

## Great Minds Fellowship

### Community Behavioral Health Centers Guidance Document

#### PURPOSE


The health and success of Ohio's families and communities depends on a robust and accessible behavioral health workforce. The focus of this funding opportunity is to create and support effective strategies to recruit and retain behavioral health professionals. This will be achieved by filling the unmet need for behavioral health professionals in home and community-based settings. This effort will help provide an immediate infusion of talent to stabilize our workforce while growing and sustaining for the future.

The Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM) has joined forces with Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (MHAS) and the Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE) on a multi-pronged approach to boost the number of qualified graduates who are trained and ready to enter the behavioral healthcare workforce. This infusion of talent will improve the ability of Community Behavioral Health Centers (CBHCs) regulated by MHAS to deliver quality, timely, person-centered care for Ohioans living with mental health and substance use disorders and to expand, enhance, and strengthen Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) under Ohio's Medicaid program. CBHCs are the setting and provider type where Medicaid (types 84 and 95) covered behavioral health and rehabilitative services are provided for people with substance use and/or mental health disorders, such as case management, psychiatric supportive treatment, psychosocial rehabilitation, and therapeutic behavioral services. CBHCs offer non-institutional behavioral health services.

#### FUNDING INFORMATION

In 2022, Ohio received approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Ohio General Assembly to invest federal funds from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) into efforts to boost the number of qualified professionals who are trained and ready to enter the behavioral healthcare workforce in the next one to two years and who are committed to serving in CBHCs regulated by MHAS.

The \$85M HCBS Workforce Development Strategic Fund investment will support career-focused programming in the behavioral healthcare disciplines at CBHCs, incentivize people to return to the behavioral healthcare workforce, and create a Technical Assistance Center to provide needed career supports to Ohio's Wellness Workforce.

	Amount	Purpose	Administrative State Entity
	\$45M	Funding for students in their final two years of higher education for costs associated with completing undergraduate and graduate degrees.	Ohio Department of Higher Education
	\$11M	Operational and administrative support for CBHCs to provide training, support, and supervision to students to prepare for workforce entry.	Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services
	\$22.5M	Employment recruitment and retention funding to CBHCs.	
Welcome Back Campaign	\$5M	Funding for workforce recruitment for behavioral health care providers choosing to return to the workforce.	
	\$1.5M	Establishment of a Statewide Technical Assistance Center.	

This guidance document focuses on operational and administrative support for CBHCs to provide training, support, and supervision to Great Minds Fellowship interns and for workforce recruitment activities intended to attract behavioral health care providers to practice in CBHC settings.

**PROJECT PERIOD**

Through March 30, 2025.

**ELIGIBILITY**

**Students – Great Minds Fellows**

Students who are within two years of graduating with degrees or certificates in Social Work (CIP 44.0701, 44.0799, 51.1503), Marriage and Family Therapy (CIP 51.1505), Mental Health Counseling/Counselor (CIP 51.1508), Psychiatric/Mental Health Nurse/Nursing (CIP 51.3810), and Substance Abuse/Addiction Counseling (CIP 51.1501), are eligible to participate in the Great Minds Fellowship.

The student must commit to performing their internship at a participating CBHC and, upon graduation, commit to employment at a participating CBHC for at least one year. Students are required to sign an agreement with the State of Ohio, committing to both the internship placement and post -graduation employment requirements.

Through participating colleges and universities, Great Minds Fellows will be eligible for up to \$10,000 during their undergraduate and graduate studies for scholarship opportunities to assist with the costs of obtaining these undergraduate and graduate level degrees or certificates; paid internships in participating CBHCs at the undergraduate and graduate level; and the costs of

required license and certification preparation and exams and other necessary costs related to the degree or certificate.

### Post-Graduation Requirement

Great Minds Fellows must commit to at least one year of employment at a participating CBHC upon graduation. The Fellow is not obligated to post-graduation employment with the same CBHC where they complete their Great Minds Fellowship funded internship.

