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COAC – Infrastructure Share Funding Opportunity

Infrastructure Share Background and Overview

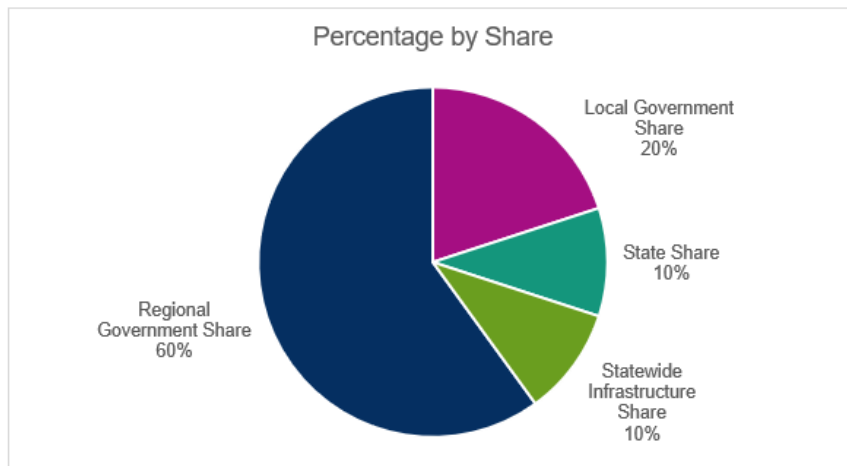
Background

The Colorado [Memorandum of Understanding \(MOU\)](#) was finalized between the Attorney General’s office and the local governments of Colorado on August 26, 2021. Three-hundred and twelve local governments signed on to the MOU, which dictates the governance, distribution, and expenditure of any current or future opioid settlement funds for Colorado over the next eighteen years.

There are four different funding streams listed in the MOU:

- 20% to Local Government Share (Each local government can choose to opt-out of receiving the funds, thus directing the funds to their opioid region)
- 60% to Regional Government Share
- 10% to the State Share
- **10% to the Infrastructure Share**

This funding opportunity addresses the 10% of Opioid Settlement Funds set aside for the Statewide Infrastructure Share (referred to in this document simply as Infrastructure Share.)



The Infrastructure Share Funds will be distributed over the next 18 years to appropriate state agencies, regional fiscal agents, and participating local governments that identify a new need for opioid abatement infrastructure that is also an approved use of Opioid Settlement Funds as set out in [Exhibit A](#) of the MOU (“Statewide Infrastructure Share”). The Statewide Infrastructure Share will initially be held in escrow by the National Settlement Administrator.



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Purpose of Infrastructure Share

According to the [Colorado MOU](#), “The purpose of the Infrastructure Share is to promote capital improvements and provide operational assistance for developing or improving the infrastructure necessary to abate the opioid crisis within the State of Colorado. The Infrastructure Share is intended to supplement Opioid Settlement Funds requested by any party or region.”

In addition, these funds are intended to encourage cross-regional collaboration between the nineteen Opioid Settlement Regions.

Application Factors

With a goal of encouraging collaboration and maximizing the reach of the infrastructure funds, collaboration and regional application requests that address unmet needs by existing funding sources are encouraged. Some factors that the Abatement Council shall include their review:

1. Joint applications from multiple Colorado Regional Opioid Abatement Councils.
2. Regional projects (county, municipal and/or state agencies with an approved Intergovernmental Agreement).
3. Projects with matching or in-kind funding from partnerships that may include foundation matching funds, in-kind staffing or materials, or other funds such as federal or state grants without restrictions on braided funding. A match is not a requirement for application.
4. Applications from entities that have not previously received funding from the Infrastructure Share shall be given higher priority.
5. Proposals demonstrating sustainability of infrastructure after the expenditure of Infrastructure Share funds.
6. Priority for the first year will be given to capital construction and brick and mortar infrastructure.



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Budget and Funding Period

Funding Period

The Colorado Opioid Abatement Council (COAC) anticipates awarding grants from 2023 to 2038 as conditional upon the terms of the Colorado MOU and any future settlements. Visit <https://coag.gov/opioids/dashboard/> and click “State Share and Infrastructure Share” for total anticipated year one allocations and total anticipated allocations over eighteen years to the Infrastructure Share.

Below is a list of the Infrastructure Settlement Share estimated to be available over the next three years, the bi-annual application period, estimated application openings, submission dates, and estimated funding start and funding available.

