



## FAQ Sheet

# Application Training Webinar FAQs

April 6, 2015

**Q: Is the recording of the webinar available?**

A: Yes, you can find it on our website

(<http://www.cde.state.co.us/healthandwellness/schoolhealthprofessionalgrantprogram>).

**Q: How much total funding is available?**

A: \$2.2 million.

**Q: What is a typical award amount?**

A: Awards have ranged from around \$20,000 to \$300,000. The measure of the grant award is based on strength of the application, as a whole.

**Q: Will this grant be available for the following year (2016-17)?**

A: At this point, this grant is an annual decision and is assessed year to year in the legislature.

**Q: If we received the grant for part of this year, can we use this year's grant to sustain this position?**

A: Yes, definitely. The sustainability of your program is very important and using this year's grant to continue that work is welcomed.

**Q: Instead of hiring a new school health professional, could funding be applied to increasing the hours of a current school health professional?**

A: Yes, definitely.

**Q: Can we apply for more than one position (e.g. a part-time nurse and a part-time psychologist)?**

A: Yes. You can apply for as many positions as you see necessary for your program. You can demonstrate how each school health professional's role is tied to the strategies of your program in your narrative and program description.

**Q: Should the Needs Assessment only include retail marijuana and not medical marijuana establishments?**

A: In the Needs Assessment, you will want to give as much insight as you can about your student population and their needs. You should include as complete of a community and population assessment as you can give – including the number of marijuana establishments (retail or medical), as well as other descriptions of availability, prevalence, usage, and attitudes of the students and community regarding substance use. You can also capture a broader depiction of the health disparities, with data such as free-and-reduced-lunch numbers.



**Q: What if we have health/nursing needs that are not specific to substance abuse?**

A: The focus of this grant is on substance use and behavioral health needs. However, substance abuse is often closely linked with other mental and physical health concerns. Hired school health professionals should be involved in substance abuse prevention education, screening, and referral, but are not limited to those services and can be utilized for all student health concerns.

**Q: Where can we find the number of marijuana establishments in our community?**

A: The revenue board regulates the sales of marijuana. You can find information specific to your area on their website: <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/enforcement/med-licensed-facilities>. Another place to look is in your county government information.

**Q: We are a brand new school opening this August, so we don't have data yet on drug use, etc. Are we eligible to apply?**

A: Yes, new schools are certainly eligible to apply. As far as data on drug use, district-level data could be appropriate to explain the student population in your district.

**Q: When formatting the Section B table, can we use a smaller font than 12-point?**

A: You should try to abide by the formatting in the RFP document for your application, but it is appropriate to use a slightly-smaller font with the table.

**Q: Are Letters of Commitment from community partners required?**

A: No. A narrative demonstrating the relationships that have been built with community partners (for prevention education, referrals for intervention, etc.) is sufficient.

**Q: Is there a budget template?**

A: Yes, it's on the website:

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/healthandwellness/schoolhealthprofessionalgrantprogram>

**Q: Can the money be used for trainings of current staff?**

A: The funds are particularly for the hiring of new school health professionals. In that event, the school health professional could facilitate trainings for school staff.

**Q: Can some funding go towards someone to manage the grant?**

A: This grant allows for up to 3% for managing or administrating your grant.

**Q: Is the 3% of administrative costs above the district's allowable indirect cost rate?**

A: Because this is a state grant, indirect costs are not allowable with these funds. To account for this, 3% for administrative costs have been incorporated.



**Q: Can we use indirect as part of our match?**

A: The match needs to be related to direct-care providers. This would not include the salary of supervisors or administrative costs.

**Q: I'm with a community mental health organization. We have mental health specialists in a few schools. Are we eligible to apply or does a school district need to apply with us listed as a partner?**

A: No, a community health organization is not eligible to apply. The intent of this grant is to increase the number of school health professionals in secondary schools, interfacing with students each day, and having a presence as part of the school team. A school district would need to apply and could refer a community health organization as a partner.

**Q: Do we request the amount of money that we would like or is that ultimately the decision of the CDE?**

A: The amount that is requested should align with the scope of the proposed program and how many school health professionals will be hired. To determine that figure, each district's Human Resources office should provide potential salaries for those professionals. Additional training or materials that are included in the program description should also be accounted for.

**Q: Is it required that we hire an individual or could the money be used for resources?**

A: Yes, the intent of the grant is to hire school health professionals. At that point, resources for the school health professional to train staff and parents are allowable.

**Q: So, a curriculum alone would not be appropriate?**

A: No. For this grant, it is necessary that the focus be on school health professionals that can *implement* the curriculum and training for students, staff, and parents.

**Q: Can you clarify why the RFP states that "funding may not be used for therapy and interventions" while alluding to its intent to provide behavioral health care for students?**

A: The intent of the grant is primarily prevention education, early identification (screening), and referrals; to move the needle of behavioral health care toward the prevention and early identification side.

**Q: Can the school health professional that is hired oversee MTSS as part of the job description?**

A: Yes. They must primarily be a counselor, nurse, psychologist, or social worker, but overseeing MTSS can be part of their job description.

**Q: For a charter school under the Charter School Institute, should we consider the district that the school is in when using data?**

A: Definitely. You will want to include community-wide and school-based data that you have.

**Q: Are prevention and intervention groups in schools an allowable use of funds?**

A: Yes, particularly prevention.



**Q: What about money for students to access community resources?**

A: The funds can be used to connect students to medical homes and other community resources, but should not be used for the actual funding of the services.

**Q: With an emphasis on prevention, it is important to connect students to healthier alternatives. Could the money be allocated towards either community programs or starting up a program?**

A: The intent of the funding is for school health professionals, in the school setting, during the school day. The school health professional's role should include connecting students to community programs.

**Q: Can the grant pay for substance use/abuse screening?**

A: Yes, definitely.

**Q: Last year we hired individuals who were working on their licensure; can we retain these people if they are still in process?**

A: Yes, definitely. In the narrative, indicate the steps that are being taken toward the licensure of those professionals.

**Q: Is there any way to get some feedback on some of our sections that weren't scored high last year?**

A: Yes. To review last year's application, contact Jessica Bigler (the program manager) at [bigler\\_j@cde.state.co.us](mailto:bigler_j@cde.state.co.us) or by phone at 303.866.6453.

**Q: If a district cannot afford to sustain the salary of a health professional if hired, should we apply in the first place?**

A: Yes. For many districts, this grant provides the opportunity to initiate substance use and behavioral health services in schools. If a salary cannot be maintained, sustainability can be demonstrated in many ways (community partnerships, etc.).

## Where can I learn more?

- Visit the School Health Professional Grant website:  
<http://www.cde.state.co.us/healthandwellness/schoolhealthprofessionalgrantprogram>
- Contact the School Health Professional Grant Program Manager:  
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