

2021 Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic Expansion Grants

OVERVIEW

On December 29th, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) released a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) for Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) Expansion Grants. CCBHCs provide comprehensive person- and family-centered services that aim to increase access to community-based care, stabilize individuals in crisis, and provide necessary treatment and recovery support services for individuals with complex mental and substance use disorders.

Approximately \$149 million in total funding will be awarded to eligible organizations, which include existing CCBHCs or organizations that can become certified within four months.

The full FOA is available [here](#). Applications are due on March 1st.

FUNDING

Up to \$2 million will be awarded annually through this program to up to 74 organizations. Funding limitations are as follows:

- No more than \$25,000 of the annual award may be used to purchase Technical Assistance (TA); and
- No more than 15 percent of the annual award may be used for data collection, performance measurement, and performance assessment, including incentives for participating in the required data collection follow-up.

Awarded organizations should take advantage of third-party payer and other revenue from providing services to the extent possible. Grant funds awarded through this program should be used only for services to individuals who are not covered by public or commercial health insurance, individuals for whom coverage has been formally determined to be otherwise unavailable, or for services that are not sufficiently covered by an individual's health insurance plan. CCBHC demonstration programs require the use of a Prospective Payment System (PPS) to pay participating clinics for the provision of services based on PPS rate methodology guidance from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). In New York State, reimbursement for CCBHC demonstration programs is provided by a daily base rate with additional bonus payments for clinics that meet certain quality measures.

Contracts are expected to last for two years beginning on August 30th.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

In order to qualify for grant funding, applicants must have two years of relevant experience and must be either existing CCBHCs or community-based behavioral health clinics that are not yet certified but that meet the CCBHC certification criteria and can be certified within four months of the award. CCBHCs are state-certified according to the certification criteria developed by the Department of Health and Human Services. The CCBHC certification criteria are available in Appendix M of the FOA.

In addition, if the applicant is proposing to have designated collaborating organizations (DCOs) assist in providing services to CCBHC patients, each DCO must be an organization for direct client substance use disorder treatment, substance misuse prevention, and/or mental health services appropriate to the grant. Each DCO must also:

- Have two years of experience providing relevant services and establish that it has provided relevant services for the last two years; and
- Comply with all applicable local and state licensing, accreditation, and certification requirements.

Organizations who received CCBHC Expansion grant funding in 2020 will not be eligible for funding through this program.

Awarded organizations must hire a part-time Project Director and a part-time Evaluator for the program. Both positions will require prior approval by SAMHSA.

PROGRAM SERVICES

Awarded organizations must use program funding for the following direct services:

- Crisis mental health services, including 24-hour mobile crisis teams, emergency crisis intervention services, and crisis stabilization;
- Screening, assessment, and diagnosis, including risk assessment;
- Patient-centered treatment planning or similar processes, including risk assessment and crisis planning;
- Comprehensive outpatient mental health and substance abuse services; and
- Screening for HIV and viral hepatitis (A, B, and C).

The following services must be provided directly or through DCOs:

- Outpatient primary care screening and monitoring of key health indicators and health risk;
- Provision of vaccinations where indicated, including for hepatitis A and B;
- Clinical monitoring for adverse effects of medications including monitoring for metabolic syndrome consistent with published guidelines;
- Case management;
- Psychiatric rehabilitation services;
- Social support opportunities through established models such as clubhouses that provide therapeutic individual and group interactions, assistance with employment, housing, and other community recovery supports;
- Development of comprehensive community recovery supports including peer support, counselor services, and family supports;
- Intensive community-based mental health care for members of the armed forces and veterans, particularly those members and veterans located in rural areas; and
- Assertive Community Treatment.

Awarded organizations will also be expected to establish cooperative relationships with judicial officials/court systems, establish an Advisory Work Group comprised of individuals with mental and substance use disorders and their family members, and develop and implement plans for sustaining the delivery of services once federal funding for the program ends. Awarded organizations must also develop a behavioral health disparities impact statement no later than 60 days after receiving an award.

TARGET POPULATION

The target population eligible for services under this program include:

- Individuals with serious mental illness (SMI);
- Individuals with substance use disorders (SUD), including opioid disorders;
- Children and adolescents with serious emotional disturbance (SED); and
- Individuals with co-occurring mental and substance use disorders (COD).

APPLICATION

Proposals will be scored based on the following criteria:

- Population of Focus and Statement of Need (20 points)
- Proposed Implementation Approach (30 points)
- Proposed Evidence-Based Service/Practice (15 points)
- Staff and Organizational Experience (25 points)
- Data Collection and Performance Measurement (10 points)

Awards will be distributed based on the above criteria, the availability of funds, and an equitable distribution of funding by geographic area, population need, and program size.

Timeline

Applications must be submitted by March 1st.

Questions should be submitted to Mary Blake at mary.blake@samhsa.hhs.gov for eligibility questions, Corey Sullivan at FOACMHS@samhsa.hhs.gov for fiscal and budget issues, and Sherresa Bailey-Jones for review process and application status questions.