

NTP REACH Informational Webinar Q&A
September 12, 2019
Questions & e-mailed-Questions as of September 16, 2019

Question 1.

We are an organization with multiple clinic locations - are we limited to only 2 applications for 2 different treatment centers in our organization?

Answer 1.

Yes, that is correct. An organization with multiple NTP location sites may only apply for up to 2 locations (request of up to \$250,000 total; with \$125,000 maximum request for each distinct NTP location).

Question 2:

I have a question about the \$75,000 available for renovations and alterations of existing facilities. The list of allowable expenditures states that only "minor facility improvements necessary for expansion of OUD prevention...up to 5% of total budget" are allowed. Given the percentage, that seems pretty limiting (would be only \$6,250 per NTP since the maximum budget request is \$125,000.).

Can you please provide any more clarity on that? Thank you.

Answer 2:

There has been some misunderstanding about the \$75,000 amount allowed for infrastructure expenses.

The total DHCS **NTP REACH** allocation for subgrants is \$1.5m, 5% of which equals \$75,000.00. If there are 12 subgrantees and each requests funds for infrastructure, the amount that would *usually* be allowed would be \$6,250.00 per NTP subgrantee (ie: \$75K divided by 12). Because however, other DHCS-funded projects entirely disallowed spending on infrastructure while a major focus of **NTP REACH** is *explicitly* on infrastructure and personnel development, individual subgrantees may request up to \$75,000. (The 5% of total budget is a federal requirement on the State of California's *overall* MAT Expansion budget).

Question 3:

Will there be no place to upload letters of support? Hoping to be helpful to point out that the first page of the *online* application has this sentence: "Please fill out this online application *and upload your letters of support attachment where indicated.*"

Answer 3:

Thank you for pointing out this error in our online application! This clause in the online application was an error and has since been deleted from the application. **NO letters of support are requested nor will be accepted.**

If your agency proposes to collaborate, subcontract, or secure a consultation fee agreement with other agencies or individuals, these should be identified in the quarterly implementation plan and reflected in the quarterly budgets.

Should your application be selected for funding, these arrangements will be verified at the time of award. If they are found to be invalid, the proposed award may be withdrawn. The integrity of the application is the sole responsibility of the applicant.

Question 4:

If an existing HUB is interested in applying in a different region, can funds be used to provide outreach and training to NTP's outside their H&S to get referrals to the H&S?

Answer 4:

No. An existing HUB site is not eligible to receive funds from **NTP REACH** for *any* purpose. If the HUB is one of many NTP locations of a "parent" agency, then another NTP that is NOT a HUB site within that agency may apply for funding.

Question 5:

Our organization anticipates NTP licensure at two locations, licensing is imminent. If licensing is expected to be granted within a month, are we eligible?

Answer 5:

Yes. This is a provisional "yes". If your site can adequately demonstrate that NTP licensure is imminent, your site application will be considered.

Question 6:

Re: Underserved counties- If an NTP is not located in the underserved county, then how would you apply for a grant to serve them? Apply on behalf of their nearest location to the underserved county?

Answer 6:

If your agency has multiple NTP locations, none of which are located in an underserved county, nor whose catchment area could reasonably include an underserved county due to distance, etc., you may not be able to serve that underserved area.

However, if your agency has an NTP location that is near or adjacent to an underserved county and you can partner, subcontract, or otherwise collaborate with an agency within the underserved county, this is encouraged. For example, if there is an FQHC or other local clinical personnel with which your neighboring county NTP could reasonably collaborate to help develop referral relationships, develop personnel capacity of the FQHC and collaboration with your NTP, this would be encouraged.

Question 7:

- a) If a Hub applies for a neighboring county that does not have a H&SS, is it required to work with an NTP in that county to meet the objectives stated in the RFA?
- b) What if none of the NTP sites in a county are interested in participating in the MAT expansion project?
- c) Would the Hub then be able to propose a project to work with potential spokes in these counties to help them become waived so they could join a neighboring Hub and Spoke System or create a relationship with a local NTP?

Answer 7:

- a) To clarify: a Hub location is NOT eligible to apply for **NTP REACH** funding. If an entity ("parent" agency) has a NTP location that is NOT funded by the H&SS, it IS eligible to apply for funding. If that non-H&SS NTP site location can explain how it will be able to adequately provide services for a neighboring county that does not have a H&SS, nor an NTP that wants to work to achieve **NTP REACH** RFA objectives, that adjacent

county NTP could apply for funding within [NTP REACH](#) to deliver services in the adjacent county.

