



Grants Posting Request for Application (RFA) Template

Ohio's State Opioid and Stimulant Response (SOS) 4.0 Grant RFA Funding Opportunities for Ohio's Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and Mental Health (ADAMH) Boards

RFA #: **109** DBH-FY26 Bureau of Grants Administration

Funding Period: 07/01/2026-09/29/2026

Request for Applications Posting Date: 06/12/2026

Request for Applications Due Date: 06/24/26 by 3 p.m. EDT

Grants Posting Evaluation Criteria for Request for Applications (RFA)

Ohio's State Opioid and Stimulant Response (SOS) 4.0 Grant RFA
Bureau of Grants Administration
FFY 2025-2026 Funding Opportunities for Ohio's ADAMH Boards

RFA #: 109

Applications should be completed using the following information,

guidance, and requirements:

SECTION I. GENERAL PURPOSE & APPLICANT INFORMATION

1.1 Purpose

The Ohio Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) releases this Request for Applications (RFA) for the purpose of soliciting applications from eligible Ohio Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and Mental Health (ADAMH) Board, non-profit, and for-profit community organizations who provide prevention, opioid overdose reversal medications (OORM) and approved lifesaving overdose prevention and response services, treatment, and recovery support services to apply for State Opioid and Stimulant Response (SOS) 4.0 Grant funding. The grant supports the continuum of prevention, opioid overdose reversal medications and approved lifesaving overdose prevention and response services, treatment, and recovery support services for opioid use disorder (OUD), stimulant misuse and use disorders, and other concurrent substance use disorders as required by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

The responsibilities of the selected applicants will include providing prevention, OORM and approved lifesaving overdose prevention and response services, treatment, and/or recovery support services specifically aimed to address opioid use disorder, stimulant use disorder, and concurrent substance use disorders and aligned with Ohio's SOS 4.0 goals, population of focus, and intended outcomes.

DBH will award funding only to qualified Ohio ADAMH Boards, non-profit, for-profit community organizations that provide prevention, opioid overdose reversal medications and approved lifesaving overdose prevention and response services, treatment, and recovery support services.

For the purpose of this RFA, the term "applicant" is defined as a nonprofit or for-profit organization, governmental entity, or individual interested in this opportunity. The terms "application" and

“response” may be used interchangeably to indicate materials submitted to DBH by an applicant in order to be considered for award of a grant for services described in this RFA. The terms “grantee” and “selected applicant” may be used interchangeably in reference to an organization selected by DBH through this RFA for award.

1.2 **Overview of the Project**

Ohio’s SOS 4.0 Grant aligns state level efforts to flatten Ohio’s death rate from opioid and other drug poisoning, increase access to OORMs, emphasize peer recovery supports, expand evidence-based practices, and increase upstream prevention strategies to reach Ohio’s transitional aged youth and young adults (aged 16-25), adults, families, and communities. Embodying the DBH core values of the DeWine-Tressel Administration, Ohio’s SOS 4.0 goals and objectives focus on service-oriented care, collaboration, value-driven services, innovative practices, and a strong sense of urgency to save lives and help Ohioans thrive.

The population of focus for this initiative includes transitional aged youth and young adults (ages 16-25), adults, families, and communities impacted by opioid use disorder, stimulant use disorder, and concurrent behavioral health conditions. Ohio’s SOS 4.0 strategic investments prioritize evidence-based practices that foster social connectedness, and lasting wellness so that each Ohioan can reach their full potential. These investments will continue to focus on communities experiencing high rates of opioid use disorder, stimulant use disorder, and overdose death. All opioid overdose reversal activities and approved lifesaving overdose prevention and response services related to these investments must be permissible by SAMHSA.

Planned investments focus on the following service areas:

- **Treatment:** FDA-approved MOUD in Opioid Treatment Programs (OTPs), low-barrier settings, and criminal justice settings, in addition to other evidence-based practices.
- **Community and Family Resiliency:** Evidence-based prevention to reach children, youth, young adults, older adults, and families, and their communities.
- **Recovery Supports:** Recovery housing, peer support, and supported employment.

