



VIRGINIA OPIOID ABATEMENT AUTHORITY OVERVIEW OF COOPERATIVE PARTNERSHIP AWARDS INVOLVING MULTIPLE CITIES AND/OR COUNTIES

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1. Beginning in 2022, opioid-related settlement funds are expected to be distributed to the Commonwealth of Virginia by the settlement administrator(s) each year until at least 2039. Each settlement is divided with 30% sent directly to cities & counties, 15% directly to the Commonwealth, and 55% to the Opioid Abatement Fund which is distributed by the Opioid Abatement Authority (OAA) in accordance with *Code of Virginia §2.2-2374*.
 - a. As these revenues are received each year and credited to the Opioid Abatement Fund, 35% of the Fund is allocated for use by Cooperative Partnership projects involving multiple cities and counties.
 - b. These awards are competitive, and awards will be prioritized based on:
 - i. Programs or organizations with an established record of success (expansion of existing program or implementation in a new city or county);
 - ii. Programs in communities with a high incidence of opioid use disorder or opioid death rate, relative to population;
 - iii. Programs in historically economically disadvantaged communities;
 - iv. Applications that include a monetary match from or on behalf of the applicant, with higher priority given to an effort with a larger matching amount; and
 - v. Equitable distribution across the Commonwealth
 - c. Once a project is approved, the Cooperative Partnership may continue up to four, optional one-year renewals, provided the project remains in compliance with the [terms and conditions](#) required by the OAA and the fiscal agent submits an annual renewal application for the project.
 - d. The city or county selected as the fiscal agent must be able to separately account for the use of the Cooperative Partnership project from their Individual Distribution from the Opioid Abatement Fund and from their Direct Distribution from the settlement administrators.
 - e. Partnering cities and counties can provide a monetary match from any [combination](#) of their Direct Distribution from the settlement administrator, their Individual Distribution, and “Gold Standard” Incentive from the OAA. Additionally, partnering cities and counties may use other grants, general funds, and/or a contribution provided on their behalf as matching funds.
2. The application that the Cooperative Partnership submits to the OAA accomplishes the following:
 - a. Explains the partnership plans to use the funds including details of the proposed project(s);
 - b. Provides estimated performance measures for each proposed project(s); and,
 - c. Confirms the partnership agrees to the [terms and conditions](#) that are for use of the funds.



Overview of the Application Processes for Cooperative Partnership Projects Involving Multiple Cities and/or Counties (35% of OAA Funds)

There will be an annual grant process that governs awards for Cooperative Partnership projects involving multiple cities and/or counties.

The OAA follows the Commonwealth’s fiscal year (July 1 through June 30).

1. The OAA will accept applications for Cooperative Partnership projects awards between October 1, 2023, and April 1, 2024, that accomplish the following:
 - a. Identify the participating cities and/or counties;
 - b. Identify the city or county selected as the fiscal agent;
 - c. Provide a copy of the [Cooperative Partnership Agreement](#) signed by a representative of each partner;
 - d. Provide information about the project(s) requesting to be funded; and
 - e. Confirm the cooperative partnership agreement complies with the [OAA’s terms and conditions](#).
 - f. Note the timetable below for the draft (optional) and final application must be submitted to the OAA for consideration at the subsequent Grants Committee meeting.

For Funds Transmission in FY2025	
March 15, 2024	Optional Draft Review
April 1, 2024	Applications Due
May 23, 2024	Grants Committee Meeting

2. For awarded projects, each fiscal year the OAA grant application period will occur between October 1 and April 1. Each year this application process will:
 - a. Allow for the renewal (up to four after the first year) of an approved project:
 - i. Confirm that the plans approved by the OAA for the cooperative project are being implemented;
 - ii. Provide updated actual and projected performance measures; and
 - iii. Identify any amendments that may be needed to the current year plan; and
 - iv. Any amendment or renewal must be compliant with the OAA’s [terms and conditions](#);
 - b. Or, allow for the application for a new project (this would include those projects that have exhausted the 4 renewal years).

General Considerations

1. Once a Cooperative Partnership has received approval on a project, the partnership may continue the same project for up to four subsequent years, as long as the partnership remains in compliance with the [terms and conditions](#) required by the OAA. Renewals are subject to approval by the Grants Committee.
2. It is possible, especially during the first year of a project, that a partnership intends to utilize the fiscal agent’s procurement process and needs to complete that process in order to provide budget projections as part of the application process. In that event, the fiscal agent may submit a funding request with the expected total amount for the project, and if the actual cost of the service requires a budget amendment, the OAA will work with the fiscal agent to make that amendment (see [amendment process](#) below).



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3. Beginning in FY2025, the OAA will require the fiscal agent to repay any unencumbered balances to the OAA by September 1 of the following fiscal year, unless a carryover request is submitted with the following conditions:
 - a. The carry-over was planned and submitted as part of the approved project budget, or
 - b. The city or county is making reasonable and measurable progress to implement its project(s) as described in the approved proposal; and
 - i. The Project Timeline Workbook will be used to document reasonable and measurable progress.
 - c. The Cooperative Partnership remains in compliance with the [terms and conditions](#) of the OAA.

Amendment Process

Once a Cooperative Partnership project has been approved by the OAA, amendments will be handled as follows:

1. At all times, regardless of any amendment, the Cooperative Partnership must remain in compliance with the OAA's [terms and conditions](#).
2. A Cooperative Partnership may appropriate additional revenue that it receives for any approved project. In this event the OAA shall be notified using forms approved by the OAA.
3. A Cooperative Partnership may initiate line-item budget transfers within a project without seeking OAA approval.

Use of OAA Individual Distribution and/or “Gold Standard” Incentive for Cooperative Partnership Projects with Multiple Cities and/or Counties

Cities and counties have the option to appropriate a portion of their Individual Distribution and/or “Gold Standard” Incentive to a Cooperative Partnership project. Cities and counties do not have to submit an Individual Distribution application to appropriate the Individual Distribution to a Cooperative Project. The Cooperative Partnership Agreement should document the commitment and amount for any cities and or counties that elect to apply the Individual Distribution and/or “Gold Standard” Incentive to the cooperative project. If applying to use the “Gold Standard” Incentive in both an Individual Distribution and a Cooperative Partnership project(s), only one “Gold Standard” Incentive application is needed.

Evaluation Criteria

Applications will be evaluated on how they meet the criteria laid out in the following documents:

1. The [terms and conditions](#) of this funding opportunity
2. The conditions, restrictions, and priorities enumerated in *Code of Virginia §2.2-2370*
 - a. Specifically, grant applications that accomplish the following:
 - i. Collaborate with an existing program or organization that has an established record of success treating, preventing, or reducing opioid use disorder or the misuse of opioids;
 - ii. Treat, prevent, or reduce opioid use disorder or the misuse of opioids in a community with a high incidence of opioid use disorder or opioid death rate, relative to population;
 - iii. Treat, prevent, or reduce opioid use disorder or the misuse of opioids in a historically economically disadvantaged community; or



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- iv. Include a monetary match from or on behalf of the applicant, with higher priority given to an effort with a larger matching amount.
3. The allowable uses under each settlement agreement
 - a. Example: [Exhibit E from Distributors and Janssen Settlements](#)
4. Extent to which the proposed cooperative project identifies and addresses specific gaps;
5. Projects that remove barriers to access or make services more accessible to high-risk or difficult to serve individuals;
6. Projects that specifically serve the needs of pregnant and nursing mothers and children;
7. The prospective return on financial investment offered by the cooperative project;
8. Cooperative Partnership projects will be awarded in a manner that distributes funds equitably among all community service board regions of the Commonwealth.