

# Drug-Free Communities

**Local Problems Require Local Solutions** 



# Overview of the DFC Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for New Applicants

NOFO #: CDC-RFA-CE21-2102

Due Date: May 10, 2021

























#### Sections of the NOFO

- Section A: Funding Opportunity Description outlines ONDCP/CDC's expectations;
- Section C: Eligibility Information including statutory eligibility requirements;
- Section D: Application & Submission information which outlines what you need to submit to CDC for consideration for funding; and
- **Section E:** Review & Selection Process how the applications will be assessed and scored.





# **Drug-Free Communities**

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## Attachments

























# Attachment 1: Coalition Involvement Agreements (CIA)

- The CIA is an agreement between the coalition and the selected sector representatives and should identify the agreed upon responsibilities for both the coalition and the sector representative.
- CIAs <u>must</u> include a rationale describing why the individual is an appropriate choice for coalition sector representative.
- There <u>must</u> be one completed CIA for each sector. A total of 12 CIAs. Save the 12 CIAs as one file.

# Attachment 1: Coalition Involvement Agreements (CIA)

- The same individual <u>cannot</u> sign a CIA as both the sector representative and the coalition representative.
- Paid coalition staff (current or proposed) <u>cannot</u> serve as a coalition sector representative.
- A coalition sector representative <u>must not</u> represent more than one of the 12 sectors. Choose the individual who best represents each of the 12 sectors.
- CIAs <u>must</u> be dated between January 2020 and the deadline for this application.

### Coalition Involvement Agreements

- Complete the Sector Table included in Attachment 1.
- Include all 12 CIAs and the Sector Table as one attachment.
- Name the file:
   "Attachment 1\_Coalition
   Involvement Agreement"
   and upload as a PDF to
   Grants.gov

#### I. Sector Table

Sector	Sector Representative Name	Organizati on Name	Selection Rationale	CIA?
Youth*				
Parent				
Business				
Media				
School				
Youth Serving				
Organization				
Religious/Fraternal				
organization				
Law enforcement				
Civic/Volunteer groups				
Healthcare professional or organization				
State, local, or tribal governmental agency with expertise in the field of substance abuse				
Other organization involved in reducing substance abuse				

<sup>\*</sup>NOTE: For the youth sector representative, the member's age must be listed in the agreement.

# Attachment 2: Coalition Meeting Minutes

- Applicant must submit <u>one</u> set of meeting minutes that meet the following requirements:
  - A meeting that took place between January 2020 and the application due date
  - List all meeting attendees and the sector they represent
  - Indicate the coalition's work on youth substance use prevention
- Name the file: "Attachment 2\_Meeting Minutes" and upload as a PDF to Grants.gov.

#### Attachment 3: Evaluation Requirements

- Attachment 3 acknowledges that the coalition will participate in the National Cross-Site Evaluation (i.e. collection of the core measures) and provide a data management plan.
- Applicants are not required at the time of application to be in compliance with the Evaluation Requirements.
- Sign and date the form and name the file: "Attachment
   3\_DFC Program Evaluation Requirements" and upload
   as a PDF to Grants.gov.

## Attachment 4: Legal Eligibility

#### Attachment 4. Legal Eligibility

Applicants <u>must</u> complete *either* the Statement of Legal Eligibility or Memorandum of Understanding between Grant Award Recipient and Coalition template below and submit one document to satisfy this eligibility requirement. To determine if you are required to submit a Statement of Legal Eligibility or Memorandum of Understanding between Grant Award Recipient and Coalition, an applicant should answer the two questions identified below:

1.	Is the coalition	serving as	its own legal	grant award recipient?	Yes □ No □

2. Is the coalition's name listed in Item #8 on the SF-424 of this application? Yes □No □

If the answer to any of these questions is "no," then the coalition <u>must</u> enter into a relationship with an entity eligible to receive federal funds and submit a Memorandum of Understanding between Grant Award Recipient and Coalition.

