

0.1% Sales Tax RFP
Applicants Conference – Prevention/Wellness
January 8, 2010

Question & Answers

Revised Information/Updates

Section IV.B., Reporting Requirements: MH providers are not required to use SoundData services, but must describe how data will be reported to the County securely. Please see the RFP website for future updates:

(www.snoco.org/departments/Human_Services/PublicNotices).

Available Funding/Contract Period

Q. The “Available Funds” is the total available for all proposals combined, right?

A. Yes

Q. Is there a match required?

A. No.

Q. The service term of the contract states it ends in December 2010, which is an odd time for school districts. Please explain.

A. This RFP is just the beginning of contracts. We are not looking to end programs when the contract period ends. We will review progress and renew contracts once funding levels for the following term are defined, unless there is a problem with performance.

Q. Is the intent of this funding to replace pending budget cuts for interventionists?

A. No, however, you can still propose that.

Q. The funding is \$150,000 for each; a total of \$300,000 in available funding, right?

A. Yes.

Q. So, could school districts propose both types of funding?

A. Yes, but please submit them as separate proposals.

Q. Could the funding replace funding cuts?

A. It could be used for that but is not specifically intended for that. You can submit a proposal for staffing, not necessarily mentioning cuts (i.e. write the proposal as new positions) and make sure the person to fill the position is qualified.

Q. Is there a limit on proposals to fund?

A. No, we are only limited by funding. What is funded depends on the number of proposals submitted, how the proposals are rated and/or if the proposal is approved.

Q. Are there income limits and/or is this funding considered “last resort” resources?

A. No, these funds are available for all clients.

Data Collection

- Q. For data trend analysis, we can use TARGET, but can we use the school's database instead or in addition to?
- A. You can use both if you prefer, please include the information in your proposal. However, for the County's trend analysis, which will use the State's integrated database, data MUST be entered into TARGET.
- Q. Since providers are required to collect names, for legally-protected services, can providers use unique identifiers instead?
- A. No. The name and other basic information is necessary to use the State's integrated database to allow for research and trend analysis. In addition, this allows for audit and accountability for payment of services provided.
- Q. If the proposals are supposed to be new ideas, agencies may not have outcomes already. Is that ok?
- A. New ideas that will be evaluated with data trend analysis.
- Q. Does client first and last name need to be provided?
- A. Yes, for research and audit purposes.

Labor Harmony

- Q. While most school districts have multiple unions representing staff, most interventionists are unrepresented. Is the Labor Harmony requirement for the whole agency or only for contract funds?
- A. Only what is funded through the Sales Tax contracts.

General Questions

- Q. Who will review the proposals and participate in the Proposal Clarification Meeting?
- A. The Chemical Dependency/Mental Health Sales Tax Board Subcommittee Members
- Q. Why do you need to know who wrote the grant if the fee for this serve is not reimbursable?
- A. Experience shows that applicants that hire "professional" grant writers often have proposals that do not contain accurate local-level information and the local provider may not be able to meet the specifications written in the proposal.
- Q. Do we need to attach letters of agreement from school district(s) to the proposal?
- A. No, the school district's signature on the face sheet is proof of their agreement.
- Q. What are other agencies looking to do if not intervention specialists (i.e. afterschool activities?)
- A. (from others attendees): Offering services during the summer; this seems logical since treatment should continue year-round; approval would be needed from school district(s) and parents.
- A. The vision in the RFP allows for ideas to flow. We want creativity.

Q. I really like the wellness component!

A. Remember, this is our first year; some of the creative ideas may bloom with increased funding over time.

Q. Could schools partner with other agencies (i.e. YMCA) to provide the wellness activities?

A. We did not have any expectations on applicant agencies. We want a model program to be developed and piloted with the hope to expand it to a “train-the-trainer” program.

Q. Does every organization have to be located in Snohomish County?

A. No, the program can be developed anywhere, as long as the services are provided and implemented in Snohomish County.

Q. The strategy for outreach is getting assistance in client referrals from schools; do agencies need to get agreement first?

A. It is not required, but would make your proposal stronger.

Q. How does the proposal define “youth” age?

A. The school aged programs are intended for those in school – those that do not attend school, but are the same age of children that do attend school and/or those that are 18, but are still in school.