

## **FY 2022 Mental Health Services Tier 1 and Tier 2 Districts**

### **FAQ**

**October 8, 2021**

1. Are special education cooperatives eligible to apply/receive this grant?

Eligible applicants are Tier 1 and Tier 2 school districts pursuant to Section 18-8.15 of the School Code that fall within the locale codes 33, 41, 42, and 43 of the New Urban-Centric Locale Codes, as defined by the National Center for Education Statistics.

2. Is it possible for several districts to enter into a cooperative agreement with the Regional Office of Education and we write the grant for those districts?

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3. What can we spend the money on?

Expenditures must support the grant purpose and objectives outlined in the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)/Request for Proposals (RFP). This program will use unrestricted indirect cost rates.

4. Can this be used to offset costs for our social workers, counselors, etc.?

Expenditures must support the grant purpose and objectives outlined in the NOFO/RFP. This program will use unrestricted indirect cost rates.

5. Do we need to start a new program with this?

This grant can be used to expand existing services or develop new services.

6. Our district is a Tier 1 district. Based on the locale codes, our district does not match the locale codes listed in the NOFO/RFP, but we have several individual schools that do match the locale code listed in the NOFO/RFP. Are we able to submit the application for this grant for the schools within our district with the corresponding locale code listed in the NOFO/RFP?

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7. Can grant funds be used to provide transportation to and from partial hospitalization programs?

Expenditures must support the grant purpose and objectives outlined in the NOFO/RFP. This program will use unrestricted indirect cost rates.

8. Can we use the funds to contract with an outside mental health provider to bring services into the school?

Expenditures must support the grant purpose and objectives outlined in the NOFO/RFP. This program will use unrestricted indirect cost rates.

9. Can you we use the funds to offset out-of-pocket costs for families with commercial insurance for mental health counseling and services?

Expenditures must support the grant purpose and objectives outlined in the NOFO/RFP. This program will use unrestricted indirect cost rates.

10. Could we use the funds to bring in an individual to conduct level-of-care assessments?

Expenditures must support the grant purpose and objectives outlined in the NOFO/RFP. This program will use unrestricted indirect cost rates.

11. Is there a minimum number of students that need to be served?

At least 50% of students presenting with mental health needs after plan is implemented must be served by the district and/or partnering agencies.

12. Will the grant be renewable annually?

The grant period will begin no sooner than July 1, 2021, and will extend from the execution date of the grant until June 30, 2022. Funding in the subsequent years will be contingent upon compliance with federal and state law, state grant-making rules, passage of sufficient appropriations for the program, and satisfactory progress in the preceding grant period.

13. What are examples of realistic sustainability plans?

A couple of such plans would be 1.) having a plan to continue the program after funding has ended, or 2.) having a plan to secure funding from other sources in order to continue the program.