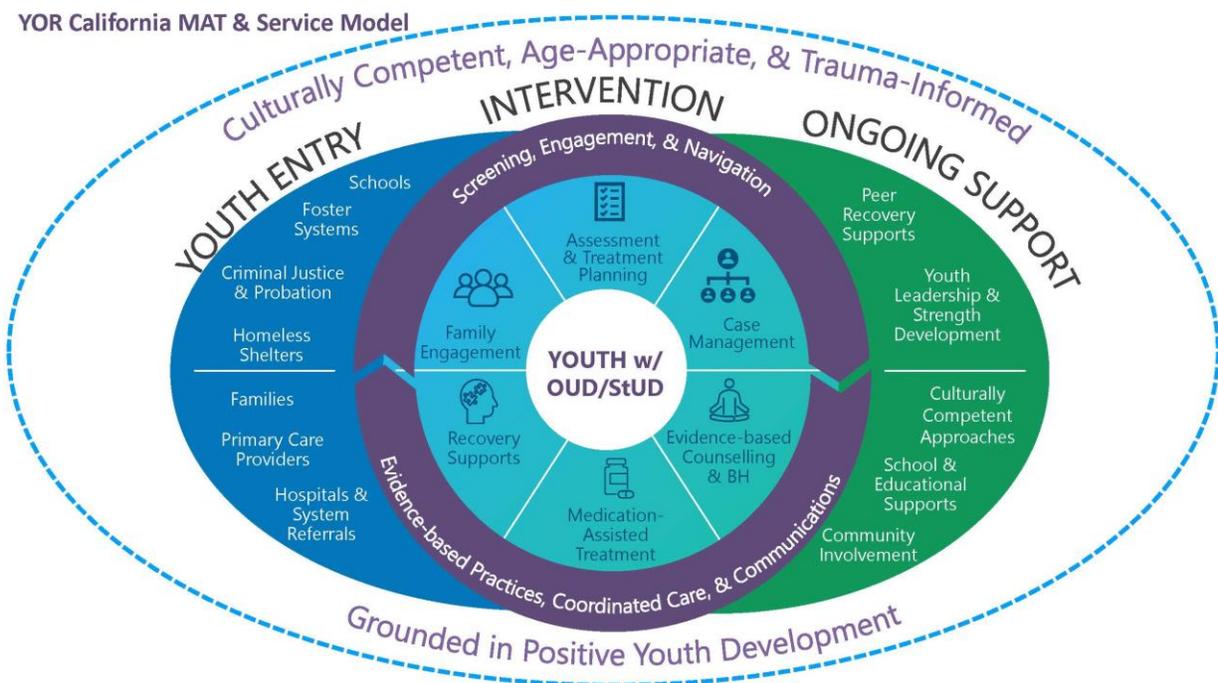
YOR California funds may be used only to provide services that specifically address opioid or stimulant misuse or OUD/StUDs among youth. However, if an opioid and/or stimulant use problem exists

concurrently with another substance use issue or co-occurring medical/mental illness, all are expected to be addressed. Individuals who have no history or current use of stimulants or opioids cannot receive treatment or recovery services through YOR California.

Under federal guidelines, YOR California funding is the funding source of last resort. It is anticipated that most direct treatment services will be funded through Medi-Cal or insurance, and YOR California funding and activities will support grantee efforts to coordinate and create pathways for youth to access the array of services needed. YOR California will pay for direct treatment services for youth who do not have coverage under private insurance or Medi-Cal to cover these costs.

YOR California MAT and Service Model. As illustrated in the figure below, YOR California seeks to create robust local or regional constellations of youth-relevant services for youth with OUD/StUDs. These services reflect an interconnected and coordinated network of care that is defined as culturally competent, age and developmentally appropriate, trauma-informed, and grounded in positive youth development at every potential entry and intervention point and throughout ongoing supports. Youth-relevant services are defined as those that address youths’ unique experiences, interests, and motivations and include family involvement and positive youth development. Coordinated care and communications are essential components of this youth-relevant model.

YOR California MAT & Service Model



Contracting

For all grant recipients, YOR California will contract with one lead agency and approve its subcontracting partners. The anticipated contract term is from March 1, 2021 through August 31, 2022 (18 months).

Award recipients will be issued a contract with a deliverable schedule, which will be established in the contracting process.



The deliverable schedule for implementation grantees will outline activities to improve access to youth-specific services through planning, capacity-building, and outreach strategies. Deliverables will also include data reports on the number of youths served, types of services offered, and outcomes. **Services for youth may begin at the start of the contract, and grantees are expected to have all services available for youth no later than June 30, 2021.** Selected applicants will, as part of contracting, receive a deliverable schedule that will be determined by each applicant's budget and implementation plan.

