

RFP: Statewide Youth ACT Team

OVERVIEW

On August 4th, the New York State Office of Mental Health (OMH) released a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the expansion of Youth Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) teams throughout New York State. The Youth ACT teams will serve children and youth (ages 10-21) with Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED) who:

- Are returning home from inpatient settings or residential services;
- Are at risk of entering such settings; or
- Have not adequately engaged or responded to treatment in more traditional community-based settings.

OMH will provide 10 awards across five regions statewide. The Youth ACT teams will be funded through Medicaid and net deficit funding, in addition to \$425,000 in start-up and transition/ramp-up funding. Youth ACT teams will deliver intensive, highly coordinated, individualized services and skilled therapeutic interventions through an integrated and multi-disciplinary team.

The full RFP is available [here](#). Applications are due on September 28th.

FUNDING

OMH will provide a total of \$425,000 at the beginning of the contract for:

- Start-up costs (\$100,000); and
- Transition and ramp-up costs (\$325,000).

The Youth ACT provider will additionally be funded through Medicaid and net deficit funding. The annual expected Medicaid revenue per team is as follows:

- 48 slot team: \$497,044 (downstate) and \$465,061 (upstate)
- 36 slot team: \$372,778 (downstate) and \$348,808 (upstate)

The annual net deficit funding per team is as follows:

- 48 slot team: \$491,701 (downstate) and \$464,176 (upstate)
- 36 slot team: \$423,096 (downstate) and \$397,915 (upstate)

Teams will also receive service dollars in the amount of \$22,378. Appropriate uses of these funds are outlined in the Service Dollar Guidance.

OMH will provide 10 awards across five regions statewide, as follows:

Region	Number of Teams	Locations of Teams
New York City	2	1. Manhattan 2. Staten Island
Long Island	1	1. Nassau

Hudson River	3	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Warren/Washington/Saratoga 2. Schenectady/Albany 3. Westchester
Central New York	2	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Onondaga 2. Broome
Western New York	2	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Monroe 2. Erie/Niagara

Applicants may apply for more than one team; however, a separate and complete proposal submission is required for each team.

Contracts will last for five years beginning on January 1, 2022.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Eligible applicants are not-for-profit 501(c)(3) agencies that have experience providing mental health services to individuals with SED. OMH-licensed Residential Treatment Facilities (RTFs) may be given preference for funding. The awarded applicant will be further subject to the submission and approval of a Prior Application Review (PAR) application to become a licensed ACT team and receive an official operating certificate.

TARGET POPULATION

The Youth ACT team will serve individuals between the ages of 10-21 with a diagnosis of SED. In addition, the target population should have continuous high service needs that are not being met in more traditional service settings demonstrated by two or more of the following conditions:

- Persistent severe major symptoms (e.g., affective, psychotic, suicidal or significant impulse control issues);
- Child and/or family has not adequately engaged or responded to treatment in more traditional settings;
- Home environment and/or community unable to provide necessary support for developmentally appropriate growth required to adequately address mental health needs;
- High use of acute psychiatric hospitals (e.g., two hospitalizations within one year or one hospitalization of 60 days or more within one year);
- High use of psychiatric emergency or crisis services (e.g., two or more uses of mobile crisis intervention or other community crisis services, two emergency department visits or one crisis respite/residence admission within last 6 months);
- Residing or being discharged from in an inpatient bed, residential treatment facility or in a supervised community residence, or being deemed eligible for RTF, but clinically assessed to be able to live in a more independent setting if intensive community services are provided; and
- Clinically assessed to be at immediate risk of requiring a more restrictive living situation (e.g., community residence, psychiatric hospital, or RTF) without intensive community services.

Youth ACT providers will serve 36-48 children and their families in each team, depending on the needs of the area, the number of children eligible for services, and the capacity for maintaining required staffing levels. Services should be provided in the home or other community-based settings.

APPLICATION

Proposals will be scored based on the following criteria:

- Agency Organization/Qualifications (10 points)
- Population Experience (15 points)
- Program Development (25 points)
- Program Implementation (20 points)
- Utilization Review, Reporting, and Quality Improvement (10 points)
- Financial Assessment (20 points)

Proposals must receive a minimum score of 70 to be considered for funding. In the case of a tie, the proposal with the highest score on the “Program Development” section will be considered for funding.

Timeline

Proposals must be submitted by September 28th. OMH anticipates notifying awarded applicants on October 22nd.

Questions may be submitted to Carol Swiderski at carol.swiderski@omh.ny.gov with the subject line “Youth ACT Statewide RFP” by August 20th. Questions and answers will be posted on the OMH website by September 8th.