

Request for Applications for Prevention Services – Instructions and Project Narrative

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery (DSHS/DBHR)

Request for Applications:	Washington Opioid State Targeted Response (STR) Community Prevention and Wellness Initiative (CPWI) Prevention Services Grant to prevent and reduce youth substance use.
Estimated Contract Period:	August 10, 2017 through April 30, 2018. Amendments extending the period of performance, if any, shall be contingent on funding and at the discretion of DSHS.
Application Due Date:	All proposals must be submitted to Prevention@dshs.wa.gov on July 14, 2017 by 5:00 P.M. Pacific Standard Time.
Submit Application To:	Submit complete application packages to Prevention@dshs.wa.gov with the Subject line: STR CPWI Grant Application – [Community Name]
Informational Opportunities:	Regional Bidder Forum Meetings May 10-16 and 23-25 TBD
Questions:	Questions may be submitted to Prevention@dshs.wa.gov – Each Friday an updated list of Questions and Answers will be posted here: www.TheAthenaForum.org/STRGrant-CPWI
Application:	Request for Applications and related forms and information can be found at www.TheAthenaForum.org/STRGrant-CPWI

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Part A: General Application Instructions

This packet contains information about the opportunity and process by which qualified applicants may apply for a grant to implement the Community Prevention and Wellness Initiative (CPWI) in a community for the provision of substance use disorder prevention services focused on prevention of opioid drug misuse and abuse prevention through a federally funded grant. The Request for Applications packet contains CPWI implementation details, requirements and reporting deadlines for funding available to communities identified on the eligible communities list. **Required strategies and activities must be implemented within identified timelines.**

Note: Not all applications will be awarded. Funding is dependent on interest, application scores, state distribution of geographic location and community population size, and risk ranking. See scoring criteria on pages 6-7.

Eligible applicants

Eligible applicants are local community-based organizations, government and public agencies (for example, school districts, law enforcement, counties, ESD's, and Tribes), must have youth and family-serving capacity, and demonstrate excellence in service delivery to high-need communities with disproportionately high rates of youth misuse and abuse of opioid drugs. See list of eligible communities on page 4.

Definitions

- a. **“Allowable costs”** means costs that are allowable as noted in the cost principles of PART 200—UNIFORM ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS, COST PRINCIPLES, AND AUDIT REQUIREMENTS FOR FEDERAL AWARDS.
- b. **“Coalition”** means a formal arrangement for cooperation and collaboration between groups or sectors of a community. Each group retains its identity, but all agree to work together toward a common goal of building a safe, healthy, and drug-free community.
- c. **“Community”** means a geographic area within school district boundaries, or High School Attendance Areas (HSAA) and their feeder schools.
- d. **“Community-based organization”** or **“CBO”** means a public or private nonprofit organization of demonstrated effectiveness that is representative of a community or significant segments of a community; and provides educational or related services to individuals in the community. This includes faith-based and religious organizations.
- e. **“Community Prevention and Wellness Initiative”** or **“CPWI”** means the DSHS substance use prevention delivery system that focuses prevention services in high-need communities in Washington State as selected by Counties and Contractors and approved by DSHS. More information about CPWI is available at www.TheAthenaForum.org/CPWI.
- f. **“Health Disparities”** means “a particular type of health difference that is closely linked with social, economic, and/or environmental disadvantage. Health disparities adversely affect groups of people who have systematically experienced greater obstacles to health based on their racial or ethnic group; religion; socioeconomic status; gender; age; mental health; cognitive, sensory, or physical disability; sexual orientation or gender identity; geographic location; or other characteristics historically linked to discrimination or exclusion.” (Healthy People 2020)
- g. **“Health Equity”** means the “attainment of the highest level of health for all people. Achieving health equity requires valuing everyone equally with focused and ongoing societal efforts to address

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avoidable inequalities, historical and contemporary injustices, and the elimination of health and health care disparities.” (Healthy People 2020)

- h. **“Project Narrative”** means the written answers to the questions on Form B: Project Narrative of this RFA.
- i. **“State Targeted Response to the Opioid Crisis”, “Opioid STR” or “STR”** means the Federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Grants Funding Opportunity supporting implementation of this state grant project. More information can be found at <https://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grant-announcements/ti-17-014>.
- j. **“Substance Use Disorder Prevention and Mental Health Promotion Online Reporting System” or “Minerva”** means the online data entry system for documenting and reporting prevention services.

