

OAG 2025 OPIOID ABATEMENT GRANT WEBINAR

Monday, May 5, 2025

2:30 p.m.



Overview

- Background/Board
- 2025 Application
 - Timeline
 - Who Qualifies?
 - Substantial Changes from 2024
 - Priority Strategies
 - Appeals
- Technical Assistance, Monitoring & Evaluation
- Questions and Answers



The Opioid Crisis

- The opioid crisis has occurred in waves:
 - The first wave was driven by the oversupply of prescription opioids. Regulatory controls stemmed overprescribing.
 - Heroin-related overdose deaths started rising around 2010, marking the start of the second wave.
 - By 2014, synthetic opioids — mainly fentanyl and fentanyl analogs — accounted for most overdose deaths, marking the third wave.
 - We are currently experiencing the fourth wave of the opioid crisis. In Oklahoma, the stimulant fueling this fourth wave is methamphetamine. The co-use of methamphetamine and opioids (namely fentanyl) has caused a significant increase in overdose deaths involving both substances.

Source: Ciccarone, D. (2021). "The rise of illicit fentanyls, stimulants and the fourth wave of the opioid overdose crisis." *Current opinion in psychiatry*, 34(4), 344-350.
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC8154745/>



The Opioid Crisis

- Since 1999, more than a million people in the U.S. died from a drug overdose, the majority involved an opioid.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2023). Drug Overdose Deaths. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control.
<https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/deaths/index.htm>

- In 2017 alone, opioid use disorder and fatal opioid overdoses cost Oklahoma more than \$10 billion, according to an estimate by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- State and local governments sued opioid manufacturers, distributors and retailers for their role in the opioid crisis.



The Oklahoma Opioid Abatement Board

The Oklahoma Opioid Abatement Board, made up of nine members appointed by state elected officials, oversees the distribution of opioid settlement funds.

- Disburse opioid grant awards to eligible applicants
 - Subcommittee Review
 - Recommendations to full Board
- Appeals process
- Oversight & Enforcement



Total funding available

The Abatement Fund consists of certain funds obtained through settlements or judgments entered on behalf of the State of Oklahoma relating to opioid litigation that involves pharmaceutical supply chain participants.

These funds are appropriated by the legislature to the Attorney General's office for the Abatement Board to oversee and distribute.

- \$23,000,000 initially appropriated
- \$12,000,000 awarded first round of grants in 2024
- \$20,000,000 appropriated in 2025
- Approximately \$29,000,000 available for 2025 grants



2025 Applications



Timeline

Application Portal Opens: **May 12, 2025**



Application Portal Closes: **June 11, 2025**



Board Reviews Applications: **July, 2025**



Grant award approvals and announcements: **July 31, 2025**



Grant award funding roll out & Board hears appeals: **August – September 2025**



Who Qualifies for a Grant?

Grant awards are limited to Political Subdivisions of the State of Oklahoma only. Political subdivisions are described as:

- Municipalities
- School Districts, including Technology School Districts
- Counties
- Public Trusts where the sole beneficiary is a city, town, school district, or county

there is currently a measure pending legislative approval to include Institutions within the State System of Higher Education beginning November, 2025



Substantial Changes from 2024

- Applications for 2025 are moving to a digital format
- Grant terms are 3 years
- Tiers increased to coincide with 3-year plans
- Updated grading rubric
- Priority Funding Strategies adopted



Updated Funding Tiers for 2025

County Tiers

Tier Number	Population Range	Proposed Maximum Funding
1	Up to 25,000	\$225,000.00
2	25,001-75,000	\$450,000.00
3	75,001 or more	\$900,000.00

Municipality Tiers

Tier Number	Population Range	Proposed Maximum Funding
1	Up to 15,000	\$180,000.00
2	15,001-100,000	\$375,000.00
3	100,001 or more	\$750,000.00

Common Education School District Tiers

Tier Number	Enrollment Range	Proposed Maximum Funding
1	Up to 2,000	\$105,000.00
2	2,001-15,000	\$225,000.00
3	15,001 or more	\$450,000.00

Technology School District Tiers

Tier Number	Enrollment Range	Proposed Maximum Funding
1	Up to 5,000	\$105,000.00
2	5,001-15,000	\$225,000.00
3	15,001 or more	\$450,000.00

Collaborative Multit-Applicant Tiers

Tier Number	Population or Enrollment Range	Proposed Maximum Funding
1	Up to 100,000	\$525,000.00
2	100,001-500,000	\$1,050,000.00
3	500,000 or more	\$2,250,000.00



Updated Grading Rubric for 2025

Grading Rubric Suggestions for 2025 application cycle:

Core Questions:

Has there been any concern how this grantee has spent previously awarded opioid abatement money?	Yes	No	N/A
Is any part of this project NOT evidence-based and/or evidence-informed?	Yes	No	
Does this project include a proposal that is NOT a priority strategy(ies)?	Yes	No	
Are there any concerns that the budget does not reflect the proposed project or requires edits or includes inappropriate items?	Yes	No	

Scoring Overall Proposal:

1 – Unsatisfactory	2 – Needs improvement	3 – Satisfactory	4 – Good	5 - Excellent
Proposal lacks evidence-based practices, fails to adequately address local needs, has an unclear or unfeasible implementation plan, shows no meaningful collaboration, and lacks evaluation or sustainability planning.	Proposal has limited use of evidence-based practices, partially addresses local needs, has gaps in the implementation plan, shows minimal collaboration, and lacks clear evaluation or sustainability strategies.	Proposal uses some evidence-based practices, adequately addresses local needs, has a reasonable implementation plan, shows some collaboration, and includes basic evaluation and sustainability considerations.	Proposal shows strong use of evidence-based approaches, clearly addresses local needs, has a solid implementation plan, demonstrates good collaboration, and includes a clear evaluation and sustainability plan.	Proposal demonstrates exceptional use of evidence-based practices, addresses critical local needs, has a clear and feasible implementation plan, shows strong collaboration, and has a robust evaluation and sustainability strategy.



