



VIRGINIA OPIOID ABATEMENT AUTHORITY OVERVIEW OF COOPERATIVE PARTNERSHIP AWARDS INVOLVING MULTIPLE CITIES AND/OR COUNTIES AMENDMENTS AND RENEWALS

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1. Beginning in 2022, opioid-related settlement funds are expected to be distributed to the Commonwealth of Virginia by the settlement administrator(s) each year until at least 2039. Each settlement is divided with 30% sent directly to cities & counties, 15% directly to the Commonwealth, and 55% to the Opioid Abatement Fund which is distributed by the Opioid Abatement Authority (OAA) in accordance with *Code of Virginia §2.2-2374*.
 - a. As these revenues are received each year and credited to the Opioid Abatement Fund, 35% of the Fund is allocated for use by Cooperative Partnership projects involving multiple cities and counties.
 - b. These awards are competitive, and awards are prioritized based on:
 - i. Programs or organizations with an established record of success (expansion of existing program or implementation in a new city or county);
 - ii. Programs in communities with a high incidence of opioid use disorder or opioid death rate, relative to population;
 - iii. Programs in historically economically disadvantaged communities;
 - iv. Applications that include a monetary match from or on behalf of the applicant, with higher priority given to an effort with a larger matching amount; and
 - v. Equitable distribution across the Commonwealth
 - c. After the initial fiscal year is approved, the Cooperative Partnership may continue up to four, optional one-year renewals, provided the project remains in compliance with the [terms and conditions](#) required by the OAA and the fiscal agent submits an annual renewal application for the project. Renewals are awarded at the discretion of the Authority and are dependent upon a number of factors including the results and outcomes of the effort and OAA funding constraints.
 - d. The city or county selected as the fiscal agent must be able to separately account for the use of the Cooperative Partnership project from their Individual Distribution from the Opioid Abatement Fund and from their Direct Distribution from the settlement administrators.
 - e. Partnering cities and counties can provide a monetary match from any [combination](#) of their Direct Distribution from the settlement administrator, their Individual Distribution, and “Gold Standard” Incentive from the OAA. Additionally, partnering cities and counties may use other grants, general funds, and/or a contribution provided on their behalf as matching funds.
2. Any renewal and/or amendment application must at minimum maintain the same fiscal agent and partner cities and/or counties from the initial approval or a new application will need to be submitted.
 - a. Amendments to the current year amount may not request additional cooperative grant funds from the OAA.
 - b. Renewals only allow for requesting the upcoming fiscal year’s funds as originally submitted.
 - c. A combination of amendment and renewal can be used to request both.



Overview of the Application Processes for Amendments and Renewals of Cooperative Partnership Projects Involving Multiple Cities and/or Counties (35% of OAA Funds)

There will be an annual grant process that governs awards for the amendment and renewal of Cooperative Partnership projects involving multiple cities and/or counties.

The OAA follows the Commonwealth’s fiscal year (July 1 through June 30).

1. The OAA will accept amendment and renewal applications for Cooperative Partnership projects awards between October 1, 2023, and April 1, 2024, that accomplish the following:
 - a. Confirm the participating cities and/or counties;
 - b. Confirm the city or county selected as the fiscal agent;
 - c. Provide a status update about the approved project
 - d. Confirm the Cooperative Partnership agrees and complies with the [OAA’s terms and conditions](#).
 - e. Note the timetable below for the draft (optional) and final application must be submitted to the OAA for consideration at the subsequent Grants Committee meeting.

For FY2024 Amendments				For FY2025 Amendments and/or Renewal	
October 23, 2023	Optional Draft Review	January 12, 2024	Optional Draft Review	March 15, 2024	Optional Draft Review
November 3, 2023	Applications Due	January 26, 2024	Applications Due	April 1, 2024	Applications Due
December 4, 2023	Grants Committee Meeting	February 23, 2024	Grants Committee Meeting	May 23, 2024	Grants Committee Meeting

2. For all amendments:
 - a. At all times, regardless of any amendment, the Cooperative Partnership must remain in compliance with the OAA’s [terms and conditions](#).
 - b. A Cooperative Partnership may appropriate additional revenue that it receives for any approved project. In this event the OAA shall be notified using forms approved by the OAA.
 - c. A Cooperative Partnership may initiate line-item budget transfers within a project without seeking OAA approval provided the uses of the funds remain compliant with Code of Virginia [§ 2.2-2370](#).
 - d. Current fiscal year (FY2024) amendments confirm the use of all opioid-settlement related funds in the current fiscal year:
 - i. Confirm that the approved project is being implemented or active;
 - ii. Provide updated actual and projected performance measures; and
 - iii. Identify allowable amendments to the current year plan; and
 1. Current fiscal year amendments are limited to requests for:
 - A. Adding partners (this will require an updated [Cooperative Partnership Agreement](#))
 - B. Adding matching funds (this may require an updated [Operational Agreement](#))
 - C. Modifying objectives
 - D. Modifying performance measures
 - iv. Any amendment or renewal must be compliant with the OAA’s [terms and conditions](#);