1.3 **Issuing Office**

DBH Bureau of Grants Administration

1.4 **Background**

DBH is the federally regulated single state authority (SSA) for behavioral health with extensive experience and demonstrated success in administering federal discretionary and formulary grants directly involving substance use disorder prevention, OORMs, treatment, and recovery supports.

DBH is a current recipient of SAMHSA's FY2024 State Opioid Response (SOR/SOS 4.0) which allowed the state to implement a laser-focused, data-driven approach to ensure Ohioans have immediate access to life saving drug reversal medications and drug testing tools. Ohio's SOS 4.0 grant investments are demonstrating impressive empirically validated results in all national outcome measures collected as part of the SAMHSA Unified Performance Reporting Tools (SUPRT)- Administrative (SUPRT-A) and Client (SUPRT-C) and Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) interviews.

1.5 Scope of Work

The responsibilities of the selected applicants of this RFA will include provision of evidence-based practices in the care continuum of prevention, OORM, treatment, and recovery support specifically aimed to address opioid use disorder, stimulant use disorder, and concurrent substance use disorders and aligned with Ohio's SOS 4.0 goals, population of focus, and intended outcomes.

1.6 Eligible Applicants

DBH seeks applications from qualified Ohio ADAMH Boards, non-profit, and for-profit community organizations who meet the statutory requirements for licensed and/or certified community behavioral health services providers, private psychiatric hospitals, and residential Class 1, 2, and 3 facilities enacted into law through House Bill 33 (please visit [DBH Licensure and Certification webpage](#) for more information).

Only organizations that have the resources to complete the grant content areas described under "Scope of Work" should apply. Non-profit applicants must be a 501-C (3) or (4) non-profit or government entity. For-profit organizations must comply with all DBH and federal financial regulations related to the award including 2 CFR § 200.307.

All applicants and proposed sub-awardees or partners must have demonstrated a minimum of two years' experience in delivering prevention, OORM, treatment, and recovery supports as required by SAMHSA.

Recovery housing applicants must support and/or provide participant access to evidence-based treatment including ALL forms of FDA-approved MOUD as required by SAMHSA.

1.7 Award

The DBH has released this RFA with the intent of awarding from \$100,000 up to \$6,000,000 to qualified Ohio ADAMH Boards, non-profit, for-profit community organizations, which will in

turn support evidence-based practices in the care continuum of prevention, OORM, treatment, and recovery support specifically aimed to address opioid use disorder, stimulant use disorder, and concurrent substance use disorders and aligned with Ohio's SOS 4.0 goals, population of focus, and intended outcomes. Non-profit applicants must be a 501-C (3) or (4) entity.

Awards are expected to be announced for project implementation by 07/01/2026. The award project period will end on 09/29/2026.

The actual dollar amounts awarded for selected applications will be based on the number of applications which are both qualified and selected for award. Applications are qualified if they are in accordance with the application submission requirements and earn at least the minimum score requirements for quality and completeness of applications, as specified in this RFA. Scoring and final selections will be completed by a team selected by DBH. To make its final selection of applications which will receive awards and to determine the size of those awards, DBH may, at its option, take into consideration application quality, reasonableness and appropriateness of the proposed budget, geographic diversity, local collaborations and funding available.

DBH may, at its option, make selections based in part on geographical and demographic criteria in order to provide a wide range of services around the state, and in both urban and rural areas. Applicants are encouraged to prepare and submit applications and budgets which are both practicable and capable of providing evidence-based, practices in prevention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery supports to address opioid use disorder, stimulant use disorder, and concurrent substance use disorders. Emphasis will be placed on applications that demonstrate a viable sustainability plan, ensuring continuation of services beyond the lifecycle of the SOS grant.

Applicants are to be aware that DBH may, at its sole discretion, negotiate with all technically qualifying applicants for a revised Project Budget, if the Project Budgets of all technically qualifying applicants are in excess of the available funding for this project.

1.8 Required Data Collection and Reporting

All SOS 4.0 award recipients (Boards, non-profit, and for-profit organizations) must adhere to the required data collection, reporting, terms, and conditions set forth by DBH and SAMHSA, in part to ensure SAMHSA can meet its obligations under the Government Performance and Results (GPRA) Modernization Act of 2010. Applicants must document their plan for data collection, monitoring, and reporting in each content area of their application which will be scored.

