COLORADO
Department of Law
Attorney General Phil Weiser

Community-Rooted Opioid Response Grant
RFA #LAAA 2026*02
2026-2029

Information Webinar #2 for Applicants

July 16, 2026

The webinar will begin shortly!

Department of Law (DOL) Team

Grants and Partnerships

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Webinar Information

- This presentation is being recorded and will be posted later on the DOL Funding Opportunities website
- Closed Captioning is available
- All participants are on mute
- Please enter your questions into the chat
- Follow-up questions can be sent to procurement@coag.gov by July 28

Agenda

- Purpose, Eligibility and Funding Overview
- Key Dates & Deadlines
- Application Components and Submission Guidance
- Budget - Indirect Explanation and Example Calculations
- Supplantation
- Evaluation & Selection
- FAQ and Q&A

Community-Rooted Opioid Response Grant

Purpose: The intention of this funding opportunity is to reduce the negative impacts of substance use, prevent substance misuse, and/or reduce the risk of opioid overdose (both fatal and nonfatal) in communities disproportionately impacted by the opioid crisis by supporting organizations that center the voices of people with lived and living experience.

Total Funds Available: Up to $2,500,000

Estimated Funding Period: January 1, 2027 – December 31, 2029 (3 years)

Project Focus: Overdose Prevention and Community-Based Engagement

Focus: Projects funded through this grant must focus on prevention, early intervention, or recovery-oriented activities that improve engagement with individuals at highest risk, including ongoing support, connection, and recovery support services.

This funding opportunity is **not** intended to support large-scale clinical treatment expansion, capital projects, or system infrastructure. Instead, it is designed to support community-rooted organizations in delivering front-line, lifesaving, and engagement-focused services that complement broader statewide investments.

Eligibility

Applicants must demonstrate they meet all the following criteria:

- Be a non-profit (501(c)3) organization in good standing with the Colorado Secretary of State, and
- Have an annual operating budget of $1,500,000 or less, and
- Identify as a "By and For" Organization, and
- Have been in operation at least 2 years.

***Please note: Pass-through funds and contingency funds within annual operating budgets **do not** count towards the $1.5M cap.

"By and For" Organizations

“By and For” Organizations are created, led, and sustained by the communities they serve. With missions and histories grounded in supporting a specific population, they are culturally based and meaningfully controlled by individuals from that community. Their programs reflect and uphold the community’s core cultural values.

These communities may include: BIPOC, LGBTQIA+, people who speak languages other than English, immigrants, refugees, asylees, and/or displaced people; veterans; people experiencing homelessness; rural and frontier; people with lived and living experience of substance use/recovery communities, and people with disabilities.

Funding Overview

- Reimbursement-based funding
- Funds must align with Approved Purposes in the National Opioid Settlements and must be project related
- Budget categories: Personnel, Materials & Supplies/Operating, Travel, Contracts/Subgrants, and Indirect
- Up to 15% of the Modified Total Direct Cost (MTDC) is eligible for indirect (unless federally negotiated rate provided)
- Unallowable expenses: capital construction or campaigns, the purchase of vehicles or real property, lobbying expenses and/or fundraising costs

Max Award Calculation

No individual award will exceed the lesser of $500,000 or 25% of the applicant’s annual budget at the time of the application per year of the award.

Example: If an organization has a current annual budget of $500,000, they can apply for up to $500,000 x 25% = $125,000 x 3 years = $375,000

Applicants are recommended to only request the amount needed to carry out their proposed project.

Key Dates & Timeline

Date	Activity
June 1, 2026	RFA Published
June 17, 2026	Pre-Application Webinar #1
June 24, 2026	Notice of Intent to Apply
July 16, 2026	Pre-Application Webinar #2
July 30, 2026	**Application Deadline**
August – October, 2026	Evaluation Period
November 2026 (estimated)	Notification of Award
January 1, 2027	Contract Start Date

Application Components
submit all components in Salesforce

1. Application Form (Salesforce Form)
2. Project Narrative (use Word template provided – note word limits)
3. Budget (use Excel template provided)
4. Work Plan (use Word template provided)
5. Additional Documents
    a. Current Year Budget
    b. Certificate of Good Standing from Colorado Secretary of State
    c. Non-profit tax-exempt status

Submission Deadline: Thursday, July 30, 2026, by 11:59pm (MST)

Budget - Indirect

- For this funding opportunity, your organization may request up to 15% of the Modified Total Direct Costs (MTDC). MTDC **includes** all direct salaries and wages, applicable fringe benefits, materials and supplies, services, travel, and up to the first $50,000 of each subaward (regardless of the period of performance of the subawards under the award).

- MTDC **excludes** equipment, capital expenditures, charges for patient care, rental costs, tuition remission, scholarships and fellowships, participant support costs, and the portion of each subaward in excess of $50,000.

- If you have a Federally Negotiated Indirect Rate Agreement (NICRA), and you are proposing to use that in lieu of the 15% on MTDC costs, you must provide a copy of your NICRA with your application. The DOL reserves the right to reject any federally negotiated rate.

