

# Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare Opioid Settlement Funds Grant Application Requirements September 2025

#### Overview

Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare has Opioid Settlement Funds available to finance opioid abatement strategies, as outlined in Exhibit E of the National Opioid Settlement Agreement (Attachment A). Approximately **\$2.5 million** is currently available to be distributed through this grant application process.

Approved awards will be considered for projects up to two years in duration. Grant funding may be eligible for renewal after the initial award period, contingent on demonstrated need, satisfactory progress, and outcome measurements. All approved funding will be awarded on an expense-based reimbursement basis. Selected applicants will be required to submit invoices to Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare as prescribed.

Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare reserves the right to negotiate specific deliverables and associated costs with selected respondents.

#### **Areas of Interest**

Through a planning process with community stakeholders, Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare has identified the following five priority areas where opioid settlement funds may be utilized. Projects or services seeking funding must align with one of these categories and adhere to the guidelines in Exhibit E of the National Opioid Settlement Agreement (Attachment A).

- Awareness, Education, and Prevention
- Community Connection and Support
- Enhanced Crisis Response
- Expanded Access to Treatment Services
- Provision of Wrap-Around Services, Such as Housing and Transportation

If an agency or organization is requesting funding for multiple services or activities across one or more areas of interest, a separate application form must be submitted for each individual project.

### **Eligibility and Restrictions**

Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- 1. Be a public or private organization providing services or activities in one of the following counties: Cass, Dodge, Douglas, Sarpy, or Washington.
- 2. Be a legal entity that is already established and operating with paid personnel.
- 3. Have a licensed clinician, if applicable.
- 4. Possess appropriate state licensure and credentialing by applicable Nebraska Departments, Divisions, or Boards, as approved by NE DHHS. Alternatively, the applicant must have a plan to achieve such licensure/credentialing before the agreement is awarded, if applicable.
- 5. Be able to provide services or activities within the Region's five-county geographical area.
- 6. Agree to work with Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare staff to provide data and outcome measurements.
- 7. Enter into a contract to obligate approved funds by June 30, 2026.
- 8. Observe the Region 6 grant year (July 1 June 30) and follow the monthly reimbursement billing cycle.
  - 1. Single-year projects will bill monthly for the period July 1, 2026 June 30, 2027.
  - 2. Two-year projects will bill monthly for the period July 1, 2026 June 30, 2028.

If the proposed service has a current service definition, it must meet the Clinical Criteria for an identified level of care and the Financial Eligibility Criteria set by DHHS. Service recipients must be Nebraska residents and U.S. Citizens/Qualified Aliens.

This grant application is a competitive selection process where cost is not the sole determining factor. Applications must be filled out completely and received with all requested materials and information as identified in this document. Incomplete applications will not be considered for funding.

Grant application submissions must include the following:

- Opioid Settlement Funds Grant Application Form
- Opioid Settlement Funds Budget Form, BH20 (Attachment B)
  - o If submitting a two-year project, please include one Budget Form for **each** fiscal year.

Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare reserves the right to request further information from respondents after the application deadline if necessary for the evaluation of funding allocation.

#### **Schedule of Events**

| Event  | Date               |
|--|--------------------|
| Release of Request for Grant Applications (10:00 a.m. CST) | September 29, 2025 |
| Applications Due to Region 6 (4:00 p.m. CST)               | October 30, 2025   |

| Event  | Date                  |
|--|-----------------------|
| Grant Review Committee Meets (Interviews conducted if needed)  | November 5 – 21, 2025 |
| Review and Recommendations of Grant Applications by Behavioral Health Advisory Committee                                     | December 3, 2025      |
| Approval of Selected Applications by Region 6 Governing Board*   | December 10, 2025     |
| Written Allocation Announcements of Grant Funding Disseminated by Regional Governing Board, and Contract Negotiations Begin* | December 11, 2025     |
| *Dates are subject to change   |                       |

### **Application Deadline**

The due date for receiving grant applications is **October 30, 2025**. Applications must be received in the Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare office by **4:00 p.m.** (CST).

All applications must include **15 copies** and be submitted on 8 ½" x 11" paper with a minimum 10-point font. Pages should be numbered consecutively and stapled or clipped in the upper left-hand corner. Applications may be double-sided. In addition, an electronic copy of the complete application must be emailed to Tad Spencer at **tspencer@regionsix.com** by the deadline. Application narratives cannot exceed the provided text box.

Applications must be sent or delivered to:
Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare
4715 S. 132nd Street
Omaha, NE 68137
Attention: Tad Spencer

### **Rejection of Applications**

Before the Review Committee evaluates the applications, a specific review of each submission will be completed to ensure it follows the basic standards for consideration. Reasons for rejection at this stage include:

- 1. The application was not received by the deadline or at the specified location.
- 2. The application was not submitted on 8 ½" x 11" paper, used a font smaller than 10-point, was not numbered consecutively, or was not stapled or clipped in the upper left-hand corner.
- 3. Fifteen physical copies and one electronic copy, in the specified format, were not received.
- 4. The application narratives exceeded the provided text box.

- 5. The application was incomplete, or the appropriate Region 6 application form was not used.
- 6. The budget form was not included or was incomplete.
- 7. The agency or organization submitted a single application form requesting funding for multiple areas of interest, projects, or services/activities.

Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare retains the right to reject any and all applications. The Regional Governing Board will provide written notice to the respondent whose application was rejected.

### **Limits on Communication**

After the September 29, 2025, release of the grant application, no verbal statements made by individual members of the Behavioral Health Advisory Committee, Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare personnel, or members of the Review Committee shall be binding for the Regional Governing Board. Questions regarding the grant application must be submitted **in writing** to be answered.

Applicants may submit written questions to Tad Spencer, Manager of System Initiatives, at **tspencer@regionsix.com**. Responses to all written questions will be provided directly to the person who submitted the question and then posted on the Region 6 website at **regionsix.com**. Answers to common questions are posted on the website. Please review those prior to submitting a new question.

Apart from the written communication outlined above, prospective applicants are prohibited from contacting Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare personnel, Behavioral Health Advisory Committee members, and/or Regional Governing Board members regarding the application process during the review period and until application determinations are made and announced.

If there are changes or important interpretations to be communicated to prospective applicants before the application due date, those will be posted on the Region 6 website. It is the responsibility of the agency or organization submitting an application to monitor the website for additional communication.

### **Grant Application Review Process**

A review committee will independently evaluate each application. This committee may include, but is not limited to, consumers, representatives of the Behavioral Health Advisory Committee, the Department of Health and Human Services, Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare staff, and other interested stakeholders.

Review committee names and any working documents, including applicant scores, will not be made public or released to individual applicants. Recommendations from the review committee

will be taken to Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare's Advisory Committee for approval before being forwarded to the Regional Governing Board for final determination.

## **Announcement of Funding Allocations**

Applicants will be notified of the final funding decisions. All decisions regarding funding allocations will be made on **December 11**, **2025**\* by the Regional Governing Board.

<sup>\*</sup>Date is subject to change.