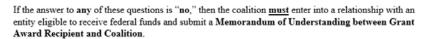
If the answer to both questions is "yes," then the coalition is applying for this grant on its own behalf (as the Legal Applicant eligible to receive federal funding). The applicant coalition <u>must</u> sign and date the Statement of Legal Eligibility and include Proof of 501(c)(3) Status if applicable.

PLEASE NOTE: Although your coalition may exist within another organization that is eligible to receive federal funding, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) will be required. If the coalition's name does not appear on Item #8 of the submitted SF-424 with the corresponding Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN), then a MOU <u>must</u> be submitted as part of the coalition's application. Not doing so, will deem the application statutorily ineligible and will not move forward to merit review.

#### Attachment 4. Legal Eligibility

Applicants <u>must</u> complete *either* the Statement of Legal Eligibility or Memorandum of Understanding between Grant Award Recipient and Coalition template below and submit one document to satisfy this eligibility requirement. To determine if you are required to submit a Statement of Legal Eligibility or Memorandum of Understanding between Grant Award Recipient and Coalition, an applicant should answer the two questions identified below:

- 1. Is the coalition serving as its own legal grant award recipient?
- 2. Is the coalition's name listed in Item #8 on the SF-424 of this application?



If the answer to both questions is "yes," then the coalition is applying for this grant on its own behalf (as the Legal Applicant eligible to receive federal funding). The applicant coalition <u>must</u> sign and date the Statement of Legal Eligibility and include Proof of 501(c)(3) Status if applicable.

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If the answer to both questions is "yes," then the coalition is applying for this grant on its own behalf (as the Legal Applicant eligible to receive federal funding). The applicant coalition <u>must</u> sign and date the Statement of Legal Eligibility and include Proof of 501(c)(3) Status if applicable.

PLEASE NOTE: Although your coalition may exist within another organization that is eligible to receive federal funding, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) will be required. If the coalition's

If the answer for **BOTH** questions is **'Yes'**.

The applicant coalition must sign and date the Statement of Legal Eligibility



If the answer to <u>any</u> one of these questions is 'No'.



An MOU is required

### Attachment 4: Legal Eligibility (scenario 1)

#### Assurance of Legal Eligibility

- The coalition is a 501(c)(3) organization and is legally eligible to apply for a DFC grant on its own.
  - Coalitions are not required to apply on their own
- The Official Coalition Representative <u>must</u> sign and date the Statement of Legal Eligibility and include Proof of 501(c)(3) Status if applicable.
- If you are submitting an Assurance of Legal Eligibility, name the file "Attachment 4\_Assurance of Legal Eligibility" and upload as a PDF to Grants.gov.

### Attachment 4: Legal Eligibility (scenario 2)

#### **Legal Applicant and Coalition MOU**

 Coalition is partnering with an outside organization to serve as the legal applicant on its behalf.

OR

- Coalition exists within another organization that is eligible to receive federal funding.
- Attachment 4 includes a sample Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the legal applicant agency and the coalition.
  - MOU requires two signatures: one from the Official Coalition Representative and one from the Legal Applicant/Grant Award Recipient.

### Tips for an MOU

- Develop a strong MOU that clearly outlines the responsibilities of the coalition and the legal applicant.
- MOU <u>must</u> be dated between January 2020 and the application due date.
- Attachment 4 contains a template to be tailored to meet the needs of the coalition and the legal applicant agency.
- If you are submitting an MOU, name the file
   "Attachment 4\_Assurance of Legal Eligibility" and upload as a PDF to Grants.gov.

# Attachment 5: Letter(s) of Mutual Cooperation

- If the applicant coalition is proposing to serve ZIP codes that overlap with an existing DFC coalition's ZIP code or with a coalition applying for a DFC grant, the applicant must:
  - Identify the zip codes that are going to be overlapped.
  - Provide what the two or more coalitions will do to work together in this zip code or zip codes.
  - Include signatures, one from each of the overlapping coalition's official representatives.
- If two first-time DFC grant applicants are applying and have overlapping ZIP codes, each must include a letter of support from the other.

