

**GIFA 24-05 Recovery Support Services
Questions and Answers 2024.11.08**

All questions must be emailed to the Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs (DDAP) Grants Management Account at RA-DAGrantsMgmt@PA.GOV.

ID	GIFA 24-05 Recovery Support Services Question and Answer
1	<p>Regarding GIFA 24-05 Recovery Support Services, Diverse Population Engagement: Does this funding opportunity seek applicants that serve a wide range of populations rather than a very specific segment of the population (i.e. pregnant and parenting women with SUD/OD)?</p> <p>Please see page 2 of the GIFA announcement under Project Summary for further information.</p> <p>DDAP is accepting applications for organizations that will expand or enhance RSS to individuals in recovery from opioid use disorder (OUD) and other concurrent substance use disorder (SUD).</p>
2	<p>Can you confirm if this RFP requires applicants to have 2 years of treatment experience but not be DDAP licensed? This seems contradictory to the goal of seeking experienced treatment providers.</p> <p>See page 5 of the GIFA Announcement under Eligible Applicant.</p> <p>Applicant must have at least two years of experience as of July 1, 2024 providing RSS and demonstrate the capacity to provide RSS to individuals in recovery from OUD and other concurrent SUD. Applicants that do not meet this requirement will not be considered.</p>
3	<p>Can a county apply to expand Treatment Courts and/or establish a Re-entry Services Center?</p> <p>See page 2 of the GIFA Announcement under Project Summary.</p> <p>DDAP is accepting applications for organizations that will expand or enhance RSS to individuals in recovery from OUD and other concurrent SUD. RSS are non-clinical services that assist individuals in recovery in gaining the skills and resources needed to initiate, maintain and sustain long-term recovery. Recovery support programs offer services such as care coordination, recovery coaching, spiritual counseling, group support, supported employment / training, transportation and assistance with accessing recovery housing. RSS are not a substitute for clinical services. Recovery support programs are person-centered and self-directed allowing for the individual in recovery the choice of provider.</p>
4	<p>Page 1, Eligible Applicant: “Applicant must have at least two years of experience as of July 1, 2024 providing RSS and demonstrate the capacity to provide RSS to individuals in recovery from OUD and other concurrent SUD”.</p> <p>Can you confirm whether this requirement is specific to a discrete service or whether experience providing the elements of RSS (i.e. care coordination, recovery coaching, spiritual counseling, group support, etc.) through complementary services would meet this requirement?</p> <p>Please see response to question #2.</p>

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5	<p>Page 1, Eligible Applicant: “Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs (DDAP)-licensed treatment providers are not eligible to apply under this funding announcement”.</p> <p>Can you confirm whether this applies to an entire legal entity for the specific program? i.e. if a provider has an SUD program that is DDAP licensed but also has programs that are not DDAP licensed, would they be eligible to apply?</p> <p>DDAP - licensed treatment providers are not eligible to apply under this funding announcement.</p>
6	<p>Page 2, Project Summary: “DDAP is accepting applications for organizations that will expand or enhance RSS to individuals in recovery from OUD and other concurrent SUD.”</p> <p>Is there a specific RSS Model required?</p> <p>The implementation of a specific RSS Model is not required under this RSS. However, applicants need to identify how the four major dimension of recovery as defined by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) will be addressed. The four major dimension that support a life in recovery are health, home, purpose, and community.</p> <p>Recovery and Recovery Support SAMHSA</p>
7	<p>Page 9, Eligible Program Activities and Expenses</p> <p>Can funds be used to support existing nonbillable positions?</p> <p>Yes, funding can be used to support personnel costs and include nonbillable positions as long as the positions support the project.</p>
8	<p>Page 2 “the DDAP will score and make recommendations to fund two applicants located in Philadelphia County, two applicants located in Allegheny County and two applicants from the remaining counties located within Pennsylvania.”</p> <p>Are agencies able to submit multiple applications for different areas?</p> <p>Yes, applicants can list more than one county.</p>
9	<p>Does the budget need to be broken out by all four time periods?</p> <p>Yes.</p>
10	<p>Within the section of the GIFA regarding eligible applicants, are DDAP-licensed providers eligible to serve as a subcontractor?</p> <p>Applicants can choose who they will subcontract with and the types of services to be provided by each subcontractor.</p>