Purpose

With the Washington Opioid State Targeted Response (STR) Community Prevention and Wellness Initiative (CPWI) Prevention Services Project, the Department of Social and Health Services’ Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery (DSHS/DBHR) aims to increase capacity to implement direct and environmental substance use prevention services in communities qualified to immediately implement identified evidence-based practices and programs to prevent and reduce the misuse and abuse of opioid drugs. DSHS/DBHR intends to award five (5) contracts to local community-based organizations, government and public agencies (for example, school districts, law enforcement, counties, ESDs, and Tribes) to serve high-need communities in Washington State. The twenty (20) eligible communities who are at high-risk for youth substance use disorder and whose rates of youth opioid misuse and abuse are elevated are listed on page 4. These grants will provide funding to support quality and culturally competent replications of evidence-based and innovative substance use prevention strategies and programs to prevent and reduce opioid drug misuse and abuse while developing the operational community coalition infrastructure of the Community Prevention and Wellness Initiative (CPWI). Organizations are required to partner with local coalitions who have the capacity to implement the CPWI or to identify partners who are willing and available to form a coalition that meets CPWI guidelines.

CPWI is a partnership of the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), counties, Educational Service Districts (ESDs), schools and prevention coalitions supporting communities in preventing alcohol and other drug misuse/abuse. Communities are chosen based on their needs and their readiness to address these issues. To date CPWI has funded prevention coalitions in 59 communities, located in all 39 counties and nine ESDs. CPWI provides community coalitions with funding and training and technical assistance for coordination, assessment, strategic planning, implementation, and evaluation of prevention services needed in their communities. CPWI also provides funding to ESDs to support Prevention/Intervention (P/I) services in the school. This support helps communities build on their past successes and better measure how well prevention programs are meeting goals. As more resources become available, prevention services are expanded to other communities. The following link will provide access to the CPWI Community Coalition Guide that will help provide direction for implementation of this project. The implementation timeline described in the Guide will be negotiated with new grantees once contracts are in place.

www.TheAthenaForum.org/CPWIGuide

DSHS/DBHR intends to grant up to \$90,000 per proposal to serve a single community in the first year of the project which will be used to implement CPWI, specific strategies and activities designated by DSHS/DBHR and develop a Strategic Plan and Action Plan. Once Strategic Plans are approved the community may begin

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implementation of programs and strategies on the Action Plan. Successful applicants who demonstrate ability to complete required strategies and activities in the first year of grant funding will be eligible to receive up to an additional \$110,000 in the second year of the grant period, contingent of award of federal funding. These funds will be used to complete additional tasks related to development of a CPWI coalition and to provide further programs and strategies identified in their approved Strategic Plan to prevent and reduce the misuse and abuse of opioid drugs.

Funds for the full time Prevention/intervention school-based position and related services are contracted separately to the appropriate ESDs through the OSPI and is in addition to the community CPWI implementation funding amounts above. The P/I is hired, managed and supervised by the ESD. Up to three communities will be selected to be “early implementers” of Prevention & Intervention services in Year 1.

DSHS/DBHR reserves the right to negotiate with applicants for project scope and funding amounts. Special consideration during selection may include community geographic location(s) to provide for project distribution statewide and overall risk ranking.

Eligible High-need Communities

Qualified applicants within the following twenty (20) communities are eligible to apply. If multiple organizations within an eligible community are interested in applying for funding they are encouraged to combine efforts and use their collaboration as an opportunity to submit the strongest application possible.

Qualified grant applicants within the following twenty (20) communities are eligible to apply for this grant funding:

County	Community	School District/HSAA** Name
Clallam	Cape Flattery Area	Cape Flattery
Clark	Vancouver	Fort Vancouver HS**
Douglas	East Wenatchee	Eastmont
Grant	Grand Coulee Dam Area	Grand Coulee Dam
Grant	Quincy	Quincy
Grant	Warden	Warden
Grays Harbor	Aberdeen	Aberdeen
Lewis	Randle	White Pass
Okanogan	Oroville	Oroville
Pacific	South Bend	South Bend
Pierce	Tacoma	Lincoln High School**
Pierce	Tacoma	Mount Tahoma HS**
Pierce	Tacoma	Wilson HS**
Skagit	Mt. Vernon	Mt. Vernon
Spokane	Spokane	Rogers HS**
Stevens	Wellpinit	Wellpinit
Walla Walla	Burbank	Columbia School District
Whatcom	Deming	Mount Baker
Yakima	Grandview	Grandview
Yakima	Granger	Granger

**High School Attendance Area (HSAA), includes feeder schools

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Scope of Work

The work of successful applicants shall include but not be limited to the following:

