



Health

Grant Opportunity Question and Answer Guide

Post-Custodial Support Grants

Q&A Guide #1:	14 April 2023
Applications close:	5pm 15 May 2023
Submit applications:	moh-caod-sci@health.nsw.gov.au
Administered by:	Centre for Alcohol and Other Drugs, NSW Ministry of Health
Type of grant:	Open competitive
Reference number:	H23/23227

Post-Custodial Support Grants

Question and Answer 1

14 April 2023

Questions		Response
Application requirements		
1.1	Can organisations submit an application partnered with another organisation?	Yes, partnerships and consortia of non-government organisations and Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations are eligible to apply.
1.2	How can applicants demonstrate they are in partnerships or consortia?	Applicants are required to outline governance arrangements in the application. A letter of support from organisations you partner with is encouraged. You may be contacted for further information as part of the application assessment process if you state that you have formed a partnership. It is not sufficient to have merely had a discussion with another organisation.
1.3	Who can an organisation partner with?	Organisations can submit partnership or consortia applications with other NGOs or ACCOs. Organisations are also required to describe proposed partnerships and care pathways to ensure clients are supported to access the service, receive appropriate care and support, and safely transfer out of the service.
1.4	How many applications can an organisation make?	Organisations can make one application to each stream they are eligible for. If you wish to apply to provide services in more than one area, this should be part of one grant application. Only one grant will be provided to any individual organisation. Organisations that submit applications to both streams should indicate which is the preferred option, noting this does not exclude you from being evaluated for both categories. This preference should be noted on Schedule A, where there is a specific box to tick asking whether Stream 1 or Stream 2 is your preference).
1.5	Are NGOs or Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations who don't currently deliver AOD services eligible to apply?	NGOs and/or Aboriginal Community Controlled organisations that do not currently deliver AOD services may apply for grants only in partnership or consortia with organisations that have experience delivering AOD services.
1.6	Can organisations make multiple applications, each up to the funding limit, to deliver services in multiple locations?	No. If you wish to apply to deliver services in multiple locations, please make this part of one application that does not exceed the funding limit.

Questions		Response
1.7	Can an application be made for Post-Custodial Support services targeted at a subsection of the priority population?	Yes, applications can be made focussing on a subsection of the priority population. This distinction needs to be clearly outlined in <i>Schedule/s C1/C2 Response to Specific Post-Custodial Support Requirements</i> .
1.8	What if I have tried to get a letter of support from Justice Health or a private correctional centre but they have not responded to my request?	If this occurs, please provide a copy of your email or written request to the custodial health service and note that no reply has been received.
Budget and staffing		
1.9	Can a gradual implementation of the service be proposed?	Yes. Please indicate your staffing and budget during the implementation phase separately from your staffing and budget during fully operational service delivery.
1.10	Are applications required to request funding over the funding years as a ratio e.g. 20%-40%-40%?	There is no requirement to have an implementation phase that requires lower level funding in the first/and or earlier year/s. Proposed budget/s should reflect the service delivery needs.
1.11	How much capital funding is available?	There is no capital funding available for the Post-Custodial Support grants. However operational funding can be used for minor infrastructure costs (such as refurbishing an unused office space, purchasing equipment).
1.12	Will the funding be continued after the initial four-year grant funding period?	The Ministry of Health cannot guarantee the availability of funding after the initial four-year grant funding period. The Ministry of Health will be evaluating outcomes, which will assist in demonstrating value and impact of services and inform future funding decisions.
1.13	What staff requirements are there?	Schedule F Service Staffing Plan requires applicants to propose suitable staffing (listing qualifications, skills, experience and hours per week) to ensure safe and effective service delivery of the proposed service model and activities. The evaluation will favourably weight proposals with consumer/ peer worker positions and/or Aboriginal-identified positions.
1.14	Will the service receive annual CPI escalation?	The Ministry of Health cannot guarantee the application of indexation to grant funding. Organisations should include all anticipated expenses in <i>Schedule D Proposed Grant Budget</i> .
1.15	When will funding commence?	Funding will commence with successful applicants on signing of a grant agreement – estimated July/August.

