



## Adams County Opioid Abatement Grant Frequently Asked Questions

Updated 10.2.2023

The following questions and answers provide additional information regarding the Adams County Opioid Abatement Grant. Please visit the Rocky Mountain Partnership Website for additional information. *In the spirit of continuous improvement, this is a working document, and as additional questions are lifted it will be updated.*

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## About the Grant

### What is the purpose of this grant?

This grant exists to provide critical funding to efforts intended to abate the opioid crisis in the Adams County region in alignment with the [state wide joint framework](#). Colorado stands to receive over \$400 million from litigation settlements reached with companies who fueled the opioid crisis over the next 18 years.

You can learn more about the effort [HERE](#).

### How much funding is available?

In 2024, the Council has a total of \$6,766,011 to allocate in 2024. This includes the amount remaining from 2023 (\$739,847) and the estimated funds available for 2024 (\$6,026,164).

This number will change year to year based on a few factors, including if additional funds from litigation settlements come into the State of Colorado.

### Will that total amount be granted through the grant cycle that opens in October 2023?

No. The Council is allocating \$3 million of the total available funding to this grant.

There is a “Key Driver Sub-Committee” forming that will be charged with working alongside the Rocky Mountain Partnership Team to gain a deeper understanding of the underlying factors driving the opioid epidemic. This task force is committed to making well-informed recommendations to the Council on how to allocate resources effectively

to tackle these specific root causes, drawing inspiration from best practices and innovative solutions employed in other fields.

## What kind of efforts can be funded?

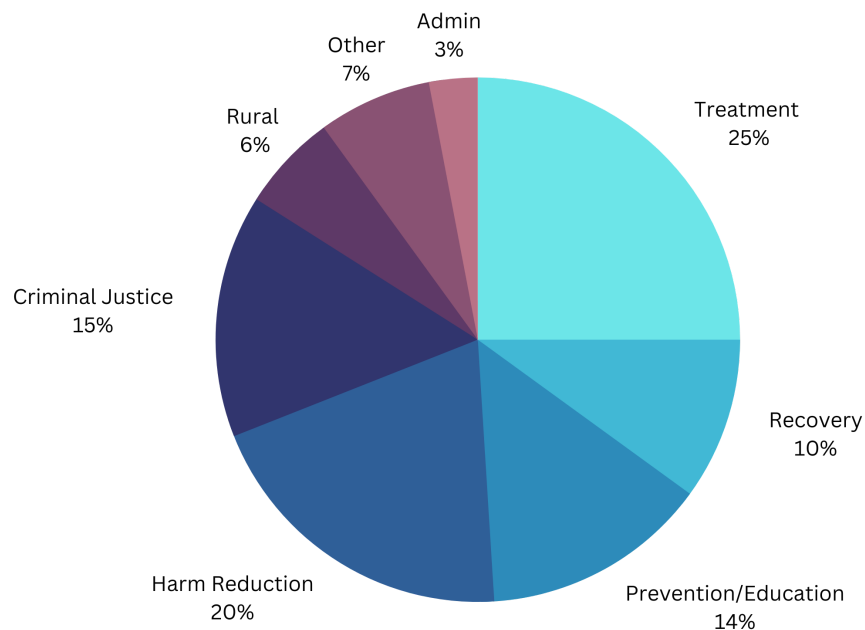
Efforts that can be funded fall into one of the following categories:

- Treatment
- Recovery
- Prevention & Education
- Harm Reduction
- Criminal Justice
- Opioid Abatement in Rural Adams County
- Other

For a more detailed dive into what goes into each of these categories, as well as the rationale behind how these allocations were determined, click [here](#). You can also check out the Addendum A from the State MOU that describes allowable uses [here](#).

It is important to note that the percentage of funds allocated to each category may be updated by the [The Adams County Opioid Council](#) and need to be approved by the [Colorado Opioid Abatement Council](#) (COAC), which is the state council that oversees all the regions across Colorado.

## How does the Council plan on distributing funds across allowable categories?



## **If I received funding in the first cycle can I apply for these funds?**

Yes. The Council recognizes that many grantees from the first cycle are very early on in that work, however may wish to request funds to continue or expand their efforts with support from this grant and invite them to apply.

There is a separate application for current grantees seeking to extend current grants. You can find that [HERE](#).

If an organization was funded in the first cycle but would like to apply for a completely new program, they are asked to complete the standard application found [HERE](#).

## **Who is the Adams County Opioid Council?**

[The Adams County Opioid Council](#) was formed to address the opioid crisis in Adams County and support community members to survive and thrive. They are responsible for distributing dollars across Adams County that the state of Colorado has received from litigation settlements reached with companies who fueled the opioid crisis.

You can learn more about who is involved on the Council [HERE](#).

## **Who decides what proposals are funded?**

The Adams County Opioid Council is the decision making body that determines who receives funds.

Because Adams County Government is the fiscal agent for the funds, the Board of County Commissioners confirms the Council's recommendations for funding in order for funds to be distributed. According to the State MOU, the fiscal agent "serves at the discretion of the Regional Council and in service to the entire region."

You can view the State Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) [HERE](#).

## **Where can I access the information about Adams County Opioid Council meetings?**

Adams County Regional Opioid Council meetings follow the Open Meeting Requirements of the Colorado Sunshine Law, which means they are open to the public. You can review information about upcoming and past meetings [here](#).

## **Who is the Rocky Mountain Partnership (RMP) and what is their role?**

The RMP Team, which supports the overall [Rocky Mountain Partnership network](#), has been contracted by Adams County Government to facilitate and serve as the backbone to this regional effort.