# Attachment 5: Letter(s) of Mutual Cooperation

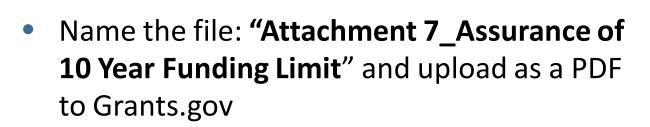
- It is the responsibility of the applicant coalition to know about any nearby coalitions that exist and/or are applying for DFC funding. You can find a list of funded coalitions on the CDC DFC website at <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/drug-free-communities/index.html">https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/drug-free-communities/index.html</a>
- If there are no ZIP code overlaps identified, simply state this and include it as Attachment 5 in the application
- Name the file: "Attachment 5\_Letter of Mutual Cooperation" and upload as a PDF to Grants.gov.

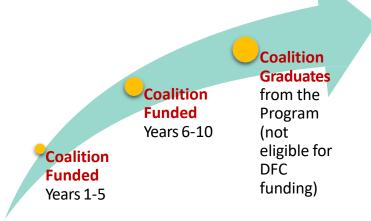
# Attachment 6: Assurance of One DFC Grant at a Time

- Indicates the applicant's understanding that Grant recipients may be awarded only one grant at a time through the DFC Support Program.
- Have both the Official Coalition Representative and the Legal Applicant sign the document.
- Name the file: "Attachment\_6 Assurance of One DFC Grant at a Time" and upload as a PDF to Grants.gov.

# Attachment 7: Assurance of 10-Year Funding Limit

- Indicates an understanding that a coalition cannot receive more than 10-years of DFC funding.
- The Official Coalition
   Representative and the Legal
   Applicant/Grant Recipient must sign the document.





### Note about 10-year Funding Limit

- The 10-year funding limit applies to coalitions, which are made up of staff and sector representatives.
- The proposed new, unique, and distinct coalition <u>must</u>
   <u>have:</u>
  - <u>Different</u> leadership & sector representatives
  - <u>Respond to newly identified community needs</u>
  - <u>Propose</u> a new name, mission statement, and new 12-month Action Plan
- Providing false or misleading information is unlawful and subject to criminal penalties (18 USC 1001).

# Attachment 8: General Applicant Information Table

- Provide the coalition's mission statement in the right column in the table provided in Attachment 8.
- Identify all substances of misuse that are targeted in the 12month action plan in the right column in the table provided in Attachment 8.
- Provide responses in the right column on the table provided in Attachment 8.
- Name the file "Attachment 8\_General Applicant Information" and save as a PDF to Grants.gov.

# Attachment 9: Congressional Notification

- If the application is funded, this information will be shared with members of Congress and the media and may be posted to the DFC website.
- The "Project Description" cannot be more than 35 lines
   & cannot exceed 1 page in length.
- Use the template exactly as provided; include all the information requested.
- Name the file: "Attachment 9\_Congressional Notification" and upload as a PDF to Grants.gov.

# Attachment 10: Key Personnel, Resumes, CVs, and Position Descriptions

- Applicants must submit resumes for positions currently filled (no more than 2 pages in length) for key personnel outlined in the next slide.
- For key personnel positions that are not filled, applicants can provide the position description (no more than 1 page in length).
- Name the file "Attachment 10\_Key Personnel Resumes" and upload as a PDF to grants.gov.

### Attachment 10: Key Personnel

- Business Official (Authorized Organization Representative)
  - authorized for overseeing the financial aspects of the grant. This is the individual who will receive the Notice of Award if funded. Must be an employee of the recipient organization.
- Program Director (Program Director/Principal Investigator)
  - person designated to direct the project or program supported by the grant and accountable to officials of the recipient organization.
     Must be an employee of the recipient organization.

#### Project Coordinator:

 person who coordinates the work of the coalition and program activities, including training, coalition communication, data collection, and information dissemination.

# Attachment 11: Disclosure of All Prior DFC Funding

- All DFC grant awards ever received by a Coalition and/or a Legal Applicant/Grant Award Recipient must be indicated on this form.
- Do not include information about STOP ACT or DFC Mentoring grants.
- Disclosure of All Prior DFC Funding requires two signatures: one from the Official Coalition Representative and one from the Grant Award Recipient/Legal Applicant.
- Name the file: "Attachment 11\_Disclosure of All Prior DFC Funding" and upload as a PDF to Grants.gov.