1. Required Community Coalition Strategies and Activities:
 - a. Hire or identify a minimum of one part-time (.5 FTE) staff member to serve as qualified coordinator upon contract execution. Post position no later than September 1, 2017. Full-time employment (1.0 FTE) for the community coordinator is strongly recommended in order to meet the scope of the project.
 - b. Secure office space in community for Community Coalition Coordinator.
 - c. Participate in contract and program orientation provided by DSHS/DBHR within first 30 days of being awarded funding.
 - d. Establish minimum of monthly coalition meetings.
 - e. Hold first community coalition meeting by September 30, 2017.
 - f. Follow CPWI guidelines to either expand current coalition infrastructure and strategic plan or develop a coalition.
 - g. Conduct a needs and resources assessment.
 - h. Develop community-based, data driven Strategic Plan and Action Plan to prevent and reduce youth substance use with a focus on prevention of youth opioid misuse and abuse.
2. Commitment from school district to support P/I services:
 - a. Supporting a full-time Prevention/Intervention (P/I) Specialist position in the high school or middle school, employed by the Educational Service District (ESD).
 - b. For sites selected to begin P/I services in the fall of 2017-18, a 20% in-kind match is required. This could include office space, locking file cabinet, front office support, and copies. All sites must commit to a 20% cash match for the 2018-19 school year, required to be secured by January 3, 2018.
 - c. A confidential setting for individual and group meetings.
 - d. Access to classroom time for prevention education and support students to attend group sessions.
 - e. P/I services as an alternative to suspension, where possible.
 - f. Participation in the Healthy Youth Survey administration for all schools in school district.
3. Provide the following three community activities by December 30, 2017:
 - a. Host at least one local Town Hall meeting to educate community members about local youth substance use issues identified in needs assessment and engage expanded participation in coalition activities.
 - b. Provide Key Leader Orientation with community leaders to gain feedback and support.
 - c. Provide at least one Medicine Take-Back event with local law enforcement.
4. Implementation of the CPWI and all components included in Project Narrative section of application.
 - a. Funds shall be used to support program costs including staff for coalition coordination, program planning, training, implementation, reporting and evaluation.
5. Programs, strategies and activities selected by the community coalition will be implemented for target audience in which they are designed in an ongoing cycle as identified in Strategic Plan and Action Plan.
 - a. Implementation of approved Action Plan beginning February 1, 2018.
 - b. Year 2 Action Planning shall take place during the Year 1 strategic planning process and implementation will be contingent upon federal funding.

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- c. Enter coalition and prevention service data into the online reporting system designated by DSHS/DBHR (Minerva) in monthly schedule by the 15th of the month following the month of service.
- d. Participate in monthly prevention learning community meetings.
- e. Participate in monthly check-in phone calls with contract manager or designee.

Submission of Application

Applications must include completed forms and narrative information to be considered. Responses to the questions in the Project Narrative should be no longer than 20 pages total. Application should be completed using no smaller than 12 point Calibri or Times New Roman font. Be sure to include page numbers and the name of the applicant community on each page.

Application Due Date: All proposals must be submitted on **July 14, 2017 by 5:00 P.M.** Pacific Standard Time.

Submit Application To: Submit complete application packages to Prevention@dshs.wa.gov with the Subject line: STR CPWI Grant Application – [Community Name]

Request for Applications instructions and all related appendices can be downloaded at www.TheAthenaForum.org/STRGrant-CPWI

Application Proposal shall include the following, please title each document as indicated below:

- 1 - Application Face Page
- 2 - Project Narrative
- 3 - New Contractor Intake Form (and completion of online registration as DSHS vendor). Submit a completed and signed Contractor Intake Form.
- 4 - Coalition commitment (Submit one of the following required signed letter(s) and statements of support):
 - Sector Support Statement and signatures (for development of new coalitions) **OR**
 - Community Coalition Support Agreement and signatures (for existing coalitions)
- 5 - School District Letter of Support
- 6 - School District Readiness to Benefit Information

If you need technical assistance using or accessing these documents, please email Prevention@dshs.wa.gov.

Scoring Criteria

Only complete applications will be reviewed and scored. For the purposes of this project, a complete application is one that includes all required forms, support documents and that completely answers each question. Funding is dependent on interest, application scores, state distribution of geographic location and community population size, and risk ranking.

Place all responses and required information under the correct question. Do not direct reviewers to information related to one question in another question or section. Each question must be answered in its entirety within the numbered question's answer. All pertinent information must be included in the response in the respective section for appropriate scoring.

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The Project Narrative must be complete and detailed for total possible points. Project Narrative is 80% of the overall score. If the Project Narrative is incomplete or includes federally unallowable costs, the application will be subject to disqualification. The Project Narrative will be scored according to how well the applicant answers each question using the criteria below. Each narrative question will be assessed when determining the score for each question. If an applicant cannot answer a specific question, then the reason for this must be explained within the answer to the question.