All award recipients delivering treatment and recovery support services will be required to collect SUPRT-A/C data on the uniform data collection tool provided by SAMHSA. Recipients will collect SUPRT-A/C at intake of services, six-months following intake, and upon discharge from programming.

All award recipients delivering prevention and OORM activities will be required to collect program-level data through the SOR-TOR Program Instrument quarterly. Both instruments capture numerical data on prevention programs, outreach activities to underserved populations, purchase, distribution, and use of allowable harm reduction supplies (naloxone, other opioid overdose reversal medications, and drug checking technologies as directed by SAMHSA), and education programs aimed to reach school-aged children, school administrators, first responders, and key community sectors on opioid and stimulant misuse.

All award recipients will be required to submit Programmatic Progress Reports (PPRs) at the end of the project period. The end-of-year PPR will be due within 30 days of the end of the grant performance period. PPRs will be collected each grant performance period contingent upon renewal award. The PPRs must include:

- Updates on budget or project changes (as applicable, prior approval required).
- Progress and outcome status achieving goals and objectives and implementing evaluation activities.
- Progress and outcome status implementing required activities, including accomplishments, challenges and barriers, and adjustments made, or solutions implemented to address these challenges.
- Efforts to overcome barriers encountered serving the population of focus.
- Progress and outcome status achieved in addressing the needs of populations served.

To support recipient data collection, DBH partners with the Government Resource Center (GRC) at The Ohio College of Medicine with demonstrated experience in grant reporting and data collection. Awardees are expected to work with DBH and GRC to complete the required reporting.

1.9 Required Grantee Monitoring Activities

All SOS 4.0 award recipients are required to participate in DBH sponsored meetings throughout the grant project period, including but not limited to:

- Submitting Monthly and Quarterly Project Reporting to DBH
- Submitting Quarterly Financial Report to DBH
- Quarterly Regional Collaboration Monitoring Calls
- Monthly Contingency Management (CM) Monitoring Calls (approved award recipients using CM)
- Monthly MOMS Monitoring Calls (award recipients serving pregnant women and moms)

- Technical Assistance (TA) Calls and/or Monitoring Site Visits with DBH SOS 4.0 staff

SECTION II. Posting and Award PROCESS INFORMATION

2.1 Anticipated Timetable

1. The RFA, accompanying documents, and all questions and answers will be posted on the DBH website at: <https://dbh.ohio.gov/supporting-providers/apply-for-funding>
2. All questions must be submitted electronically no later than 06/17/26, **by 3 p.m. EDT**, to DBH at: SOS4@dbh.ohio.gov.
3. The FAQ mailbox will close one week prior to the application due date. No questions will be answered after the deadline. You may **NOT** contact any DBH staff member directly with questions regarding this RFA. Contacting staff directly with questions could result in disqualification of an application.
4. Responses to all questions (FAQ) will be posted to the DBH website at <https://dbh.ohio.gov/supporting-providers/apply-for-funding> and will be updated frequently.
5. Applications must be submitted electronically to SOS4@dbh.ohio.gov by 06/24/26 **by 3 p.m. EDT**.
6. Application grant notification letters will be sent approximately fourteen days post grant application closure.
7. DBH agreements are not valid and effective until the issuance of an approved State of Ohio Notice of Sub-Award (NOSA). The NOSA will contain the start and end dates of the award.

8. The grantee(s) must be able to begin work no later than seven (7) working days after the time funds are encumbered and approved by the Office of Budget & Management. The grantee(s) will be notified by the DBH Agreement Manager when work may begin. Any work begun by the grantee prior to this notification may not be reimbursable by DBH.

9. All work must be completed and approved by the DBH Identified Agreement Manager. All work must be completed by 3:00 p.m. of the last day of the programmatic period as it appears on the NOSA.

It is the responsibility of all applicants to check the webpage dedicated to this RFA on a regular basis for responses to all questions, as well as for any amendments, alerts, or other pertinent information regarding this RFA. DBH is not responsible for the accuracy of any information regarding this RFA that was obtained or gathered through a source different from the Q & A process described in this RFA.

Should applicants experience technical difficulties accessing the DBH website where the RFA and its related documents are published, they may contact the DBH Helpdesk at (helpdesk@dbh.ohio.gov) for guidance.

