

## RFF-2024-001 Questions and Answers

<b>Question</b>	<b>Answer</b>
Will the budget template be unlocked so we can edit it to use or will need to recreate one to look like the sample?	The budget template has been unlocked. Please download the current version at <a href="https://www.in.gov/fssa/dmha/funding-information/">https://www.in.gov/fssa/dmha/funding-information/</a> .
If current staff secure their credentials as a Certified Peer Support Professional, can these funds through the CPSP Expansion opportunity support their position once they are certified? Or can funds only support hiring new staff who get their credentials?	This funding is for the expansion of CPSP positions; however, if funding is needed to sustain a current CPSP, extensive justification must be provided. A CPSP certification is not a required credential for this expansion; however, certification must be a DMHA-approved certification. Approved certifications can be found at <a href="https://www.in.gov/fssa/dmha/files/DMHA_Approved_Addiction_Credentials.pdf">https://www.in.gov/fssa/dmha/files/DMHA_Approved_Addiction_Credentials.pdf</a> . There is not a need to be dually certified.
Can funds from this grant be used to pay Peer Coaches that are contractors instead of employees?	This funding opportunity is for CPSP positions that are employees of an organization. It does not prohibit the applicant organization from contracting with other organizations to offer peer services.
Can you tell me the total funds available, total awards to be distributed or the max amount we can request?	There is no maximum or minimum funding amount identified per awardee. The number of grants awarded will be dependent on the number of applications received and the number of peers requested in those applications.
What is the funding amount of these grants?	There is no maximum or minimum funding amount identified per awardee. Please submit a budget based on the need of your organization.
Are we allowed to expand and add more peers as volume/need increase?	There is no maximum or minimum number of individuals that can be hired; however, the proposal should outline the rationale and provide justification for the number of positions. Funds awarded as part of RFF-2024-001 may be reallocated to hire new CPSPs with approval from DMHA.
Can we service multiple counties under this grant?	Yes, you may apply to serve multiple counties.
I have another question. Some of our peers are certified as CHWs. I don't see that certification listed in this grant?	Certified CHWs are Community Health Workers and do not require lived experience and thus do not qualify under this grant. All CHW/CRS-certified individuals have been inherited into the CPSP credential as long as renewal requirements were met.
What is the maximum funding amount per awardee?	There is no maximum or minimum funding amount identified per awardee. The number of grants awarded will be dependent on the number of applications received and the number of peers requested in those applications.
What is the anticipated number of grants to be awarded?	The number of grants awarded will be dependent on the number of applications received and the number of peers requested in those applications.

<p>Who is considered a vendor with the state of Indiana? Anyone with a contract for services with the state?</p>	<p>If an entity has a prior or existing contract with the state, they have completed all required paperwork to be a vendor. To be a vendor of the State of Indiana, you must be a registered business by the Indiana Secretary of State and have completed vendor forms with the State Comptroller.</p>
<p>One of the grant criteria is that individuals will be certified within 90 days of hire date, we have had staff complete the DMHA CPSP training over 90 days ago but are still awaiting test results and official certification. Will accommodations be made if staff are not certified within 90 days due to elements outside of the awardees control?</p>	<p>Yes; however, all CPSP participants were made aware of the delays that would occur due to the certification being in the pilot stage. These issues have since been resolved.</p>
<p>It says those already with the organization or nonprofit will not be eligible for salary and fringe benefits under this proposal. I work volunteer for my organization and not employed with a paycheck. Would I be allowed to be hired and receive salary?</p>	<p>This funding opportunity is for CPSP positions that are employees of an organization.</p>
<p>Can the funding be for executive director salary and fringe benefits for the 2 years if a CPSP?</p>	<p>Funding is for the expansion of CPSP positions to be utilized as direct peer support and cannot be used to supplant funds.</p>
<p>How much is the funding range?</p>	<p>There is no maximum or minimum funding amount identified per awardee. The number of grants awarded will be dependent on the number of applications received and the number of peers requested in those applications.</p>
<p>How many cpssp can be hired through this grant proposal?</p>	<p>There is no maximum or minimum number of individuals that can be hired; however, the proposal should outline the rationale and provide justification for the number of positions.</p>
<p>I wanted to find out if there is a maximum allowable amount for the request.</p>	<p>There is no maximum or minimum funding amount identified per awardee. The number of grants awarded will be dependent on the number of applications received and the number of peers requested in those applications.</p>
<p>On page 3 of the RFF document it says, "This funding should be considered as a last resort. Should other funding become available, the CPSP's salary must shift to the more appropriate source." Does this apply to restricted opioid settlement funds? Hopefully counties/communities are spending those funds towards opioid- or SU-related uses, or entrusting the funds to an entity that will do the same. Will access to settlement funds prevent certain counties/communities/organizations from being considered for this funding opportunity, since they technically could use up those funds for CPSP salary/benefits?</p>	<p>Funds awarded as part of RFF-2024-001 should be used as a last resort. If an organization is funding peers with other sources of funding, those funds should be used first. Collaboration and use of blended funds or local funding sources are encouraged.</p>
<p>Also on page 3, it says "FSSA/DMHA encourages applicants to be as creative as possible in their proposal regarding costs." Could you give some clarification as what is meant by "creative"? Since the only allowable costs listed on page 2 are staff salaries and fringe benefits, that doesn't allow for a lot of wiggle room or creative proposal. Unless...does "creative" just refer to the "cost efficiency" mentioned in the next sentence there on page 3? I just want to make sure I'm understanding everything!</p>	<p>Collaboration and use of blended funds or local funding sources are encouraged.</p>
<p>My organization is in the process of applying for RCO status; will that be considered in the review of proposals, or do we need to be a fully-certified RCO for that to be considered?</p>	<p>Applicant organization(s) must meet <b>at least one</b> of the following criteria: 1) a registered vendor with the State of Indiana; 2) 51% of the organization's board members have lived experience; 3) the founders of the organization have lived experience with substance use disorder; 4) the organization is a certified recovery community organization; and/or 5) the organization has trauma informed recovery-oriented systems seeking to implement peer services. If the organization has applied for RCO status, then 51% of the board should have lived experience and would be eligible for this grant.</p>