Overview of Amendment and Renewal of Cooperative Partnership Awards Involving Multiple Cities and/or Counties

- e. Upcoming fiscal year (FY2025) renewals (up to four after the first year) of an approved project:
 - i. Confirm that the approved project is being implemented or active;
 - ii. Provide updated actual and projected performance measures; and
 - iii. Identify any opioid-related funds the partnership plans to carry over from prior years for to the upcoming year;
 - 1. The OAA understands that the exact amount available for carryforward may not be known until the end of the fiscal year. Provide a best estimate for this renewal/amendment application. The exact amount will be due to the OAA on July 15, 2024. The OAA will then determine if a subsequent amendment to any approved renewed and/or amended award will be needed.
 - iv. Identify any amendments that may be needed to the current year plan; and
 - v. Any amendment or renewal must be compliant with the OAA's [terms and conditions](#);
- f. Renewals with amendments allow for the renewal of the project along with amendment to the current and/or next fiscal year from the original submission. Renewals with amendments are also subject to the requirements listed in items 2.d and 2.e above. Allowable amendment requests that may accompany the renewal of the upcoming fiscal year (FY2025) are:
 - i. Adding partners
 - ii. Modifying matching funds
 - iii. Modifying objectives
 - iv. Modifying performance measures
 - v. Requesting Carryforward Amounts
 - vi. Modifying Cooperative Funds
- g. Or, allow for the application for a new project (this would include those projects that have exhausted the 4 renewal years).

General Considerations

1. Once a Cooperative Partnership has amended and/or renewed a project, the partnership may continue the same project for up to four subsequent years after the initial approval, as long as the partnership remains in compliance with the [terms and conditions](#) required by the OAA. Amendments and renewals are subject to approval by the OAA.
2. It is possible, especially during the early years of a project, that a partnership intends to utilize the fiscal agent's procurement process and needs to complete that process in order to provide budget projections as part of the application process. In that event, the fiscal agent may submit an amendment and/or renewal with the expected total amount for the project, and if the actual cost of the service requires a subsequent budget amendment, the OAA will work with the fiscal agent to make that amendment.
3. Beginning in FY2025, the OAA will require the fiscal agent repay any unencumbered balances by September 1 of the following fiscal year, unless a submitted carryover request meets the following:
 - a. The carry-over was planned and submitted as part of the approved project budget, or
 - b. The city or county is making reasonable and measurable progress to implement its project(s) as described in the approved proposal; and
 - i. The Project Timeline Workbook will be used to document reasonable and measurable progress.
 - c. The Cooperative Partnership remains in compliance with the [terms and conditions](#) of the OAA.



Renewal of OAA Individual Distribution and/or “Gold Standard” Incentive for Cooperative Partnership Projects with Multiple Cities and/or Counties

Cities and counties have the option to renew appropriated portions of their Individual Distribution and/or “Gold Standard” Incentive to a Cooperative Partnership project. Cities and counties do not have to submit an Individual Distribution renewal application to appropriate the Individual Distribution to a Cooperative Project. The Cooperative Partnership Renewal application should document the commitment and amount for any cities and or counties that elect to renew the Individual Distribution and/or “Gold Standard” Incentive to the cooperative project. If applying to use the “Gold Standard” Incentive in both an Individual Distribution and a Cooperative Partnership project(s), only one “Gold Standard” Incentive application is needed. If a city or county participated in the incentive program in FY2023 or FY2024 the updated application will need to be submitted during this application cycle, however no additional “Gold Standard” applications are needed for future cycles.

Evaluation Criteria

Applications will be evaluated on how they meet the criteria laid out in the following documents:

1. The [terms and conditions](#) of this funding opportunity
2. The conditions, restrictions, and priorities enumerated in *Code of Virginia §2.2-2370*
 - a. Specifically, grant applications that accomplish the following:
 - i. Collaborate with an existing program or organization that has an established record of success treating, preventing, or reducing opioid use disorder or the misuse of opioids;
 - ii. Treat, prevent, or reduce opioid use disorder or the misuse of opioids in a community with a high incidence of opioid use disorder or opioid death rate, relative to population;
 - iii. Treat, prevent, or reduce opioid use disorder or the misuse of opioids in a historically economically disadvantaged community; or
 - iv. Include a monetary match from or on behalf of the applicant, with higher priority given to an effort with a larger matching amount.
3. The allowable uses under each settlement agreement
 - a. Example: [Exhibit E from Distributors and Janssen Settlements](#)
4. Extent to which the proposed cooperative project identifies and addresses specific gaps;
5. Projects that remove barriers to access or make services more accessible to high-risk or difficult to serve individuals;
6. Projects that specifically serve the needs of pregnant and nursing mothers and children;
7. The prospective return on financial investment offered by the cooperative project;
8. Cooperative Partnership projects will be awarded in a manner that distributes funds equitably among all community service board regions of the Commonwealth.