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11	<p>I wanted to check if this opportunity is open to private businesses, not just nonprofit organizations?</p> <p>Applicant eligibility is described on page 1 under “Eligible Applicants.”</p> <p>Applicant must have at least two years of experience as of July 1, 2024 providing RSS and demonstrate the capacity to provide RSS to individuals in recovery from OUD and other concurrent SUD.</p> <p>Single County Authorities (SCAs) are not eligible to apply under this funding announcement.</p> <p>DDAP - licensed treatment providers are not eligible to apply under this funding announcement.</p>
12	<p>We are a peer-to-peer organization, but I wanted to confirm that we qualify under the grant criteria for RSS before we submit for future grants. We believe we fall into the two categories highlighted in yellow below. Can you confirm?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peer-led recovery educational workshops, events, training, and activities using structured curriculum related to addiction and recovery, life skills, and job skills; • Recovery health and wellness educational events, culturally based recovery practices, art recovery, recovery social support and inclusion activities; <p>Please see response to question #11.</p>
13	<p>The Eligibility information in GIFA 24-05 that DDAP licensed treatment providers are not eligible to apply under this funding announcement. In GIFA 23-01 for the Regional Recovery Hubs, the following was the eligibility requirement about this: Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs (DDAP) licensed treatment providers who are a nonprofit organization shall demonstrate the ability to meet the deliverables of this GIFA separate and distinct from the clinical treatment services offered. And in GIFA 21-01 for Recovery Community Support Services, the eligibility was worded: Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs (DDAP) licensed treatment providers are eligible to apply. However, licensed treatment providers shall be able to demonstrate that the recovery support services are a separate service from the clinical programming offered under their license.</p> <p>Would DDAP consider using the same distinctions used in the previous GIFAs who are interested in applying for this GIFA 24-05 opportunity? If so, would an organization with an Outpatient Treatment license for programming in a different county that the proposed Recovery Support Services program be eligible to apply if the distinctions described in the previous GIFA wording are met?</p>

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	Please see response to question #5.
14	<p>The GIFA 24-05 announcement email dated October 18, 2024, states that DDAP will select two grantees located in Philadelphia, two grantees located in Allegheny County and two grantees from the remaining 19 qualifying counties located within Pennsylvania with a crude death rate higher than the state average. If awarded a grant for a particular county, will the provider be able to serve participants (and collect data) for participants in neighboring counties?</p> <p>Please see response to question #8.</p>
15	<p>The GIFA 24-05 section on Eligible Program Activities and Expenses states that Funding may not supplant/replace federal, state, or local funds that would otherwise be available to provide for program-related services. DDAP funding may be used in addition to other funds that are made available for services. Given that, should grantees be ensuring that any Recovery Support Services that are reimbursable by Health Choices/Managed Care Organizations be billed accordingly? If so, how should that potential program income be included in the proposed budget?</p> <p>RSS that are reimbursed by Health Choices/Managed Care Organizations should continue to be billed accordingly if awarded under the RSS GIFA therefore, the proposed budget should include non-billable activities.</p>
16	<p>If an organization has applied for an SAM number but has not yet received it, can they still apply?</p> <p>Yes, organizations can apply prior to receiving the SAM number.</p>
17	<p>Are rent expenses for an office or a client center eligible?</p> <p>Yes, rental expenses can include space for support staff and clients associated with the RSS GIFA.</p>
18	<p>What is the expected time frame from submission of invoices to payment?</p> <p>Invoices are due the last day of each month for the previous month and any errors associated with the invoice need to be resolved prior to the invoice being submitted for payment however, once the invoice is submitted for payment it can take up to 30 days for a grantee to receive payment.</p>

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19	<p>Is the expectation that the grantee find other funding to hire and train staff prior to the start date?</p> <p>The expectation is that all applicants have capacity to begin implementing the RSS GIFA by July 1, 2025.</p>
20	<p>Does being prepared to start 100% on the start date mean that sufficient staff for the maximum expected number of clients to be served is available on day one?</p> <p>Beginning on July 1, 2025 all applicants awarded under the RSS GIFA need to have the staffing and resources in place to perform or refer for 100 percent of the services under the RSS GIFA.</p>
21	<p>In the eligible applicant section, it says " applicant must have at least two years of experience as of July 1,2024 providing RSS and demonstrate the capacity to provide RSS to individuals in recovery from OUD and other concurrent SUD." What type of document would DDAP like to see to demonstrate the providers experience?</p> <p>The documentation to confirm the two years of experience providing RSS can include letters of support, SCA statements, licenses, and federal and state registration/tax documents. All documentation provided should include dates when RSS were provided to confirm the minimum of two years of experience.</p>
22	<p>If a program is proposing services in a county that they do not have a DDAP license, but have a DDAP license in a different county, are they able to apply for this grant?</p> <p>Please see response to question #5.</p>
23	<p>For GIFA 24-05, the eligibility requirements state licensed treatment providers are ineligible. Would having a DDAP outpatient treatment license in one county prevent the agency from subcontracting with another organization in a different county?</p> <p>Please see response to questions #5 and #10.</p>
24	<p>How will transportation costs for staff and clients be reimbursed?</p> <p>Transportation costs to connect an individual to treatment within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is an allowable expense. Transportation can include fuel cards if the cards can be used for fuel only. Cards from organizations that can be used for other purchases are not an allowable expense. Funds can be utilized to purchase bus passes as well.</p>

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	The travel category includes anticipated expenditures for travel including mileage, hotels, and subsistence for staff personnel. Mileage between sites for staff personnel is an allowable expense.
25	<p>Will vehicle costs including purchase, insurance, upkeep, be covered or will everything be covered by mileage?</p> <p>Please see response to question #24.</p>