

**RFA 001-Substance Misuse Services 2021-NPS
Official Questions and Answers**

All questions should be directed to the RFA Authorized Contact Person:

Natasha.Ponczek@austintexas.gov or in the Partnergrants database by no later than January 26 at 9 AM CST.

Last Update by NPS: January 25, 2021 at 4 PM

	Questions	Answers
1	Offer sheet does not provide download	The link was fixed and download now works.
2	Can I ask about the amount of funding in Casar's budget amendment?	\$650,000 was allotted for ongoing funding and \$350,000 was allotted for one-time funding. The additional funds were added from the Austin Public Health budget.
3	Can APH fund behavioral health care services? What is incorporated in other healthcare services prohibition?	APH funds behavioral health care but the focus of this program is substance misuse.
4	What about integrated Substance Use Disorder/ Behavioral Health/ Primary Care Services?	We can pay for substance use disorder treatment and behavioral health services but not primary care.
5	Is CommUnity Care eligible?	Yes, but we cannot pay for primary care. We can pay the salary of the social workers and case managers.
6	Is Harm Reduction the focus of this funding?	Harm reduction and wrap around treatment is the focus of this funding. All awarded agencies will be required to describe how harm reduction strategies are applied or will be applied in their program design.
7	What was changed from Casar's budget amendment? What is the one time \$350,000 for mobile clinics what was the change to technology?	Austin Public Health included additional funding to increase the award of this solicitation. One-time funding in the amount of \$350,000 was included for mobile services. APH expects technology to be a cost to outfit the vehicle. Technology costs may also include virtual solutions for providing recovery, case management, peer support services to offsite clients.
8	How does APH define recovery beds?	Recovery beds are places where individuals can reside and recover from substance misuse. APH can pay for space for an individual to recover and receive treatment for substance misuse

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		while another source of funding must be utilized to pay for medically assisted recovery.
9	What is the portion of ongoing funding?	On page 2 of the RFA Scope of Work it states: \$1,117,120 in ongoing funding and \$350,000 in one-time funding is available. Ongoing funding will be renewed annually depending on the City Council allocation of funding.
10	Regarding Needle Exchange programs- can you verify that program funds can be spent on syringes?	TBD – APH will request a response from City legal to verify if this is an allowable cost.
11	On page 2 of the Scope of Work, it describes the limitations on funding primary medical services, medical detox services, hospital care, and other healthcare services, but some listed as allowable seem to fall under medical or healthcare services. Can you provide more clarity on how you define other healthcare services that are and are not allowed?	<p>City of Austin funds cannot pay for something that a healthcare entity is already providing per the Texas Constitution and the Tex. Health & Safety Code §§281. We do not want to overlap services, but instead supplement those services. For example, doctor’s fees are not allowable, but medical case management services are allowable. The City can pay for staffing related to medical services.</p> <p>Please submit written questions with specific services so we can consult with City Legal to determine allowable and unallowable services under this funding.</p>
12	One of the main elements of our services is medication assisted treatment, such as methadone maintenance. Can the City pay for the maintenance treatment?	TBD – APH will request a response from City legal to verify if this is an allowable cost.
13	Is there a minimum or maximum number of performance reports that should be included or a page limit to these documents?	There is no minimum or maximum number of performance reports for the past two years or page limit, but they should be related to the service or a related service. Just follow the instructions in the Scope of Work.
14	Should the monitoring reports only be for the contracts that demonstrate the service or related service (i.e. the contracts/performance reports in Question 15)?	The monitoring reports do not have to be specific to this program or these services.
15	The RFA Application states that the total word count limit for the Word Document is 10,000 words, including the questions. Are	No the Work Statement is not included in the 10,000 word limit. There may be word limits within Partnergrants but as far as the RFA goes,

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	responses to Question 22, which is to be completed using the Program Work Statement Form in Partnergrants, included in this word count?	the word limit is only for the application document itself.
16	Are there documents or attachments in the application that require signatures from the Board Chair of the applicant organization?	Please see Section A – Offer Sheet; Section J – COA Certifications and Disclosures. You can determine who is your agency’s authorized signatory and they will be required to sign.
17	Can these harm reduction services be funded as part of this RFA? 1) Medication assisted maintenance treatment. (Specifically, paying for methadone maintenance). 2) Sterile syringes 3) Wound care supplies and care by contracting with a nurse or nursing assistant 4) HIV and HCV testing and linkage to treatment	1) APH cannot fund this. 2) APH cannot fund this. 3) APH cannot fund this. This would be referred out to another provider. 4) APH cannot fund this. This service is not the intention of this solicitation, and we would encourage partnering with organizations that already provide these services.