Applicants will also be scored on Coalition Commitment (10% of overall score) and School District Readiness to Benefit & ESD Support (10% of overall score).

Point criteria:

<p>0 points - Unacceptable: The applicant organization does not explicitly address the narrative question. The applicant organization states the question, but does not elaborate on the response. The applicant organization skips or otherwise ignores the question or includes irrelevant information that does not answer the question. As a result, the answer is completely deficient in addressing the narrative question.</p>
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<p>1 Point - Marginal: The applicant organization provides minimal details and insufficient descriptions that do not completely answer the narrative question. Limited information is presented or the applicant merely repeats back information included in the RFA. The applicant may answer part of the narrative question but miss a key point or there are major gaps in the information presented. Application has some strengths but includes identified weaknesses that will likely impact the successful implementation of proposed project.</p>
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<p>2 Points - Acceptable: The applicant organization provides a basic response to the narrative question but does not include sufficient detail or supporting documentation. There are some gaps and/or lack of clarity in describing how the proposal will be implemented. Identified weaknesses will likely have some impact on the successful implementation of proposed project.</p>

<p>3 Points - Very Good: The applicant organization provides substantive descriptions and relevant details in addressing the narrative question but the response is not fully comprehensive. Any identified weaknesses will likely have minor impact on the successful implementation of proposed project.</p>

<p>4 Points - Excellent: The applicant organization provides substantive descriptions and relevant details in addressing the narrative question. A sound understanding of the topic is demonstrated and includes pertinent examples. All criteria are fully addressed without identified weaknesses.</p>

Final determination of selected grantees is dependent on application scores, state distribution of geographic location and community population size, and risk ranking.

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Part B: Project Narrative

Provide complete information to the following questions to describe your organization's readiness and capacity to implement the project. Please remember: The Project Narrative will be scored according to how well the applicant answers each question. Each narrative question will be assessed when determining the score for each question. If an applicant cannot answer a specific question, then the reason for this must be explained within the answer to the question.

Responses to the questions in the Project Narrative should be no longer than 20 pages total. Please number your responses and provide a short title using the underlined words for each response to correspond with the question numbering below.

Your Project Narrative should answer the following:

Overview (10% of overall score)

- a. Provide a brief overview of how you propose to implement CPWI in your community (maximum of 500 words).
- b. Briefly describe the demographics of the community you intend to serve.
- c. Briefly describe the substance abuse and misuse issues as you currently understand them in the community you intend to serve.

Timeline (15% of overall score)

- a. Provide a two (2) year project timeline that includes the related tasks to ensure all strategies and activities will be completed within required timeframes. Please include the following:
 - i. The steps you will take to begin to implement the required strategies and activities within the first month of an executed contract.
 - ii. Name the individual or group of individuals who will be responsible for timely follow through on required CPWI activities described in the RFA and the CPWI Community Coalition Guide.
- b. Describe the experience and/or qualifications that demonstrate their capacity to fulfill the scope of the assigned tasks within the timeline.

Plan for Advancing Health Equity (15% of overall score)

- a. Explain how your coalition will provide culturally competent and appropriate services, using specific details that demonstrate this capacity.
- b. Explain how your coalition will be actively involved with reducing health disparities and promoting health equity, using specific details that describe strategies used and/or steps taken.

Capacity (25% of overall score)

Describe how your organization (either as an organization intending to work with a new coalition or as an organization collaborating with an existing coalition) is capable of supporting a coalition to successfully implement the required strategies and activities outlined in the scope of work and how each of the deadlines and expectations will be successfully reached, where applicable.

Specifically address the following:

- a. Grants management experience:
 - iii. effective administration (i.e., budgeting and accounting)
 - iv. monitoring of deliverables and accountability to fulfill contract objectives and requirements
 - v. how key staff have demonstrated experience and qualifications to develop operations for the project
- b. Community Engagement:

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- vi. successful outreach to the community including parents and youth
- vii. collaboration with community partners and representatives from the identified CPWI sectors
- viii. experience in community level strategic planning

Collaboration with Schools (10% of overall score)

- a. Describe the applicant organization's collaborative relationship with the School District and identified school and how the partnership will be developed and/or strengthened.
- b. Discuss readiness to implement school prevention/intervention services as part of project and what steps you will take to increase readiness if necessary.
- c. Discuss how or by whom the 20% match (approximately \$15,000) for the P/I services will be secured if the grant is awarded. (In-kind or cash for year 1 of project and cash match for Year 2 is required. Cash match commitment for 2018-19 school year shall be secured by January 3, 2018.)

TA/Training (5% of overall score)

- a. Describe the specific technical assistance and training you will need to implement this scope of work and your plan to address these needs.