Can we use funds to expand existing PT Peers to FT Peers?	Yes, as long as this expands the services the part-time peer was offering by becoming a full-time peer. This funding is for the expansion of CPSP. These funds should be used as a last resort. If an organization is funding peers with other sources of funding, those funds should be used first.
When you say we must use existing funds first, what funds does this include? If I have funds to deliver a harm reduction program that includes peers, do I have to spend all of that money on peers before I can use this money on peers? How do I employ peers with this funding if I have other funding that can be used for peers, but is needed to keep the program running?	This funding is for the expansion of CPSP positions. These funds should be used as a last resort. If an organization is funding peers with other sources of funding, that funding should be used first.
What mechanisms will be required for peers to bill and track hours?	Each award will result in a contract with DMHA. Contract details will be discussed after organizations are awarded. Contracts are on a reimbursement basis.
Are the peer roles only reimbursable for hours spent providing peer support directly (as in will every billed hour be attached to an hour of peer support with a client?)	Each award will result in a contract with DMHA. Contract details will be discussed after organizations are awarded. Contracts are on a reimbursement basis.
What are the requirements for the peer to track in terms of support they are offering?	Each award will result in a contract with DMHA. Contract details will be discussed after organizations are awarded. Contracts are on a reimbursement basis.
Can peer supervisor wages be included at a higher rate than the certified peers and be billable/hirable? For example, a new pilot project needs to be fully staffed and will need peer supervisors as well so staff wages will be lower than peer supervisors.	Funding is for the expansion of CPSP positions only. Peer Support Professional Supervisors are not included in this funding opportunity.
Are there any settings that will be looked at more favorable than others? Are any settings specifically desired or not eligible for this grant?	No one setting is preferred over another. The needs and gaps of the organization and community will determine awards.
Can an Certified RCO not yet able to bill Recovery Works use this grant to scale up their programming until billing is established to work with the jails/criminal justice partners?	Yes. Once Recovery Works billing is established, these funds will need to be reallocated so Recovery Works is used first.
One of the criteria for applicant organizations is "the organization has trauma informed recovery-oriented systems seeking to implement peer services." Is there a specific credential needed for this designation?	There is not a specific credential for this designation. Applicant organization(s) must meet <b>at least one</b> of the following criteria: 1) a registered vendor with the State of Indiana; 2) 51% of the organization's board members have lived experience; 3) the founders of the organization have lived experience with substance use disorder; 4) the organization is a certified recovery community organization; and/or 5) the organization has trauma informed recovery-oriented systems seeking to implement peer services.
Are funds from this grant only for full-time employees, or can we hire part-time CPSPs?	This funding is for the expansion of CPSP positions. Any additional CPSP positions that meet the needs of the organization are eligible to apply.
Are peer recovery services for juveniles (high school age) billable?	No. There is currently no youth peer certification.
Should we include volunteer peers in the number of peers we have at our organization?	The employment/volunteer status of the CPSP should be outlined in the application.
What is the total amount our organization can apply for?	There is no maximum or minimum funding amount identified per awardee. The number of grants awarded will be dependent on the number of applications received and the number of peers requested in those applications.
Are there set wage recommendations for peer positions?	There is no maximum or minimum wage amount identified. Please submit a budget based on the need of your organization.