#### **Additional Notes**

- Attachments 1-11 are required.
- Do not send brochures, CDs, PowerPoints, or promotional items; they will be discarded.
- Applicants may not attach documents other than those listed in the NOFO.
- Please refer to Section H- Table 5 of the NOFO for naming conventions to upload as a PDF to www.grants.gov.

#### Section H – Table 5: Attachments 1-11

Table 5: Required Attachments				
Attachment Reference in Appendix D	Attachment Name	Naming convention to upload as a PDF to www.grants.gov		
Attachment 1	Coalition Involvement Agreement	Name the file "Attachment 1_ Coalition Involvement Agreement"		
Attachment 2	One Set of Coalition Meeting Minutes	Coalition meeting minutes must be from between January 2020 and the date this application is due.  Name the file "Attachment 2_ Meeting Minutes"		
Attachment 3	DFC Program Evaluation Requirements	Name the file "Attachment 3_ DFC Program Evaluation Requirements"		
Attachment 4	Assurance of Legal Eligibility	Name the file "Attachment 4_ Assurance of Legal Eligibility"		
Attachment 5	Letter of Mutual Cooperation	Name the file "Attachment 5_ Letter of Mutual Cooperation"		
Attachment 6	Assurance of One DFC Grant at a Time	Name the file "Attachment 6_ Assurance of One DFC Grant at a Time"		
Attachment 7	Assurance of 10- Year Funding Limit	Name the file "Attachment 7_ Assurance of 10-Year Funding Limit"		
Attachment 8	General Applicant Information	Name the file "Attachment 8_General Applicant Information"		
Attachment 9	Congressional Notification	Name the file "Attachment 9_ Congressional Notification"		
Attachment 10	Key Personnel Resumes	Name the file "Attachment 10_Key Personnel Resumes"		
Attachment 11	Disclosure of All Prior DFC Funding	Name the file "Attachment 11_Disclosure of All Prior DFC Funding"		





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# Project Narrative

























### Background & Approach

- Describe the purpose, history, and mission of the coalition in addressing youth substance use, the challenges and successes it has experienced in becoming a viable coalition, and its impact on youth substance use in the community it serves.
- Explains the rationale for selecting the two substances the coalition will address, including:
  - How these substances have contributed to problems among youth in the community
  - 2. The nature and scope of the problem these substances introduce within the community context

### Background & Approach - Cont'd

- Recruit, retain, and integrate a broad range of sectors to achieve its goals, including youth.
- Ensure that youth membership is representative of the community the coalition serves.
- Collaborate with community organizations, leaders, or programs internal or external to CDC.
- Address health disparities.

**Maximum Score: 30 points** 

### Work Plan (12-Month Action Plan)

- Applicants must prepare a detailed work plan for the first year of the award (12-Month Action Plan) using the Template provided in Table 1 of the NOFO.
- Outlines the specific objectives, strategies, and activities the coalition will use to achieve their outcomes to reduce substance use
- Strategies and activities must be specific to the substances and each substance must have a separate specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, and timebound (SMART) Objective.

### Work Plan (12-Month Action Plan)

- Addresses at least two named substances. The strategies and activities must be specific to the substances the coalition will be addressing.
- Utilizes existing frameworks, such as the SPF and Seven Strategies for Community-Level Change outlined in the Strategies and Activities Section.

**Maximum score: 25 points** 

### Work Plan Template

DFC Goal One: Establish and strengthen collaboration among community stakeholders and organizations to address youth substance use.

Objective 1: Provide a SMART objective

Strategy 1: Provide specific strategy

Activity	Who is Responsible?	By When?

Strategy 2: Provide specific strategy

Activity	Who is Responsible?	By When?

DFC Goal Two: Reduce substance use and misuse among youth and, over time, reduce substance use and misuse among adults by addressing the factors in a community that increases the risk of substance use and misuse and promoting the factors that minimize the risk of substance use.