Priority Strategies for 2025 Opioid Abatement Applications

- ▶ Medications for the treatment of opioid use disorder (MOUD)
- ▶ Contingency Management (CM)
- ▶ Recovery housing
- ▶ Supported employment services
- ▶ Naloxone distribution



Priority Strategies for 2025 Opioid Abatement Applications (continued)

- ▶ School-based prevention
- ▶ Family skills
- ▶ Integration in healthcare
- ▶ Other evidence-based strategies
(with the submission of appropriate justification by the applicant)



Appeals

The Board will hear appeals regarding the following:

- Denials of funding for projects,
- Denials of specific fund use requests, and
- Denials of an application.

(Partial funding does not constitute denial).



Technical Assistance, Monitoring & Evaluation

Healthy Minds Policy Initiatives

Technical Support

Data

Office Hours

Learning Opportunities

The Steadman Group

Grant Closeout Support

Compliance

Evaluation

Performance Measures



Questions?

How will the funds be distributed?

- Quarterly Distributions.



Questions?

Are funds awarded on a reimbursement basis or on a forward funding basis?

- Funds will be awarded on a forward funding basis.



Questions?

Are matching funds required?

- No



Questions?

Are subgrants allowable?

- No. However, a grantee may contract for goods and/or services. The Grantee remains responsible.



Questions?

What is the term of Grant?

- The Board expects 3 year project proposals for this round of awards.



Questions?

What are the reporting requirements?

- At a minimum, quarterly.
- Reporting requirement instructions document forthcoming.



Questions?

Are there record retention requirements?

- Yes, seven years.



Questions?

What drugs are considered opioids?

- Please refer to the Johns Hopkins Medicine information on opioids.

[Opioids | Johns Hopkins Medicine](#)



Questions?

Can Applicants pay for costs incurred prior to the date of the Application?

- Yes, but only for abatement strategies, programming and services that started on or after January 1, 2015.



Questions?

Can a political subdivision submit multiple applications?

- No, but may propose multiple projects in one application.



Questions?

Can subdivisions pool grant funds in support of a regional project?

- Yes. Partnerships are encouraged to maximize the impact of grant awards.



Questions?

Is this a recurring yearly grant or is it a one-time grant?

- This is a one-time award for a proposal that will span 3 years.



Questions?

Can grant funds be used for salaries?

- Abatement funds for salaries must be directly tied to abatement efforts (treatment, education/prevention, criminal justice involved, recovery, harm reduction) and not for interdiction (patrol, investigation, and arrest activities)



Questions?

Can we hire a school nurse to service our students and community with grant funds?

- Possibly. Use of abatement funds for staff salaries would have to be directly tied to abatement efforts (treatment, education/prevention, criminal justice involved, recovery, harm reduction). Further, a political subdivision using abatement funds for staff may only do so by creating new positions or funding additional hours for existing staff that are directly related to opioid abatement services or programs created after January 1, 2015.



Questions?

What is the percent of indirect costs can be budgeted into the grant?

- Indirect costs are permitted but may not exceed 5% of the total grant award.



Questions?

Is website development for purposes of connecting the public to treatment providers, as well as disseminating Prevention resources and promoting other Abatement strategies an authorized purpose?

- No



Questions?

Where can political subdivisions find the data required for the Application?

- Data and best practices can be found in the linked resources in the Healthy Minds Guidance document on the Board website. Data can be found on page 8 and best practices on page 10.
- For assistance with the application, please contact Healthy Minds using this link: [Substance Use & Overdose Prevention \(healthymindspolicy.org\)](https://healthymindspolicy.org)



Questions and Answers

- Questions and answers will be posted to the Opioid Abatement Board website.
- Additional questions can be submitted to OAB@oag.ok.gov.
- Questions submitted by May 12, 2025 will be posted on the Q&A document posted to the website.



Resources

- OAG website [Opioid Abatement Grant](#)
- Health Minds Policy Initiative Guidance and Priority Strategies [Priority strategies for opioid abatement in Oklahoma](#)
- Oklahoma Prevention Needs Assessment [Oklahoma Prevention Needs Assessment \(OPNA\)](#)
- Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, Data Dashboards [Dashboards](#)
- Oklahoma State Department of Health, Injury Prevention Service [Injury Prevention Service](#)
- National Association of Counties Planning Principles Toolkit [Planning Principles Toolkit | National Association of Counties](#)
- Johns Hopkins Medicine [Opioids | Johns Hopkins Medicine](#)



Questions?