If an informational session is scheduled, the date, time and meeting information will be posted as an accompanying document to this RFA for any organization interested in learning more about this funding opportunity.

SECTION III. APPLICATION GUIDELINES

The applicant must submit electronic response to SOS4@dbh.ohio.gov. A copy of the grant *application* must be received by DBH no later than 06/24/2026, 3 p.m. EDT. *Applications* received after this date and time will not be reviewed. Materials mailed or submitted separately from the *application* packet will not be accepted or added to the application/proposal by staff of DBH. Faxed or mailed *applications* will not be accepted. Costs incurred in the preparation of this application are to be borne by the applicant; DBH will not contribute in any way to the costs of the preparation.

3.1 Page Limit

The page limit for this application is 3 pages, single spaced, one-inch margins, 12-point Times New Roman. The 3 pages do not include the Budget Expenditure Form and Budget Narrative, Face Sheet, and Abstract. Applicants should submit applications and all attached documents in Adobe PDF when possible.

Please note that if the application is longer than 3 pages, DBH will evaluate the application based upon the first 3 pages, and the remainder of the application may be disregarded.

3.2 Application Components

A. Face-sheet

- a. Title of this RFA
- b. Name of applicant organization, address, phone number
- c. Executive director name and contact information
- d. Project Director name and contact information
- e. Fiscal officer name and contact information
- f. Applicant's federal tax ID
- g. Specify whether applicant is a for-profit, 501 C (3) or (4) non-profit or government entity
- h. Title of this RFA
- i. Amount of funding requested

B. Abstract – Summary of services and supports to be provided, the target population(s), number of individuals projected to be served during the funding period (07/01/2026-09/29/2026), the goal(s) and object(s) of the proposed services and supports, and the total amount of funding requested. (200 words or less)

C. Scope of the Work/Project Description: Provide a detailed description of the proposed approach to completing each deliverable and timeline for completing each deliverable. In the project description, please also include the following information.

- a. **Target Population**
- b. **Number to be served**
- c. **National Outcome Measures (NOMS):** Applications must include a description of the project goals and measures to be achieved during the programmatic project period.
- d. **Applicant Qualifications:** The applicant must address all the minimum qualifications and fully describe the applicant's experience and qualifications.
- e. **Staffing Plan:** The applicant's response must identify by position and name, the staff who will be key to the project's success. Include qualifications, the amount

of FTE per position, and the service providers' level of subject matter expertise implementing the proposed services and supports.

- f. **Sub-Awardee** qualifications and staffing plan (if applicable)
- g. **Data Collection and Reporting Plan** (see Section 1.8)
- h. **Participation in Required Monitoring Activities** (see Section 1.9)

D. Prior Experience

Applications must demonstrate prior experience successfully implementing complex subject projects subject projects related to the subject matter.

All applicants and proposed sub-awardees or partners must have demonstrated a minimum of two years' experience in delivering prevention, OORM, treatment, and recovery supports as required by SAMHSA. In addition to demonstrating prior experience, please provide a written statement certifying that your organization and all partnering service provider organizations will meet the two-year experience requirement and applicable licensing, accreditation, and certification requirements as required by SAMHSA and DBH.

E. Proposed Implementation

Applications must include a discussion of the evidence-based, evidence-supported, or other practices that will be implemented during the project. Additionally, they must provide a realistic timeline for each month of the project (07/01/2026-09/29/2026). The timeline should include objectives that are SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound). All key dates, key activities, and responsible personnel should be outlined in detail and aligned with the proposed phases of the project.

F. Outcome Measures

Applications must include a description of the project goals and outcomes to be achieved; a detailed methodology for measuring progress; data collection and reporting plan, benchmarks that provide an indication of standards to be achieved; a methodology for tracking progress achievements or shortfalls; and a methodology for analyzing and correcting project errors.

G. Budget Expenditure Form and Budget Narrative

- a. Applications must include a Budget Expenditure Form and Budget Narrative that identifies all costs to complete the project as described in the Request for Application.
- b. Include a signed Notice of Award/Sub-awardee Statement of Assurances including budget and budget narrative for each sub-awardee.
- c. Include the Budget Checklist which can be found on the DBH Funding Opportunity Page.