- b) Collaboration among NTPs and other community behavioral health, clinical services, and OUD treatment services is an objective of [NTP REACH](#), however collaboration and participation must always be voluntary and cannot be forced or coerced.

If no NTP sites in a given county are interested in participating in the MAT expansion project, non-Hub NTPs in neighboring counties that can demonstrate a strategy for providing expanded MAT services to the catchment area in question are encouraged to apply.

- c) To clarify: a Hub location is NOT eligible to apply for [NTP REACH](#) funding. The purpose of [NTP REACH](#) is not to replicate the Hub & Spoke System. Rather, it is intended to build the capacity of individual NTPs to expand their MAT services to include medications in addition to methadone and to develop personnel capacity to competently serve an expanded patient population. Assisting collaborating agencies to increase their numbers of waived clinicians is part of this objective. Encouraging or recruiting agencies to train their personnel to become waiver-certified and to join an existing H&SS is beyond the scope of [NTP REACH](#).

Question 8:

For programs who are statewide and are awarded a grant for a specific location, can these funds be used to provide statewide outreach and education or capital improvements beyond the local level?

Answer 8:

No.

Funds allocated through [NTP REACH](#) must be used to serve the specific NTP site and local catchment area. However, it is acceptable for a specific NTP site (or multiple specific NTP sites) to contract with a statewide entity to develop and provide a standardized outreach/education project that could be used at the local level and beyond, for example at multiple [NTP REACH](#) funded sites.

Funds for capital improvements for a specific NTP site must be used for that site only.

Question 9:

- a) What is the total funding available and how many grants will be issued?
- b) How will funds be paid out? Before or after the expenditure/deliverable occurs?

Answer 9:

- a) \$1.5 million is available for [NTP REACH](#) funded projects. Because awards may be made up to a maximum amount of \$125,000, it is expected that up to twelve (12) awards will be granted.
- b) Funds will be paid out on a deliverable basis with an expectation that progress toward and completion of deliverables will be reported and billed on a quarterly basis. When the deliverables are submitted and approved, AHP will initiate

payment. Payments will be turned around in 7-10 days, depending on when invoice is submitted and approved. AHP will pay via check or ACH, depending on how each subgrantee is set up to receive payments. These details will be negotiated based on individual subgrantee needs at the time of contract execution with AHP.

Question 10:

Is a DUNS number required to receive funding?

Answer 10:

No.

Question 11:

Is there availability of funds for H&SS funded agencies? It seems you are eligible if you are not a Hub?

Answer 11:

NTP REACH is able to fund *agencies* that have a NTP Hub as one of their NTP locations. However, the individual NTP Hub site is NOT eligible for funding; other NTP sites within that agency that are NOT Hubs may apply for funding.

Question 12:

We are a FQHC that provides primary care, behavioral health care, and dental care to a primarily underserved population. Since we are not a California NTP, are we therefore ineligible to apply?

Answer 12:

That is correct. FQHCs are NOT eligible to apply. Only NTPs are eligible to apply. However, your FQHC may wish to contact and partner with a funding-eligible NTP to encourage them to apply. That NTP can then subcontract with your FQHC to provide expanded services to your jointly served catchment area and to support personnel development of your FQHC staff, for example, in becoming buprenorphine waiver trained and certified, etc. to support that NTP patient population.

Question 13:

My main question relates to if we accept funding, does it open us up for other audits?

Answer 13:

Your organization must keep required records of receipt of funds and expenditures in the usual manner, required by law, but no additional audits should be anticipated.

Question 14:

A statewide organization representing multiple NTPs is ineligible to apply for NTP Reach funds since they are not a licensed clinic site; is that correct?

Answer 14:

Yes. That is correct.

Although agencies other than licensed NTPs, for example FQHCs or COMP, are *not* eligible to apply directly for funding, they are encouraged to contact NTPs who *are* applying to consider developing a collaborative relationship with that NTP. For example, to become a consultant/subcontractor for those NTPs to help meet one of the three objectives of the RFA, ie: collaboration, networking, outreach, personnel development, education, development of referral patterns, etc. There is no limit on the amount that subcontractors or consultants can comprise in a NTP's budget as long as it is explained in the quarterly deliverables and meets the RFA objectives. In some instances, it may be more cost- beneficial than hiring short-term employees with benefits, etc. for a grant that concludes 9/29/20. There is no rollover.