

**Adolescent Behavioral Health Funding Opportunity – Updated February 2018
Frequently Asked Questions**

1. Are projects that are shorter or longer than one-year going to be considered?

We are generally looking to support projects for 12 months, although timelines can vary depending on the project or organization needs. The maximum timeframe we will consider supporting is 18 months.

2. What is the timeline for receiving a grant?

The review process will take 3-4 months. Proposals received for the March deadline will receive notification in June and grants that are approved will start July 2018.

3. Must an eligible organization specifically include school-based work?

No, an organization can also be a community provider (e.g., community mental health center, community health center, nonprofit organization) that has a history of providing behavioral health services to adolescents and is embedded within the system of supports in the community in a meaningful way.

4. If Caring for Colorado received \$1 million in requests in October, will all funds be allocated then?

No, funds will be allocated across the two deadlines.

5. What about organizations that are doing direct service work, but want to expand work into schools? Would that be eligible?

Yes. Organizations with a history of providing behavioral health services to adolescents wanting to expand work are eligible; however, please note that projects requiring ongoing funding from the foundation following the one-time opportunity will not be considered.

6. Do you have operating definitions for prevention efforts versus behavioral health treatment services in the continuum?

We are defining prevention and early intervention efforts as comprehensive programming that aims to build resilience and coping in adolescents, reduce risk-taking and harmful behaviors, strengthen family units, and curtail further development of mental health issues that lead to poorer long-term outcomes, particularly among disproportionately vulnerable groups.

Organizations that are leading these types of efforts and are connected to the ecosystem of services (schools, health, mental health centers) reaching adolescents in the community will be considered.

This funding opportunity will not support efforts focused on behavioral health treatment services, including individual or group therapy.

7. Are charter schools eligible for funding?

Yes. Any school or district with a history of providing behavioral health or prevention programs will be considered. New schools in the first year of operations are not eligible for funding.

8. Are state entities eligible for funding?

Yes. State and local public agencies with strong community connections and a history of serving youth are eligible. Additionally, applicants that represent a partnership between agencies (i.e. state and nonprofit) are eligible. We would recommend including a clear explanation of the reasoning for the partnership and highlighting the connection to youth.

9. Will you consider applications from “national” organizations who are doing local work in Colorado with community partners?

No, unfortunately, our by-laws preclude us from granting funds to an organization that is not based in Colorado. A local organization may apply for work done in partnership with a national organization. Such proposals should outline the evidence of deep, local community/national partnership experience, including local community buy-in and capacity to do the work.

10. Will BOCES (Board of Cooperative Educational Services) be eligible for support?

Yes. Again, we are looking for strong community partnerships across entities where an intermediary might be involved.

11. If an organization currently has grant funding from CFC does that impact eligibility for this ABH funding opportunity? Does receiving ABH dollars impact future funding?

No. We have 4 primary funding areas: Community Health, Healthy Children and Youth, Mental Health, and Oral Health. If your organization has a grant in one of these other funding areas, you are not precluded from applying for the Adolescent Behavioral Health funding opportunity. If your organization receives a grant through this funding opportunity, you are eligible to apply for funding for other projects under CFC's other funding areas.

12. Would the foundation support setting up a system to dive deeper into data that informs work with adolescents?

It depends on the need and the value add of such a project. The funding opportunity considers projects for planning, assessment, and evaluation. For data specific projects, we recommend you contact us to discuss your needs and approach.

13. Will you consider organizations that work specifically with adolescents with disabilities (i.e. autism) or complex medical needs?

Yes, the foundation is interested in supporting all populations, particularly those who may experience greater barriers to accessing services. Projects must focus on prevention and early intervention as it relates to behavioral health. Individual or group therapy will not be supported.

14. What level of specificity are you looking for in the narrative? Is it okay to not have all the components flushed out yet?

Caring for Colorado has a collaborative grantmaking process that includes site visits for applications being considered. We use site visits and ongoing dialogue to further refine the goals of the project and present a concrete plan to our Board. The key components of the project should be thought out at the time a proposal is submitted. If the proposal is still lacking in needed detail as the review process concludes, we may consider the project ineligible for funding.

15. Is a statewide scan of adolescent behavioral needs eligible?

No. CFC conducted an analysis of CCAR data, and uses the statewide data and knowledge available such as the Healthy Kids Colorado Survey and reporting from the Colorado Health Institute. An action-oriented strategic planning process to address the specific needs of a certain region or community may be considered.

16. Could a grant support technical assistance or capacity building for the organization?

Yes, but it would need to be directly tied to adolescent behavioral health and behavioral health programming as opposed to broad organizational capacity building.

17. Do programs around social emotional development fit within the priorities?

These will be considered. We are using a broad definition of behavioral health, so applications across the spectrum of needs will be considered including social emotional curriculums focused on promotion and prevention.

18. Is bullying prevention an acceptable program for this funding?

If there is a bullying prevention program that is evidence-based and includes elements of mental health promotion and prevention, it may be generally aligned with the funding priority.

19. Given the focus on sustainability, if applicants ask is for a planning period for a multi-year project and no other funding had been designated yet, would the applicant be disqualified?

Applicants applying for planning dollars are encouraged to outline a strong plan for how programs can or may be sustained with alternative sources following the grant period, including resources within organizations and outside funding opportunities.

20. Does Caring for Colorado want funds to focus on specific groups of students? How high on your funding priorities would it be to fund a school that has diverse class representation among students and families?

The application will ask potential partners to outline the needs present in their communities and we expect those needs will vary. We are prioritizing applications that will address inequities faced by students who experience the greatest barriers to behavioral health due to one or more economic and social factors.

21. In terms of focusing on a specific population, would a high need population be a higher priority than the entire population served?

We anticipate funding proposals that include both levels of programming – aimed at an entire school *OR* aimed at addressing the specific needs of a high need population within that school. In either case, we will prioritize applications that specifically address inequities faced by students who experience the greatest barriers due to one or more economic and social factors.

22. Are programs that serve a subset of the age range eligible? For example, a program that serves 6-12-year olds?

Yes. This opportunity focuses on youth ages 10-18; however, we do not require you to serve that entire age range.

23. Is it allowable to fund a position or part of a position to the support the coordination of the grant?

Yes. We understand that staff time to coordinate and support projects may be needed. As far as indirect costs, we likely won't support indirect given the time-limited nature of the opportunity.

24. If an organization is currently registered in the Caring for Colorado grant application system, does that work for this opportunity?

Yes. Organizations do not need to create another account for this opportunity.

25. Will you be asking for projected project outcomes in the application?

Details regarding the goals, objectives and intended outcomes of projects/programs are woven into the CFC application; the outcomes to be reported will vary based on what the funding is supporting.

26. Is there any match required?

No. We do encourage applicants to discuss in-kind and/or other funding that supports the work that you will pursue.

27. Talk about parent engagement and how that looks?

Programs aiming to strengthen youth relationships with caregivers, parents, and/or other adults will be considered.

28. If applying for a partnership/collaborative project, is the limit \$100,000 per organization or per project?

The limit of \$100,000 is per project. Collaborations are to submit one application for one award that will not exceed \$100,000.

29. Are rural organizations a priority?

As a statewide grantmaker, we are committed to funding projects across Colorado and seek to have rural communities represented under all CFC funding priorities, including Adolescent Behavioral Health.