What is the standard/maximum fringe benefit rate percentage allowable?	There is no maximum or minimum fringe amount identified. Please submit a budget based on the need of your organization.
Can funds be used to increase number of positions for an established program?	Yes. This funding is for the expansion of CPSP positions.
What is the maximum grant award per organization applying per year of the grant and in total for both years?	There is no maximum or minimum funding amount identified per awardee. The number of grants awarded will be dependent on the number of applications received and the number of peers requested in those applications.
What is the grand total of funding available under this grant for the state as a whole?	There is no maximum or minimum funding amount identified per awardee. The number of grants awarded will be dependent on the number of applications received and the number of peers requested in those applications.
Our organization currently receives some funding for Certified Peer Support Professionals through DMHA Catalyst Grant. Would it be allowable to reallocate the portion of the catalyst grant originally budgeted for peers to another component of the Catalyst grant (e.g., crisis services) and then apply for this grant to fund peer positions? This would optimize various funding streams for necessary services such as crisis and peers. Would it be acceptable to discuss this idea with the state representatives over the DMHA Catalyst grant?	No, funds awarded as part of RFF-2024-001 should be used as a last resort. Should other funding become available or already is available, the CPSP's salary must shift to the more appropriate source. This funding is for the expansion of CPSP positions. If funding is needed to sustain a current CPSP, extensive justification must be provided.
How much administrative overhead can be included in this grant? Is there a cap on the overhead percent allowed to be included?	Administrative overhead is not allowed as part of this grant.
We are applying for RFF-24-001 to expand the number of Certified Peer Support Professionals available to the population of our low-barrier shelter (roughly 115 on any given night) and also to the roughly 200 people who have been permanently housed directly by our housing team (roughly 150-200). Our question is: the RFF encourages us "to be as creative as possible in their proposal regarding cost." One option we've thought of is to pull together full-time positions that are funded partly by another nonprofit organization, and partly by this grant. would that be acceptable?	DMHA encourages applicants to be as creative as possible in their proposal regarding costs. Cost efficiency will be considered when determining grant(s) awards. Collaboration and use of blended funds or local funding sources are encouraged.
Is there a cap for fringe and indirect?	There is no maximum or minimum fringe amount identified. Please submit a budget based off the need of your organization. Indirect costs are not allowed.
What is the maximum request cap?	There is no maximum or minimum funding amount identified per awardee. The number of grants awarded will be dependent on the number of applications received and the number of peers requested in those applications.
How many coaches could we hire through this opportunity?	There is no maximum or minimum number of individuals that can be hired; however, the proposal should outline the rationale and provide justification for the number of positions.
What is the maximum salary we could offer for a peer coach?	There is no maximum or minimum salary; however, the proposal should outline the rationale and provide justification for the proposed salary.
Could you provide a clearer explanation of the context in which existing staff are eligible for support through the grant? The current explanation is not clear.	This funding is for the expansion of CPSP positions. If funding is needed to sustain a current CPSP, extensive justification must be provided.
If we need to use funds for existing staff what does that extensive justification look like?	Please provide a summary of the organization's need for utilizing these funds. If funding is needed to sustain a current CPSP, extensive justification must be provided.
Would funding be eligible for positions that start before October 1, 2024?	The project is scheduled to start on October 1, 2024. Funding is not available until the start date of the grant.

What is the definition of a new position? Would that constitute positions that have not been funded to date within an organization due to limited funding capacity?	A new position is a position that is not a current position within an organization and an individual that is not currently employed.
How many awards will be funded?	The number of grants awarded will be dependent on the number of applications received and the number of peers requested in those applications.
Is there a limit on the amount of funding that can be requested?	There is no maximum or minimum funding amount identified per awardee. Please submit a budget based on the need of your organization.
Could this position for a peer be specifically used as a community peer that facilitates groups and does one on one peer support?	CPSP positions are not allowed to facilitate therapeutic groups but can facilitate support groups. Community-based peers are allowable with these funds. If funding is needed to sustain a current CPSP, extensive justification must be provided.
Is there a max amount of funding being awarded?	There is no maximum or minimum funding amount identified per awardee. The number of grants awarded will be dependent on the number of applications received and the number of peers requested in those applications.
Since this funding will be last resort funding, can reconsideration be given to use the funding for training for new Certified Peer Support Professionals?	This funding is not for training costs as DMHA currently absorbs all costs for CPSP Certification. This funding includes salary and fringe benefits for new CPSP positions only.
Please identify an award floor and ceiling for Years 1 and 2.	There is no maximum or minimum funding amount identified per awardee. The number of grants awarded will be dependent on the number of applications received and the number of peers requested in those applications.
is this funding available to existing RCO's that are looking to add recovery coaches to expand their services or more to add recovery coaches to organizations that do not currently have coaches?	The goal of this funding opportunity is to expand the CPSP workforce within the State of Indiana.
What is the funding range?	There is no maximum or minimum funding amount identified per awardee. The number of grants awarded will be dependent on the number of applications received and the number of peers requested in those applications.
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