### Colleges & Universities

Ohio's two- and four-year public and private colleges and universities (institutions) with Social Work, Marriage and Family Therapy, Mental Health Counseling, Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing, and Substance Abuse/Addiction Counseling are eligible to participate in this initiative. The institution must be willing to partner with participating CBHCs for the student's internship placement and comply with reporting and data collection requirements.

A Great Minds Fellowship guidance document for Colleges and Universities can be found [here](#).

### Community Behavioral Health Centers (CBHCs)

CBHCs offer non-institutional behavioral health services in communities across the state. CBHCs regulated by MHAS and providing Medicaid-covered behavioral health home and community-based services (Provider types 84 & 95) are eligible to participate in this initiative. CBHCs must partner with an eligible participating Ohio college or university. Participating CBHCs must be able to provide required supervision and support, based on the student's discipline. MHAS will provide funding to CBHCs to support administrative costs associated with supervision of Great Minds Fellows. CBHCs must also comply with reporting and data collection requirements.

Please visit the [Great Minds Fellowship Interactive Dashboard](#) to view participating Colleges and Universities and participating Community Behavioral Health Centers.

### USE OF FUNDS

Funds will be used to grow existing career-focused programming in the behavioral health disciplines at Ohio's two- and four-year colleges and universities. These efforts will support students in their final two years of studies who are pursuing degrees or certificates in Social Work, Marriage and Family Therapy, Mental Health Counseling, Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing, and Substance Abuse/Addiction Counseling. Allowable uses of this funding towards the intended purpose are listed below.

Great Minds Fellowship Program

Amount	Purpose & Recipient	Allowable uses	Funding Recipient & Administrator
\$45M	<p>Funding for Great Minds Fellowship students in their final two years of higher education for costs associated with completing certificates, undergraduate, and graduate degrees.</p> <p><i>Students are eligible for up to \$10,000 total</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scholarships to assist in the cost of final 1-2 years of studies in Social Work, Marriage and Family Therapy, Mental Health Counseling, Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing, and Substance Abuse/Addiction Counseling</li> <li>• Paid internship(s) at a participating CBHC</li> <li>• Cost of license or certification preparation course</li> <li>• Cost of license or certification examination and fees</li> <li>• Other necessary costs related to the degree or certificate</li> </ul>	Participating Ohio Colleges and Universities
\$22.5M	<p>Funding for employment recruitment and retention to post-grad Great Minds employees at CBHCs.</p> <p><i>Employees are eligible for up to \$5,000 total</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Up to \$5,000 post-graduation for recruitment and retention bonuses for obtaining employment in a participating CBHC</li> </ul>	Participating CBHCs
\$11M	<p>Operational and administrative support for CBHCs to provide training, support, and supervision to Great Minds Fellows to prepare for workforce entry.</p> <p><i>CBHCs are eligible for \$2,500 per intern; or \$3,000 per intern for CBHC's in Health Improvement Zones or Mental Health Shortage area</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist with the cost to:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provide a quality supervision experience for the student, including direct supervision, coordinating tasks, and learning opportunities, reviewing documentation, and training</li> <li>- Assist with student onboarding and HR activities</li> <li>- Support IT needs, such as equipment and EHR training</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Participating CBHCs

## Students – Great Minds Fellows

This program will support up to \$10,000 in scholarship opportunities to assist with the costs of obtaining undergraduate and graduate level degrees or certificates; paid internships in participating CBHCs at the undergraduate and graduate levels; and the costs of license and certification preparation and exams and other necessary costs related to the degree or certificate. Students benefiting from this opportunity will be expected to perform their internship at a participating CBHC.

Great Mind Fellows will be required to sign an agreement with the state of Ohio which commits them to performing their internship(s) at a CBHC. Upon graduation, the student will be required to work at a CBHC for one-year post-graduation. Fellows are not required to work post-graduation at the same CBHC where they intern.