Questions		Response
Service Requirements		
1.16	Can applicants target subsections of the priority populations?	Yes, applications can be made focussing on a subsection of the priority population. This distinction needs to be clearly outlined in Schedule/s C1/C2 Response to Specific Post-Custodial Support Service Requirements.
1.17	Does opioid agonist treatment (opioid treatment program) need to be accommodated?	Yes. Opioid agonist treatment has a robust evidence base as an effective treatment for opioid use disorder and is strongly protective against overdose and death. Clients requiring opioid agonist treatment (OAT) should be supported to access treatment as needed. Grant applicants are not required to directly provide opioid agonist treatment or dosing in the proposed services.
1.18	What is the preferred length of support?	The preferred length of service support includes three months before release and up to 12 months post release. There is flexibility to enable applicants to propose models of care and activities that respond to the priority population while still enabling individualised care.
Service Delivery		
1.19	Can organisations deliver services across NSW state borders?	No, the service must be located in NSW.
1.20	What service locations are being considered under this grant opportunity?	Distribution of the Grants will consider issues relating to equity of access. Priority will be given to NSW rural and regional locations and areas where large numbers of people return after leaving custody, where there is an absence of existing integrated post-custodial support services and/or other evidence of unmet need. A local needs analysis and/or other evidence to support the need in the location should be demonstrated.
1.21	What evidence of need for a service located in a particular area should be provided?	Applicants are required to outline reasons for proposing services in a particular location under <i>Schedule/s C1/C2 Response to Specific Post-Custodial Support Service Requirements</i> . Applicants should identify local AOD services and services specifically available for people leaving custody where these exist or note their absence.
1.22	Is the Ministry of Health able to release the 'heat mapping' data that has previously been mentioned?	The Ministry of Health is progressing development of an alcohol and other drug (AOD) related harm, risk, and service mapping tool. This information is not yet publicly available. Organisations submitting applications to the Post-Custodial Support Grants are encouraged to respond to requirements on evidence of service need using local knowledge and publicly available information, such as that in HealthStats NSW and the Australian Bureau of Statistics . Organisations submitting applications to the Post-Custodial Support Grants are encouraged to respond to requirements on evidence of service

Questions		Response
		need using local knowledge and publicly available information, such as that in HealthStats NSW and the Australian Bureau of Statistics . https://www.healthstats.nsw.gov.au/#/home https://www.healthstats.nsw.gov.au/ https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics
1.23	Can applications be made for service locations in metropolitan areas?	While rural and regional locations are the priority for the grants, applicants can propose service locations in metropolitan areas based on demonstrated need. Applications for services in rural and regional areas will be favourably weighted.
1.24	How is a regional and rural area defined?	Boundaries for regional and rural locations are defined by the Local Health District boundaries located here https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/lhd/Pages/default.aspx

AOD Post-Custodial Support Grants - Questions taken at Briefings 1 and 2

Briefing one 6/4/23	
1.25	Will the slides be available, or will these written Q&As be uploaded to the website (along with subsequent Q&As)?
Yes, both the slides and the Q and A will be uploaded to the website.	
1.26	Can you clarify the point re not being able to apply for funding for a program if it is already being funded by government, i.e. does this relate to State and Commonwealth funding, does it relate to the specific model and or a specific model in a particular location.
The funding is intended for new or expanded services, not to provide additional funding for existing services. These grants are not intended for covering shortfalls in existing service budgets. Services already funded by government can apply for grants to operate expanded services, improving access to AOD treatment and support.	
1.27	Are there other service delivery grants from the Ice Inquiry that are coming?
Yes, further initiatives will result in new funded services. The Centre will keep the sector informed as we progress with planning new services.	
1.28	Understanding that priority will be given to locations where there is an absence of services currently and for services not already funded by NSW Health, just confirming that applications such as adding FTE to an existing service would not be accepted? However existing providers could propose delivering their model in new locations or adding on a new service offering to their existing service location that is funded by NSW Health?
Yes. The funding is for new services, but these can be provided by existing providers. These grants are not intended for covering shortfalls in existing service budgets. Services already funded by	