Learn more about the role of the RMP Team [HERE](#).

# Application Process

## What is the deadline to submit my application for the second cycle of funding?

Proposals are due November 17th, 2023.

### Full Timeline:

<b>October 3</b>	Application Posted
<b>October 9</b>	RMP hosts virtual Key Driver Workshop (to be recorded and available online)
<b>October 10 - November 2</b>	Grantees are able to schedule key driver coaching sessions with RMP Team
<b>November 3</b>	Proposals Due
<b>By November 17</b>	Vetting Committee conducts preliminary scoring
<b>November 29   3:00 - 5:00 PM</b>	Regional Council convenes to score proposals and determine which to fund
<b>December 20   3:00 - 5:00 PM</b>	Regional Council convenes to finalize which proposals to fund

## Are there word or character limits?

Short answer is “no.” We believe in fostering inclusivity and providing all applicants with the opportunity to fully express their ideas and proposals without constraining their responses with character limits. While we encourage comprehensive responses, we also recommend that applicants aim for brevity and clarity in their submissions.

## How do I submit my application and supporting documentation?

Please email all materials to [adcoopioiocouncil@rmpartnership.org](mailto:adcoopioiocouncil@rmpartnership.org).

## What is the Adams County Opioid Council looking for in applications?

In an effort to make this process as transparent and objective as possible, the Council has drafted a weighted [scoring matrix](#) which outlines the 8 criteria being used to evaluate applications. Each criteria will be evaluated on a scale from 1 to 4 and will

include specific things that reviewers will look for when evaluating proposals. The criteria are as follows:

1. Clearly identifies the outcome(s) the proposal is intended to impact and is tied to the Interactive Opioid Dashboard (*weight: 1*)
2. Clear, measurable, and reasonable targets and metrics to hold accountability to impact identified (*weight:1.5*)
3. Proposal has been demonstrated to be highly effective, or promising and emerging (*weight: 1.5*)
4. Demonstrated to fill existing gap or an unmet/undermet need in Adams County /the region (*weight: 1.5*)
5. Level of collaboration with other entities in Adams County and across the region (*weight: 1*)
6. Organization demonstrates a successful track record and ability to access necessary resources (such as infrastructure or workforce) for project completion (*weight: 2*)
7. Proposed project is cost efficient and within the organizational purview (experience from historical projects can be applied to proposed one) (*weight: 1*)
8. The extent to which other funding sources could be utilized (Braided Funding) (*weight: 1.5*)

To see a more in depth review of the criteria you will be evaluated on, view the scoring matrix [here](#).

### **How do I know if my application has been received and do I have the ability to check the status of my application?**

The RMP Team will be checking the email account several times a week and will send you a confirmation of receipt email within 2 business days of your application being received.

### **Are grants ever awarded for a different amount than the amount requested?**

The application allows for the possibility that an amount less than the amount requested could be awarded so long as the applicant designates they are willing to accept a partial award.

### **Do you fund general operating grants?**

Yes, so long as an applicant's core mission and impact are aligned with the intended uses of the funds.

## **If my organization has more than one need for funding, can we submit multiple applications?**

Yes, so long as each application follows the appropriate guidelines and the money is being used for the intended purposes.

## **Is there a cap for what percentage of an award can be used for administrative purposes?**

The Council is recommending that proposals don't exceed actual cost or 10% of total costs based on best practices and learnings gathered to date. However, if you strongly believe your proposal requires a higher percentage there will be an opportunity to make your case in the application. This will not be held against you so long as convincing justification is provided.

## **Will there be an opportunity for applicants to provide feedback on this application process?**

Yes. The [Rocky Mountain Partnership \(RMP\) Team](#) and the [Opioid Regional Council](#) are committed to gathering community feedback throughout this process in the spirit of continuous improvement. This will be an 18 year process and this application represents the second iteration. Improvements to the process have already been made based on feedback from the first cycle of applications.

We are encouraging feedback and intend to make this the smoothest possible process moving forward and as such will be drafting a feedback survey for this cycle as well.

## **Who should I contact if I have a question?**

Please contact the Rocky Mountain Partnership Team with questions ([adcoopioiocouncil@rmpbackbone.org](mailto:adcoopioiocouncil@rmpbackbone.org))

## **Review Process**

### **What process does the Council use to evaluate proposals?**

The council has adopted a weighted [scoring matrix](#) in an attempt to be as objective as possible when evaluating proposals. Once an application has been submitted it will be screened, using this matrix, by a vetting committee of content experts, facilitated by the RMP Team.

Applications that are executed properly and deemed appropriate for serious consideration will be reviewed by the greater Regional Council on November 29th, 2023. At that meeting, the Council may identify clarifying questions for applicants to be

answered before the december 20th meeting where they will make final decisions on which proposals to fund.

### **Will applicants that are not funded receive any feedback?**

Feedback will not be provided by default but applicants are more than welcome to inquire and we will do our best to respond in a timely manner.

## **Reporting Process**

### **Will grant recipients need to submit reports?**

There will be yearly reporting required to ensure impact is being achieved. Because Adams County Government is the fiscal agent, awardees will enter into contract with them in order to receive funds and annual reporting will be required. More details on this will be available through the County.

Additionally, part of this grant does ask that key performance metrics (KPI's) are tracked in real time. KPI's for each award will be tracked ongoing in the [RMP opioid dashboard](#). The RMP team will be working with each grant recipient to identify which KPI's to track based on the intended impact on a minimum of a quarterly basis. Part of the role of the RMP team is to take this burden off of the awardees to the greatest extent possible. More information will be provided regarding KPI tracking moving forward.