**STATE OF MAINE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

**RFA SUBMITTED QUESTIONS & ANSWERS SUMMARY**

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| **RFA NUMBER AND TITLE:** | 202205084 - Capital Funds for Residential Substance Use Disorder Treatment Facilities Grant Funding Opportunity |
| **RFA ISSUED BY:** | Department of Health and Human Services,  Office of Maine Care Services |
| **SUBMITTED QUESTIONS DUE DATE:** | June 24, 2022 no later than 11:59 p.m. local time |
| **QUESTION & ANSWER SUMMARY ISSUED:** | July 5, 2022 |
| **APPLICATION SUBMISSION DUE DATE:** | July 14, 2022 no later than 11:59 p.m. local time |
| **APPLICATION SUBMISSIONS DUE TO:** | [Proposals@maine.gov](mailto:Proposals@maine.gov) |

**Provided below are submitted written questions received and the Department’s answer.**

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| **1** | **RFA Section & Page Number** | **Question** |
| General | We are a mental health agency do we use the same documents to apply? What's the process for a mental health agency? |
| **Answer** | |
| Mental Health agencies may apply if the proposed funding will be used to support the creation of new residential SUD treatment beds within the State. Provision of residential SUD treatment beds may require additional licensure, refer to Details and Instructions, Section C. Eligibility to Submit Applications within the RFA. | |

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| **2** | **RFA Section & Page Number** | **Question** |
| General | Would it be okay if we used portion of the grants to pay a down payment for buying a building for the agency?    Right now, the cost of leasing is so high and it's almost equal a mortgage bill, we have found a great building that is well designed to the services we provide, and it will help us to add new programs, services and hire more employees. |
| **Answer** | |
| The Department will consider all capital expenses under this RFA process. | |

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| **3** | **RFA Section & Page Number** | **Question** |
| General | The locations that are identified in the RFA that would qualify for full application point allocation do not include Ellsworth or Hancock County.  I am wondering if Hancock County, or specifically Ellsworth, or perhaps both, could be listed as a location that would qualify for full point allocation?  Ellsworth could then join Bangor and Portland as fully point-qualified cities. Ellsworth is a hub of Substance Use Disorder recovery services and activities and could potentially be an ideal location for our treatment center. |
| **Answer** | |
| The Department is not changing the location of the priority populations at this time, however all interested parties are encouraged to apply for funding. | |

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| **4** | **RFA Section & Page Number** | **Question** |
| N/A | The RFA requires information on the program's anticipated physical location. Since our planned expansion requires the acquisition of a new facility, we have not planned to complete a full property search until we are able to secure funding.  Will it meet the requirements of the RFA to provide the anticipated municipality and the size and nature of the facility we're looking for, or does the RFA require us to be committed to a specific street address? |
| **Answer** | |
| All applications will be evaluated under this RFA process. Section D5 permits bidders to provide the anticipated physical location of the project. Applicants receiving a total score of sixty (60) points or higher will be considered for either full or partial funding. | |

***Q&A Summary continues next page***

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| **5** | **RFA Section & Page Number** | **Question** |
| Page 3, Application Background and Purpose | We are seeking clarification regarding page 3 of RFA under Application Background and Purpose as it relates to 16 beds: To help address this need, in December of 2020, Maine received approval for a five (5) year SUD 1115 demonstration waiver that allows MaineCare to draw down federal funding for sites with more than sixteen (16) beds (previously not permitted under the Centers for Medicaid & Medicare (CMS) “Institution of Mental Disease” (IMD) exclusion).  Will you please confirm that our proposal to increase bed capacity from 12 to 16 beds fits within the criteria of this RFA? |
| **Answer** | |
| Confirmed. | |

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| **6** | **RFA Section & Page Number** | **Question** |
| III. Activities and Requirements,  B. Project Workplan spreadsheet,  1. Project Design | Will you provide an example of what the State considers an organizational leadership milestone for project design? |
| **Answer** | |
| An example would be Board approval of the project, if required by your organization. | |

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| **7** | **RFA Section & Page Number** | **Question** |
| C.5. “…stratified by health insurance payer type (i.e., private pay, commercial, MaineCare, Medicare, uninsured),” | 1. How does the State define private pay? 2. How does the State define commercial pay? |
| **Answer** | |
| 1. Private pay means an individual pays for a service with their own resources and/or has private insurance. 2. Commercial pay generally means the person is covered by an individual or group health plan that is not fully or directly government funded (e.g., employer sponsored plans, marketplace coverage whether subsidized or unsubsidized). | |