By submitting a budget expenditure form and budget narrative, the Applicant is confirming that the services and deliverables outlined within this RFA are encompassed within the budget expenditure form and budget narrative. The Applicant acknowledges that if their application is chosen as a result of this RFA, the Applicant will not be entitled to increase the original application's cost breakdown. DBH relies on the budget expenditure form and budget narrative to adequately evaluate and determine awards, and no Applicant shall be entitled to additional funds outside of the cost proposal.

SECTION IV. CRITERIA FOR APPLICATION SCORING

4.1 Scoring Applications

DBH will enter into agreement(s) with a grantee(s) that best demonstrates the ability to meet requirements as specified in the RFA. Applicants submitting a response will be evaluated based on the capacity and experience demonstrated in their Application and Project Budget. All applications will be reviewed and scored by a team from DBH.

DBH is under no obligation to issue an agreement as a result of this solicitation if, in the opinion of DBH and the Scoring Team, none of the applications are responsive to the objectives and needs of DBH. DBH reserves the right not to select any application should DBH decide not to proceed.

DBH may review the highest-ranking Applicants and/or its key team members to ensure that the Applicant is responsible. The award may not be made to an Applicant that is determined not to be responsible. DBH's determination of an Applicant's responsibility may include the following factors: the experience of the Applicant and its key team members; past conduct and past performance on previous contracts or grants; ability to execute this project properly; and management skill. DBH will make such determination of responsibility based on the Applicant's Application, reference evaluations, and any other information DBH requests or determines to be relevant.

Additionally, DBH reserves the right to review the Applicant's previous work or work product prior to awarding a grant.

All applications and any other documents submitted to DBH in response to any solicitation shall become the property of DBH. This RFA and, after the selection of an applicant for award, any applications received in response to a solicitation that have been opened, reviewed and considered by DBH are deemed to be public records pursuant to ORC 149.43. For purposes of this section, the term “application” shall mean both the Technical Application and the Project Budget submitted by an applicant and any attachments, addenda, appendices, resumes, letters of recommendation, or sample products.

A. Criteria for Scoring

All applications will be scored based on the available points per section according to the following scale, based on a proposed plan’s ability to meet the objectives outlined in this RFA. The application scoring uses the following point values for rating each requirement:

Technical Performance Scoring Definitions:

- **DOES NOT MEET (0):** Response does not comply substantially with requirements or is not provided.
- **WEAK (1):** Response was poor related to meeting the objectives.
- **BELOW AVERAGE (2):** Response indicates the objectives will not be completely met or at a level that will be below average.
- **MEETS (3):** Response generally meets the objectives (or expectations).
- **ABOVE AVERAGE (4):** Response indicates the objectives will be exceeded.
- **STRONG (5):** Response significantly exceeds objectives (or expectations) in ways that provide tangible benefits or meets objectives (or expectations) and contains at least one enhancing feature that provides significant benefits.

Award

1. Awards are expected to be announced during the week of 07/01/2026.
2. Grant awards will not exceed \$6,000,000 for cumulative total of all awards.
3. All grant funds must be expended by 09/29/2026.

Deadline for submission of all applications is 06/24/2026, 3 p.m. EDT and must be submitted to SOS4@dbh.ohio.gov.

SECTION V. CONDITIONS AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

*According to requirements of Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 126.07, DBH agreements are not valid and enforceable until the Office of Budget and Management (OBM) certifies the availability of appropriate funding. The selected applicant(s) may neither perform work nor submit a disbursement request for payment for work performed for this project for any time period prior to the project period**. The DBH Agreement Manager will notify the selected applicant(s) when the requirements of ORC Section 126.07 have been met.

* * Subject to all applicable approvals, the project period is expected to run from approximately 07/01/2026 through 09/29/2026. Renewal of the agreement(s) will be contingent upon availability of funding, satisfactory performance, the continued need for the services described herein, and all required approvals.

5.1 Public Release of Records

Public release of any evaluation or monitoring reports funded under this agreement will be made only by DBH. Prior to public release of such reports, DBH must have at least a thirty (30) day period for review and comment.