Year 1 Infrastructure Share				
Funding Round	Application Opening	Submission Date	Anticipated Funding Start	Funding Amount Available*
1st Round	<i>Nov 1, 2022</i>	<i>Jan 3, 2023</i>	<i>Spring 2023</i>	<i>\$2,564,558</i>
2nd Round	<i>March 2023</i>	<i>April 2023</i>	<i>Summer 2023</i>	<i>\$2,564,558</i>
Year 2 Infrastructure Share				
Funding Round	Application Opening	Submission Date	Anticipated Funding Start	Funding Amount Available*
1st Round	<i>August 2023</i>	<i>September 2023</i>	<i>Spring 2024</i>	<i>\$1,151,061</i>
2nd Round	<i>February 2024</i>	<i>March 2024</i>	<i>Summer 2024</i>	<i>\$1,151,061</i>
Year 3 Infrastructure Share				
Funding Round	Application Opening	Submission Date	Anticipated Funding Start	Funding Amount Available*
1st Round	<i>August 2024</i>	<i>September 2024</i>	<i>Spring 2025</i>	<i>\$1,559,617</i>
2nd Round	<i>February 2025</i>	<i>March 2025</i>	<i>Summer 2025</i>	<i>\$1,559,617</i>

**Funding amounts and dates are estimates. Rollover of funds from one year to the next will be possible depending on need and Colorado Opioid Abatement Council oversight. The above dates may be changed, or additional dates may be added. This information will be communicated via the Colorado Opioid Abatement Council website.*



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Infrastructure Share funds are distributed annually to the National Administrator in July of each year. Funds will be distributed by the National Administrator to the Applicant Organization in a cadence as determined by the Colorado Opioid Abatement Council.

Funds will be distributed to successful Applicant Organizations after issuance of an award letter by the COAC and applicant provision of banking information to the National Administrator.

The National Administrator will not reimburse any costs incurred by the applicant prior to the issuance of the Award letter. Source documentation demonstrating actual expenses incurred will be subject to review.

Budget Period

There will be two annual application periods for this funding opportunity.

Applications will be accepted twice per state fiscal year (July 1 – June 30) with 50% of available infrastructure funds allotted in the first annual funding cycle. Unawarded funds will roll over to the subsequent funding cycle.

Non-funded applications received in the first annual funding cycle can be re-submitted to the second annual funding cycle upon request by the applicant.

An Infrastructure Share Funding Request can be expended over the course of two fiscal years from the Award Date. Any use beyond two fiscal years, must be reviewed by the COAC. See Funding Cycle listed above. Extension of funds to additional years is for the determination of the COAC.

Budget Requirements

A budget template for the initial budget period for up to 2 years is provided.

Administrative costs cannot exceed 10% of funding request of the applicant.

Opioid Funds from the Statewide Infrastructure Share shall be used for Approved Purposes only. The list of Approved Purposes can also be found in the Attached Budget Template.



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Reporting

Annual Expenditure Reporting

According to the [Colorado MOU](#), *“On an annual basis, as determined by the Abatement Council, any Party or Regional Council that receives funds from the Statewide Infrastructure Share shall provide all expenditure data, including administrative costs, related to any Opioid Funds it received from the Statewide Infrastructure Share and subject itself to an accounting as required by the Abatement Council. The Abatement Council shall publish all expenditure data from the Statewide Infrastructure Share in accordance with Section (C)(4)(c)(i).”*

Expenditures will be submitted each year to the Colorado Opioid Settlement Tracker (COST) database. Applicants will be provided a login to this database to submit and track expenditures.

Progress Reporting

Acceptance of funds indicates agreement to terms of reporting. Quarterly progress reports will be due to the Colorado Opioid Abatement Council (COAC) using a provided template. The COAC may request additional information or virtual meetings as necessary to assist in reporting. A lack of response to a request for further information could be grounds for remedial action. The applicant will be expected to comply by the terms of the provided Work Plan and Budget. Requests to changes to Work Plan or Budget will not be accepted unless received and approved in advance by the Colorado Opioid Abatement Council. All change requests must be emailed to coac@coag.gov.

Remedial Procedures

Any remedial action taken against Parties or Regions that misuse Opioid Funds from the Infrastructure Share shall be in accordance with the COAC Remedial Procedures for the Infrastructure Share.

Application Requirements

Eligibility

According to the Colorado MOU, eligible applicants for the Infrastructure Share include:

- Colorado county/counties



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- Colorado municipality/municipalities
- Colorado state agency
- Colorado Regional Opioid Abatement Councils that were formed as a result of the MOU, which has a Colorado government entity as the fiscal agent

Nongovernmental entities, such as not-for-profit organizations, may be part of the collaborative partnership proposed in the application with a governmental entity acting as the Applicant and fiscal sponsor. For the purposes of this application, these end recipient entities responsible for program or project implementation are referred to as the “Implementing Organization.”

If multiple Colorado governmental entities or Colorado Regional Opioid Abatement Councils are applying together, please select one entity to serve as Applicant. This should be the entity that will receive the grant award, receive the disbursed funds, and be responsible for funds management and submitting required reporting. The additional entities should be listed in the application as “Implementing Organization.”

Although a single institution or organization must be the lead applicant, a multi-agency partnership is possible and encouraged. Such joint applications, entailing active participation by more than one organization, are highly encouraged, and preferred if there is clear evidence of close interaction and responsible partnership among the participants.

Applications may be declined if the grant recipient cannot demonstrate financial viability or program sustainability, or if the request doesn’t fall within the Allowable Uses as described in Exhibit A of the MOU.