Objective 2: Provide a SMART objective

Strategy 1: Provide specific strategy

#### Evaluation & Performance Measurement

- Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the 12-month Action Plan.
- Participate in the DFC National Cross-Site Evaluation and collect data every two years on the following core measures for alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, and prescription drugs.
- Ensure all segments of the community will receive the evaluation information/results.

**Maximum score: 25 points** 

# Organizational Capacity to Implement the Approach

- Provide an overview of the make-up of the coalition, including how the multiple sectors have been involved in achieving the coalition's goals.
- Demonstrate the coalition's adequate capacity and data infrastructure to implement the project and achieve the project outcomes.
- Provide evidence of appropriate staff member experiences and resumes & clearly define roles for each staff member.

**Maximum Score: 20 points** 

### Preparing the Project Narrative

- Maximum of 15 pages
- Font must be 12-point font
  - It is acceptable to use 10-point font in tables and charts
- Single-spaced
- 1-inch margins on all pages
- Number all pages

### Preparing the Project Narrative

- Write your application to read like a story of life in your community.
- Applicant's Project Narrative must be succinct, selfexplanatory, and in order as outlined in this section.
- Watch your page count and allocate pages wisely based on point assignments for questions.
- When submitting via Grants.gov
  - Application must be uploaded in a PDF file format and name this file "Project Narrative"

# Tips for Preparing the Project Narrative

- Do not include unnecessary material that may distract from the review, such as too many charts/graphs.
- Do not include redundant information.
- Do not leave large areas of blank space.



#### Avoid Common Mistakes...

- Make sure you use the <u>correct</u> Notice of Funding Opportunity.
  - For FY 2021, the correct NOFO number is CDC-RFA-CE21-2102

 Do not mix NOFO questions (e.g., some from one year and some from another).

 Follow the NOFO for the correct year as it is written using all provided templates where required.





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# Additional Documentation

























#### Table of Contents

- Provide a detailed table of contents for the entire submission package that include all of the documents in the application and headings in the "Project Narrative" section.
- Does <u>not</u> count toward maximum 15-page limit.
- Name the file "Table of Contents" and upload it as a PDF file under "Other Attachment Forms" at www.grants.gov.

### Project Abstract

- Required, though not scored.
- Paints a picture of the community, providing an opportunity to educate reviewers about the community.
- No more than 1-page in length.
- Does not count toward maximum page limit.
- Applicants must enter the summary in the "Project Abstract Summary" text box at www.grants.gov.

## **Budget Narrative**

- Required, though not scored.
- Must be itemized.
- Proposed budget is reasonable and consistent with the purpose, objectives, and program strategy outlined in the project narrative.
- A copy of the indirect cost-rate agreement is required only for those requesting indirect costs in the budget.
- CDC's budget preparation guidelines can be found at: <u>www.cdc.gov/grants/documents/Budget-Preparation- Guidance.pdf</u>
- Name these files "Budget Narrative" and "Indirect Cost Rate" and upload it as a PDF file at <u>www.grants.gov</u>.

### Required Forms

- Don't forget to complete your SF-424 and SF-424A
  - Grants.gov has instructions on how to complete these forms: <a href="https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/forms/sf-424-family.html">https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/forms/sf-424-family.html</a>.
- In addition to attachments 1 -11, project narrative, table of contents, project abstract, and budget narrative, submit the following (Section H of the NOFO):
  - CDC Assurances and Certifications
  - CDC's Risk Questionnaire and Supporting Documentation
  - Disclosure of Lobbying Activities SF-LLL
  - CDC's Report on Programmatic, Budgetary and Commitment Overlap

#### CDC Assurances and Certifications

- All applicants are required to sign and submit "Assurances and Certifications" documents indicated at: <a href="http://wwwn.cdc.gov/grantassurances/">http://wwwn.cdc.gov/grantassurances/</a> (S(mj444mxct51lnrv1hljjjmaa)) /Homepage.aspx.
- Applicants may follow either of the following processes:
  - Complete the applicable assurances and certifications with each application submission, name the file "Assurances and Certifications" and upload it as a PDF file with at <a href="www.grants.gov">www.grants.gov</a>
  - Complete the applicable assurances and certifications and submit them directly to CDC on an annual basis
- Assurances and certifications submitted directly to CDC will be kept on file for one year and will apply to all applications submitted to CDC by the applicant within one year of the submission date