government can apply for grants to operate expanded services, improving access to AOD treatment and support.	
1.29	With all the recruitment that will be happening simultaneously as a result of these grants. Will you consider staggered commencement or be flexible to accommodate delays in the establishment phase, and allow extended establishment time and rollover of unspent funds, without risk of losing funding?
Applicants are encouraged to include recruitment timetables and any resulting phase-in of services and expenditure in their applications.	
1.30	Can we do dummy grant applications before the due date and receive feedback before the final application
No, this would not be in line with probity requirements	
Briefing two 11/4/23	
1.31	Are you able to provide contact details of relevant parties at Justice Health NSW etc to discuss proposals
<p>The letter of in-principle support from Justice Health NSW can be requested from the Justice Health Drug and Alcohol Services – Release Planning unit and/or relevant private correctional centre health services if proposing to provide services to Parklea, Clarence or Junee correctional centres.</p> <p>Contact details for all can be found through: Justice Health NSW : Contact Us – Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network (nsw.gov.au)</p>	
1.32	Can you describe the key elements you are looking for in the post-custodial support services
Services should include the following elements: Throughcare commencing up to three months before release and continuing up to 12 months post release; AOD-specific counselling; case management, trauma-informed, culturally-safe, person-centred care; Support to access housing, employment and other health and social services.	
1.33	In relation to post custodial grants we meet all objectives and key elements in this grant but would like clarification on priority populations?
The grant guide states: The target population is people in the criminal justice system who have a history of harmful AOD use or who are at risk of harm from AOD use post-release. Aboriginal people, people from culturally and linguistically diverse communities, pregnant women, young people (18+) and other groups poorly served by the current system are also a priority within this broader group.	
1.34	What is the best way for NGOs to show evidence of need?
<p>Organisations are encouraged to respond to requirements on evidence of service need using local knowledge and publicly available information, such as that in HealthStats NSW, Australian Bureau of Statistics, and AIHW.</p> <p>Applicants are required to outline reasons for proposing services in a particular location under Schedule/s C1/C2 Response to Specific Post-Custodial Support Service Requirements. Applicants should identify local AOD services and services specifically available for people leaving custody where these exist or note their absence.</p>	

1.35	For the Post Custodial Support Grants, would you prefer an Aboriginal Health Impact Statement for the global NGO or a statement specific to this program?
An Aboriginal Impact Statement should be specific to the proposed program rather than global.	
1.36	Can this money be used to enhance current providers who are funded by NSW health?
Essentially the funding is for new services, but these can be provided by existing providers. These grants are not intended for covering shortfalls in existing service budgets. Services already funded by government can apply for grants to operate expanded services, improving access to AOD treatment and support.	
1.37	Are there any strategies in place to ensure equity across the NGO sector to ensure smaller services can be competitive?
Organisations are encouraged to contact their peak bodies for support and advice in preparing their applications.	
1.38	Did an early slide say that they approved by the ED, CAOD? So these do not need to go to the Ministers Office for approval?
All applications will be assessed by an evaluation panel with representatives from the NSW Ministry of Health Centre for Alcohol and Other Drugs and Centre for Aboriginal Health, the Network of Alcohol and Drug Agencies (NADA) and others. Approval of the panel's grant recommendations will be in line with the NSW Health Delegations Manual https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/policies/manuals/Pages/combined-delegations.aspx	
1.39	Is any of this funding for Rural hubs that have previously been referred to?
No those grants are yet to be released, the Hubs will be the subject of a separate process.	
1.40	Are there grant application templates for the various schedules?
Yes, they are on the website https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/aod/Pages/sci-health-response.aspx	