Required Project Components

See Infrastructure Share Application attached.

Tools and Guidance

Additional Guidance

All Applicants are encouraged to review in detail the following documents, which are incorporated and made part of this funding opportunity by reference and are available on the Colorado Opioid Abatement Council website.



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- Infrastructure Share Glossary of Terms
- Colorado MOU Guiding Language
- Budget and Work Plan Template
- Infrastructure Share Application and Checklist

The technical aspects of applications will be assessed based on the soundness of the applicant's approach and the applicant's understanding of the requirement.

Applications that fail to follow all the requirements may not be considered.

Decision and Notification

Applicants will be notified via email from coac@coag.gov of funding decisions. The estimated notification date is indicated in the Schedule of Activities below.

Colorado Opioid Abatement Council (COAC) will provide, and reserves the right to negotiate, work plan and budgets with eligible Awardees, which may impact the start date of the contract.

How to Apply

Checklist

Responses must be submitted as specified in this announcement. Applications that fail to follow all the requirements may not be considered.

The Colorado Infrastructure Share Funding Opportunity Application consists of the following components listed below. This checklist is provided to help ensure a complete proposal. It does not need to be submitted with the proposal.

- Section I: Executive Summary (one page)**
 - Include the purpose of the grant request and a brief description of how the request fits with the Allowable Uses in Exhibit A of [the Colorado Opioid Memorandum of Understanding \(“MOU”\)](#) and the Infrastructure Share’s guidelines, as shown in Section G of the [MOU](#). The purpose of the Infrastructure Share is to promote capital improvements and provide operational assistance for developing or improving the infrastructure necessary to abate the opioid crisis within the State of Colorado. Describe how these funds will be used for that aim.
- Section II: Application Form (use 3-page template provided)**
 - Use the Fillable Application Form provided.



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Section III: Narrative (200 words per header)

Formatting: Use 12-point font and include the **HEADING** which is listed in bold below provided above each question. It is not necessary to repeat the text of the questions.

Section IV: Completed Work Plan and Budget (use provided template)

Section V: Additional Attachments

- Organization List of Names and Qualifications of Key Staff (required)
- Organization Evaluation Results (optional)
- Letters of Support (optional)

Submission Instructions

Applications must be received electronically by no later than by the due date and time indicated on the cover page of this document. Faxed applications will not be accepted. Email your application and all attachments to the following individual:

Send to: Opioid Response Grants Coordinator, Robyn Steuer

Via email: coac@coag.gov

Subject: Infrastructure Share Funding Opportunity

Applicants will receive confirmation of receipt of application by email with 72 business hours.

All applications must be received no later than the due date and time indicated in the Schedule of Activities Calendar.

Questions and Inquiries

Applicants may send questions via [online form](#) to obtain clarification of requirements concerning this funding opportunity. No questions will be accepted after the date and time indicated in the Schedule of Activities.

Responses to applicant inquiries will be published as outlined in the Schedule of Activities by close of business on the date indicated. Applicants are not to rely on any other statements that alter any



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specification or other term or condition of the funding opportunity. Please click this [link](#) for additional information related to the timeline of this and other funding opportunities.

Pre-application Webinar

A voluntary pre-application webinar may periodically be hosted to provide an overview of the funding opportunity for potential Applicants and to help answer questions from Applicants. Any webinar will be recorded and posted to the Colorado Opioid Abatement Council (COAC) website for future viewing.

General Information

During the application period for this funding opportunity, all official communication with applicants will be via notices on the Colorado Opioid Abatement Council (COAC) website listed in the schedule of activities. Notices may include any modifications to administrative or performance requirements, answers to inquiries received, clarifications to requirements, and the announcement of the apparent winning applicant(s). Applicants are responsible for monitoring for publication of modifications to this funding opportunity. It is incumbent upon applicants to carefully and regularly monitor for any such notices. Applicants are not to rely on any other statements that alter any specification or other term or condition of the funding opportunity. Please see the Schedule of Activities for additional information on the planned timeline for modifications to this funding opportunity.

Applications must be received on or before the due date and time as indicated in the Schedule of Activities. Late applications may not be accepted. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that its application is received via email listed in these instructions on or before the due date and time.



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Schedule of Activities

This schedule of activities is for information and planning purposes only.

Activity	Date ¹
Funding opportunity announced and application available on Colorado Opioid Abatement Council website	By Nov 2, 2022
Deadline to questions or clarifications regarding application process. Submit via online form	5 p.m. MST Nov 21, 2022
Answers to questions and any updates to the application published on Colorado Opioid Abatement Council website (Estimated)	5 p.m. MST Dec 9, 2022
Funding opportunity pre-application webinar	TBD
Application submission deadline	5 p.m. MST Jan 13, 2023
Evaluation period	January 2023 – February 2023
Estimated notification of award	February 2023

¹Note: The Colorado Opioid Abatement Council (COAC) reserves the right to revise the dates in this schedule.