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| **8** | **RFA Section & Page Number** | **Question** |
| D. 6. Describe how the Applicant intends to prioritize services for MaineCare members and/or uninsured individuals. | Is the expectation that we prioritize MaineCare and uninsured individuals above insured individuals? |
| **Answer** | |
| Yes. | |

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| **9** | **RFA Section & Page Number** | **Question** |
| E. Allowable Use of Funds | Are non-construction/renovation costs, i.e., appliances, furniture, appliances, etc. considered an allowable cost? |
| **Answer** | |
| No, funds must be spent on necessary capital expenditures to enable the expansion of existing facilities or the creation of new facilities through construction, acquisition, or renovation for the purpose of residential SUD treatment. | |

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| **10** | **RFA Section & Page Number** | **Question** |
| General | Could our organization apply even though we are not currently licensed but intend to be for the center? |
| **Answer** | |
| Applicants must have current licensure in order to apply for funding, refer to Details and Instructions, Section C. Eligibility to Submit Applications within the RFA for required licensure requirements. | |

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| **11** | **RFA Section & Page Number** | **Question** |
| General | 1. Will the funding include restrictive covenants that will preclude divesting the subject property in order to expand to a new location if future demand warrants? 2. If so, what is the term of the covenants? |
| **Answer** | |
| 1. No. 2. N/A. | |

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| **12** | **RFA Section & Page Number** | **Question** |
| Details and Instructions, Section D, Page 4 | Section D. of the RFA alludes to "...the available funding." How much funding is available for this RFA? |
| **Answer** | |
| The Department is providing up to a total of $4.5 million in funding. Funding considerations will be provided with a cap of one hundred fifty thousand dollars ($150,000) per additional bed to eligible behavioral health providers for capital projects that will increase residential treatment for Substance Use Disorder (SUD) capacity in Maine. | |

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| **13** | **RFA Section & Page Number** | **Question** |
| N/A | 1. Since the Funds are for the “creation of new residential SUD treatment beds”, can these funds be utilized towards building/purchasing a new facility to provide these services in the future? 2. If Yes to the above question, is there a time limit on when the services are expected to begin? 3. If Yes to the above question, is there an expectation/contract that SUD Residential Treatment Services will be provided at this location for a specific period of time? |
| **Answer** | |
| 1. Funds may be spent on necessary capital expenditures to enable the expansion of existing facilities or the creation of new facilities through construction, acquisition, or renovation for the purpose of residential SUD treatment. 2. There is no time limit, except services are expected to be on line prior to the expiration of the contract and for a certain period of time. 3. See the previous response on 13.b. | |

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| **14** | **RFA Section & Page Number** | **Question** |
| Section 97, App B describes 5 levels of SUD Treatment Models | 1. Can multiple levels of care be provided in the same location? (Section 97, App B describes 5 levels of SUD Treatment Models) 2. Would the different levels of care have to be segregated from each other and each bed defined as a specific treatment type? |
| **Answer** | |
| 1. Multiple levels of care may be provided in same location, but programs must align with applicable American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) criteria for the level of care offered. 2. Beds would not have to be defined for a specific level of care, but programs must align with applicable American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) criteria for the level of care offered | |

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| **15** | **RFA Section & Page Number** | **Question** |
| N/A | Does the licensing for SUD Residential follow the same process/rules for licensing the home as an Appendix E PNMI? |
| **Answer** | |
| The Department declines to answer. Refer to Activities and Requirements, D.2. of the RFA. | |

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| **16** | **RFA Section & Page Number** | **Question** |
| N/A | Do agencies have to hold a SUD License or will a Mental Health License with OBH suffice? |
| **Answer** | |
| Refer to the answer to question 1 within this document. | |

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| **17** | **RFA Section & Page Number** | **Question** |
| N/A | Is there a central referral source for Appendix B PNMIs? |
| **Answer** | |
| No. | |

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| **18** | **RFA Section & Page Number** | **Question** |
| N/A | Are the services authorized by KEPRO? |
| **Answer** | |
| Neither MaineCare residential SUD services nor Office of Behavioral Health residential contracts are currently authorized by KEPRO. | |

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| **19** | **RFA Section & Page Number** | **Question** |
| Section 97, Appendix B, Chapter 3 | Section 97, Appendix B, Chapter 3 has the daily rates for each of the 5 levels of care, however states the Personal Care Rates are funded strictly through OBH. Is the Personal Care Rate a standard rate? |
| **Answer** | |
| The Personal Care rate in Section 97, Appendix B, Chapter 3 does not currently have CMS approval to be reimbursed by MaineCare. | |