## COMMUNITY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CENTERS (CBHCs)

### Great Minds Fellowship Internship Site Support

Funds awarded to CBHCs to offset administrative costs associated with hosting interns through the Great Minds Fellowship can be used to assist with the cost to provide supervision experience for the fellow—including direct supervision, coordinating tasks, learning opportunities, reviewing documentation, training, onboarding—and support IT needs, such as equipment, and electronic health record training. All activities must be aimed at preparing Great Minds Fellows' entry into Ohio's behavioral health workforce. Participating CBHCs will be eligible for up to \$2,500 per intern; or eligible for \$3,000 per intern for CBHC's in Health Improvement Zones or Mental Health Shortage area.

### Post-Graduate Recruitment & Retention

Funding is available for employment recruitment and retention to post-graduate Great Minds employees at CBHCs. Employees are eligible for up to \$5,000 total. Administrator of these funds and additional details for this funding will be forthcoming.

## FUNDING APPLICATION PROCESS AND REPORTING

CBHCs regulated by OhioMHAS and providing Medicaid-covered behavioral health home and community-based services (Provider types 84 & 95) are eligible to participate in this initiative. OhioMHAS's Grants and Funding Management System (GFMS) will be utilized for this funding.

Communities with the greatest barriers to health and serving communities with the most significant workforce shortages will be eligible for an enhanced payment rate. This will be determined using the Ohio Health Improvement Zone score(s) (0 – 100) of the community where the CBHCs will hosting an intern. To find your CBHCs practice location's Ohio Health Improvement Zone scores, use the Address Lookup function at: <https://odh.ohio.gov/know-our-programs/health-equity/health-improvement-zones>.

CBHCs will need to indicate whether the site where interns will be hosted is in a U.S. Human Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Mental Health Shortage area. To find your CBHCs practice location's visit: <https://data.hrsa.gov/tools/shortage-area/by-address>.

CBHCs who want to participate should take the following next steps:

- ✓ Confirm your organization has obtained their SAM UEI number. All new funding applications (Grants & Allocations) that use the MHAS Grant and Funding Management System (GFMS) now require an applicant to provide their organization's 'SAM Number' before they can submit their applications for approval. Click [here](#) to learn more about the sign-up process for a SAM UEI number.
- ✓ Register with MHAS Grants and Funding Management System (GFMS) (if not already registered). To receive these workforce funds, your MHAS certified CBHC must have an OH|ID account to access the MHAS GFMS application portal. If your MHAS certified CBHC does not already have an OH|ID account, please visit <https://apps.mha.ohio.gov/> and create one.
- ✓ Register with Ohio Shared Services (if not already registered). Prior to applying for this funding opportunity, your MHAS certified CBHC must be registered to conduct business with the state of Ohio in the Ohio Shared Services/OAKS payment system. To learn more on how to register, please visit <https://ohiopays.ohio.gov/>. Should you have questions about Ohio Shared Services or the registration process, you may contact Ohio Shared Services via e-mail at [ohiosharedservices@ohio.gov](mailto:ohiosharedservices@ohio.gov) or call 1-877-644-6771. Registration with Ohio Shared Services is required to be eligible for these workforce funds.
- ✓ Complete the grant application in GFMS beginning **8/7/23**. CBHCs can access GFMS [here](#). Video on applying for grant opportunities can be found [here](#). Specific instructions can be found on the [Great Minds Website](#) under "*Great Minds Guidebook for CBHCs*" starting on **8/7/23**.

#### [Funding Disbursement Process](#)

Providers can request disbursement by uploading required data through the GFMS system. Disbursement requests must be made no later than 30 days following the completion of the term. Further disbursement instructions can be found [here](#).

#### [Reporting](#)

CBHCs are required to track and upload program information into GFMS using a MHAS provided data collection tool. Data must be reported within 30 days from the end of each semester. Reporting due dates:

January 31, 2024

July 1, 2024

September 30, 2024

January 31, 2025