Budget – Indirect Calculation Example 1

Project budget includes: $88,000

- Personnel (salary and fringe): $80,000
- Materials/Supplies: $5,000
- Travel: $3,000

Step 1: Determine what is included in Modified Total Direct Costs (MTDC)

In this case, all listed costs are allowable in MTDC.

MTDC = $80,000 + $5,000 + $3,000

MTDC = **$88,000**

Step 2: Apply the 15% indirect rate

Indirect = $88,000 × 0.15

Indirect = $**13,200**

Total project cost = Direct ($88,000) + Indirect ($13,200)

Total = $101,200

Budget – Indirect Calculation Example 2

Project budget includes: $98,000

- Personnel: $85,000 ($80,000 salary/fringe and $5000 tuition remission)
- Materials/Supplies: $10,000
- Travel: $3,000

Step 1: Determine what is included in Modified Total Direct Costs (MTDC)

In this case, you must remove the $5000 tuition remission from the calculation

MTDC = $85,000 – $5000 + $10,000 + $3,000

MTDC = **$93,000**

Step 2: Apply the 15% indirect rate

Indirect = $93,000 × 0.15

Indirect = **$13,950**

Total project cost = Direct ($98,000) + Indirect ($13,950)

Total = $111,950

Budget – Indirect Calculation Example 3

Project budget includes: $198,000

- Personnel: $85,000 (salary and fringe)
- Materials/Supplies: $10,000
- Travel: $3,000
- Single-vendor Contract: $100,000

Step 1: Determine what is included in Modified Total Direct Costs (MTDC)

In this case, you can only apply the first $50,000 of the contract to the indirect calculation

MTDC = $85,000 + $10,000 + $3,000 + $50,000 (eligible portion of contract)

MTDC = **$148,000**

Step 2: Apply the 15% indirect rate

Indirect = $148,000 × 0.15

Indirect = **$22,200**

Total project cost = Direct ($198,000) + Indirect ($22,200)

Total = $220,200

Budget - Supplantation

COAC Guidance - https://coag.gov/app/uploads/2025/06/Supplantation-is-Not-an-Approved-Purpose-for-Opioid-Settlement-Funds.pdf

This guidance is issued by the Colorado Opioid Abatement Council's (COAC) to ensure the proper use of Opioid Settlement Funds as mandated by the national opioid settlement agreements and the Colorado Opioid Settlements Memorandum of Understanding– which require opioid settlement dollars be used to expand and sustain meaningful, forward-looking responses to the opioid crisis. This guidance specifically addresses "supplantation" i.e. or inappropriate replacement of existing funds.

Evaluation & Selection

Evaluation Process:

- Eligibility screening
- Independent Evaluation Committee review
- Recommendations to Department of Law Custodial Fund Advisory Committee for final selection

Evaluation Criteria

The criteria for scoring are in direct correlation to the required application components. Scoring of eligible applications will be determined based on:

- 17% Problem Description
- 17% Project Description
- 33% Lived Experience and Connection to Community
- 8% Project Evaluation
- 25% Alignment between narrative, work plan and budget

Post-Award Expectations

- Quarterly reimbursement and progress reports
- Annual expenditure reports
- Required metrics aligned with where the project falls along the continuum of care (prevention, overdose prevention, recovery, etc.).
- Participation in Department of Law quarterly Learning Forums and attendance at the annual Opioid Abatement Conference
- Commitment to transparency and continuous improvement
- Proactive communication with the Grants team

Frequently Asked Questions

- **Q: Can faith-based organizations apply?**
  - A: Yes, as long as you meet all other eligibility criteria and grant funds are not used to support individuals or for the promulgation of religious beliefs.
- **Q: Can my organization apply under a fiscal sponsor?**
  - A: Yes, as long as the organization meets all other eligibility criteria.
- **Q: Does my organization qualify as a "By-and-For" organization?**
  - A: If you feel like your organization aligns with the definition in the RFA, you can apply for the funding opportunity. Screening for eligibility will be based on the responses provided in the project narrative.

Frequently Asked Questions Cont.

Q: Could you please clarify whether the requirement that applicants must have "been in operation at least 2 years" refers to:

- **the date the organization was incorporated,**
- **the date the organization received 501(c)(3) status or**
- **the date the organization began providing services?**

A: The two-year operation date refers to the date the organization was incorporated or, if it is not incorporated, when it received 501(c)3 status.

Frequently Asked Questions Cont.

- **Q: How will you determine if my organization's budget is below $1.5M?**

  A: Our determination of the annual operating budget will be based on the approved **operating budget** by the board of directors, focusing on the expenditures. However, eligibility will be determined based on the submitted materials with the application. We cannot guarantee an organization will meet eligibility requirements until all application materials have been reviewed.

  *Please note: Pass-through funds and contingency funds within annual operating budgets do not count towards the $1.5M cap.

Questions?

Questions can be submitted via email to procurement@coag.gov by Tuesday, July 28, with answers posted to the website and updated periodically.

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www.coag.gov/funding-opportunities

Thank you for joining! The webinar recording and slides will be posted on our Funding Website.

bitly

Sign up for the Colorado Opioid Response Newsletter!