SECTION VI. ATTACHMENTS AND THEIR USES

- A. Required Applicant Information and Certifications (*To be completed & included in the application as specified*)**
- B. Assurances**
- C. Application Score Sheet (*For applicant reference purposes*)**
- D. Project Budget Form (*To be completed and included in cost application packet as specified in Section 3.2, B.*)**
- E. Appendix B: List of SAMHSA Required and Allowable Activities (*for applicant reference purposes*)**

RFA Scoring Evaluation Instructions

EVALUATION CRITERIA:

EVALUATION TEAM: The evaluation team shall be comprised of three to five individuals, with three being the absolute minimum, who are required to individually review and score each application. The team members should have some knowledge of the RFA’s subject matter; however, every member does not need to be knowledgeable in every aspect of the RFA. After each individual separately reviews and scores each application, a consensus meeting will take place to discuss all applications and determine a consensus score on a separate scoring sheet for each application. All finalized scoring sheets and the “application jacket” must be submitted to the GrantsPosting@dbh.ohio.gov following scoring

Scoring Rubric

1. Application Score Sheet (For applicant reference purposes). Note that this form may be modified to meet the needs of the project. The Scoring Rubric must be submitted with the RFA to the Legal Office for review.

Note: Please note that the Department of Behavioral Health Bureau of Grants Administration is no longer utilizing weighting. As such, scores from each category will be summed and will not be multiplied by a weighting factor. Recommended point distribution items 1-100.

DOES NOT MEET	WEAK	BELOW AVERAGE	MEETS	ABOVE AVERAGE	STRONG
0 POINTS	1 POINT	2 POINTS	3 POINTS	4 POINTS	5 POINTS

Organization: _____

Name: _____

Review Criterion	Available Points	Rating 0-5
Requirements: Demonstration that applicant meets the minimum requirements to apply for the grant. Applications that do not meet the minimum requirements will not be scored.	0	

Face Sheet	0	
Abstract	0	
Budget Expenditure Form and Budget Narrative: All costs to complete the year one of project are on the provided template. Costs are allowable, reasonable, realistic, and within scope. Statement of Assurance signed. Budget Checklist provided.	0	
Communities(s) of Focus & Number to be Served: Identify and describe your population(s) of focus and the geographic catchment area where your organization and/or sub-awardee(s) will deliver services that align with the intended population of focus and scope of the grant. Include number served within the timeframe.	0	
National Outcome Measures (NOMs): Applications must include a description of the project goals and measures to be achieved during the programmatic project period.	0	
Data Collection and Reporting Plan (see Section 1.8) Participation in Required Monitoring Activities (see Section 1.9)	0	
Sub-Awardee Qualifications and Staffing Plan (if applicable)	0	
Prior experience: Demonstration that applicant has prior experience successfully implementing complex subject projects related to the subject matter. Includes required written statement of certification as required by SAMHSA.	0	
Scoring Rubric:		
Scope of Work: Applications must include proposed scope of work and include specifics on how applicant will ensure that grant funds support high-impact, high-quality programs that address critical community needs and gaps in alignment with federal and state priorities. Identify and describe your population(s) of focus and the geographic catchment area where your organization and/or sub-awardee(s) will deliver services that align with the intended population of focus and scope of the grant. Include number served within the timeframe.	25	
Implementation Plans and Proposed Timeline: Applications must include a discussion of the evidence-based practices, the proposed staffing plan, implementation approach, and timelines for the project which are achievable	25	

and demonstrate the project can be successfully completed within the grant period.		
Applicant and Staffing Qualifications: The applicant must address all the minimum qualifications and fully describe the applicant’s experience and qualifications and relevance to the proposed work. Include staffing plan and staff qualifications, the amount of FTE per position, and the service providers’ level of subject matter expertise implementing the proposed services and supports.	25	
Cost Proposal: Applications will be reviewed to determine whether the overall budget is cost-efficient in relation to the proposed scope of work, the services to be provided, the total quantity of those services, and the number of people expected to be served. Provide a detailed description of the proposed approach to completing each deliverable and timeline for completing each deliverable.	25	
TOTAL	100	

Comments:

Printed Name of Reviewer _____

Signature of Reviewer _____

Date _____