The capacity-building only grantees' deliverable schedule will address planning and capacity-building activities, including development and implementation of an implementation plan.

Reporting and Administrative Requirements. Grantees are required to meet YOR California, DHCS, and other state and federal reporting, financial, and administrative requirements. Reporting requirements will include monthly, quarterly, and final reports. Additionally, implementation grantees will be responsible for complying with Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) data requirements. Grantees will be responsible for submitting invoices, and ensuring expenses are allowable and have sufficient back-up documentation. YOR California, DHCS, or SAMSHA may conduct desk or site audits.

Eligibility Criteria

Any nonprofit or for-profit business entity in good standing and authorized to do business in California, as well as any Tribal Authority, state or local government entity, school, or school district is eligible to apply.

Any entity listed with the General Services Administration as debarred or suspended is ineligible to receive YOR California funds.

All applicants must meet the [terms and conditions for State Opioid Response funding](#).

Application

Notice of Intent (Optional)

Completing the Notice of Intent is a non-binding, optional prerequisite giving the YOR California team an idea of who is interested in applying. If your organization anticipates applying for a YOR California grant, please provide us with a nonbinding Notice of Intent by completing a brief online form at <https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/4884497/YOR-California-Notice-of-Intent>. Organizations completing the Notice of Intent will receive email notifications of any updates to the frequently asked questions on the [YOR California website](#).

Informational Webinar (Optional)

Join us for an **informational webinar** on December 18, 2020, at 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. PST to learn more about YOR California and ask questions about the RFA process, requirements, or application

IMPORTANT DATES*

RFA Release Date
December 14, 2020

Informational Webinar: December 18, 2020
11 a.m. – 12 p.m. PST

Optional Notice of Intent: January 8, 2020

Question Submittal Deadline: December 29, 2020

Application Deadline: January 15, 2021, 5 p.m. PST

Projected Award Announcement: February 15, 2021

Services Begin: March 1, 2021
Services End: August 31, 2022

* At the YOR California team's discretion, these dates are subject to change to best meet programmatic needs and funder requirements.



documents. Register at <https://ahpnet.adobeconnect.com/eafuqtotnsyh/event/registration.html>. The recording will be made available on the [YOR California website](#).

Questions?

Check the [YOR California website](#) for background information, [YOR California key principles](#), YOR 1 project descriptions, and any updates. Questions can be submitted to YORCalifornia@ahpnet.com until December 29, 2020. Responses to questions will be posted on the YOR California website after the informational webinar and provided to all individuals submitting a Notice of Intent or attending the informational webinar.

Application Instructions

The application is a fillable PDF form (see Attachment 1). Send one email with the following items as a complete application:

- Completed application
- Implementation plan (see Attachment 2)
- Budget worksheet (see Attachments 3 & 4)
- One PDF containing organizational chart, resume of PD and other key staff, and memoranda of understanding (MOUs) or letters of intent (LOIs) from partner agencies

The completed application form and related attachments should be sent to YOR2Application@ahpnet.com no later than 5 p.m. PST on Wednesday, January 15, 2021. You will receive an email confirming receipt of your application within 24 hours of submission.

There is no reimbursement for costs associated with the preparation or submission of applications in response to this RFA or costs associated with possible award negotiation.

Evaluation and Selection Criteria

Each application will be reviewed for technical compliance, completeness, and budget reasonableness. The contents will be scored, and applications will be ranked. Successful applicants presenting the most complete and responsive applications demonstrating the most favorable mix of credentials, capacity, and potential to best meet YOR California’s needs and goals will be selected. In addition to the proposal score, additional factors may also be considered to select the most favorable mix of grantees across the state, such as the specific populations served and geographic diversity. Decisions are at the sole discretion of YOR California and subject to DHCS approval. There is no appeal process. YOR California staff are not available to discuss the merits of any proposal not recommended for funding. Nothing in this RFA and its associated documents shall be construed as committing YOR California to issue an award. Any funds allocated for grants are subject to funding received from DHCS. YOR California may seek clarifications or recommend adjustments to applications or budgets as a condition of the award.

Below are the point values for each rating category that will be scored in the narrative. Applications will be scored on a scale of 0 to 100 points as follows:

Application Section	Implementation Projects Number of Possible Points	Capacity-Building Only Projects Possible Points
Applicant Overview	0 points	0 points



Applicant Information and Qualifications	20 points	30 points
Target Population and Community Need	15 points	25 points
Program Milestones and Implementation	35 points	25 points
Management Plan	10 points	10 points
Budget, Financial Management, and Sustainability	20 points	10 points
Total	100 points	100 points

Attachments:

Download attachments from the [YOR California website](#).

Attachment 1: Application form

Attachment 2: Implementation plan template

Attachment 3: Budget template

Attachment 4: Budget template instructions and allowable cost information