### CDC Risk Questionnaire

- The CDC Risk Questionnaire is required for all applications and should be completed by the fiscal agent and can be found at: <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/grants/documents/PPMR-G-CDC-Risk-Questionnaire.pdf">https://www.cdc.gov/grants/documents/PPMR-G-CDC-Risk-Questionnaire.pdf</a>
- Applicants must include all supporting documentation for the Risk Questionnaire in the application package.
  - May be submitted as a single PDF labeled: "Risk Questionnaire Supporting Documents"
  - It is acceptable to include a PDF document with a link to the policies requested as long as individuals outside of your organization can access the policies through the link.

## Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

- You are still required to complete this form even if you do not have a lobbyist.
- If an applicant does not have a lobbyist, then an applicant is still required to complete Sections 4, 6, 10a, 10b, and 11 of the Disclosure of Lobbying Activities form.
- The applicant may enter "N/A" for the required fields in Sections 10a and 10b in order to complete the form and be able to submit it with your application package.

# Report on Programmatic Budgetary and Commitment Overlap

- This is not a pre-existing CDC document, but one that you develop on your own
  - Upload in Grants.gov under "Other Attachment Forms"
  - The document should be labeled: "Report on Programmatic, Budgetary, and Commitment Overlap"
- For more information on what to include in this report please review the Duplication of Efforts section in the NOFOs.





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## Appendices

























# Appendix A: Pre-Submission Verification Tool

- Use the Pre-Submission Verification Tool to help you confirm you have included the documentation needed for this application.
- This is tool is NOT required to be submitted with your application and is intended only as a guide.

## Appendix B: Resources on Evidence-Based and Practice-Based Strategies

- Collection of strategies from the CDC and additional resources to address substance use and misuse among youth
  - Not an exhaustive list.
  - Offers a starting point for coalitions to refer to as they consider which strategies will work best in their communities to implement the DFC program.
  - Includes topic- specific resources such as: school health, excessive alcohol use prevention, violence prevention, tobacco prevention, and opioids.

# Appendix C: Review and Selection Process

- All applications will be initially reviewed for eligibility and completeness by CDC Office of Grants Services. Complete applications will be reviewed for responsiveness by the Grants Management Officials and Program Officials.
- Complete applications will advance for the statutory eligibility review conducted by ONDCP and CDC Program Officials.
- All eligible applications will advance to a merit review and will be scored according to the evaluation review criteria described in section E.





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# Helpful Information for Preparing a DFC Grant Application

























#### **Electronic Submissions**

- Must receive applications by 11:59 pm EST on May 10,
   2021.
- Start the online application submission early
  - DO NOT wait until the day the application is due recommended you submit at least 24 hours prior to the deadline
- Three Registration Processes (Required Registrations Section in the NOFO):
  - Dun & Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS)
  - System for Award Management (SAM)
  - Grants.gov

## Tips for Electronic Submissions

 Read and review the Required Registrations section within the NOFO, which describe all three required registration processes.

- SAVE confirmations. If you do not receive a confirmation, follow-up immediately with system-specific contacts.
- All documentation about applications will go to the person listed as the "Business Official"
  - Ensure that this is a person who has regular contact with the coalition

## Tips for Electronic Submissions Cont.

- No additional information may be added to an application after the application deadline
- Application cannot be faxed, hand-delivered, or emailed.
- If you qualify for and have been authorized to submit a paper copy due to technical difficulties encountered at Grants.gov, follow the instructions provided by CDC's Office of Grants Services.

### NOFO Support Questions?

For questions specific to Notice of Funding Opportunity, email:

#### DFC\_NOFO@CDC.GOV

CDC DFC web page:

www.cdc.gov/injury/fundedprograms/drug-freecommunities/index.html

