

Frequently Asked Questions about the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Site-based and Training and Technical Assistance Grant Programs



BJA
Bureau of Justice Assistance
U.S. Department of Justice

General Questions about the FY 2017 Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Grant Programs

What is the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act?

Signed into law on July 22, 2016, the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA) is the first major federal substance use disorder treatment and recovery legislation in 40 years and the most comprehensive effort to address the opioid epidemic to date. CARA encompasses the six pillars necessary for a coordinated response:

- Prevention
- Treatment
- Recovery
- Law enforcement
- Criminal justice reform
- Overdose reversal

CARA establishes a comprehensive, coordinated, and balanced strategy through enhanced grant programs that expand prevention and education efforts while also promoting treatment and recovery.

What is OJP's role in implementing CARA?

OJP is responsible for overseeing the administration of BJA's Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Grant Program, which CARA created.

Will there be only one BJA solicitation announced for CARA, or will there be additional solicitations for FY 2017?

The CARA funding appropriated to the U.S. Department of Justice in the first FY 2017 continuing resolution has been released in two solicitations: the [Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Site-based Program Solicitation](#) and the [Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Program \(COAP\) Training and Technical Assistance \(TTA\) Program Solicitation](#). The Harold Rogers Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) has been incorporated into the FY 2017 Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Site-based Program solicitation as a stand-alone category of funding.

In FY 2017, BJA is again offering individual solicitations for Drug Courts and Veterans Treatment Courts, Residential Substance Abuse Treatment, Smart Policing, Smart Prosecution, and Second Chance Act reentry initiatives. These other solicitations may be relevant to potential applicants seeking to implement specific drug-related strategies. Eligible applicants are encouraged to review these other solicitations as they are released. Funding for these solicitations is based on the availability of appropriations in the FY 2017 budget.

How can potential applicants plan and prepare for applying?

To prepare for the CARA solicitation, potential applicants are encouraged to form multidisciplinary teams, or leverage existing planning bodies, and identify comprehensive strategies to develop, implement, or expand treatment diversion and alternative to incarceration programs. Potential applicants are encouraged to include representatives from the following agencies on their planning teams: public health staff; substance use treatment providers; law enforcement; pretrial adult probation and parole; juvenile probation; judges from the adult, juvenile, family, tribal, and problem-solving courts; child welfare; public health; corrections administrators; nonprofit organizations that provide wrap-around services; and persons in recovery. BJA also encourages potential applicants to leverage existing resources where possible.

When will BJA's Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Grant Program awards be announced?

Awards will be announced by September 30, 2017, with funds available after October 1, 2017.

Who should I contact for CARA-related questions?

If you are an applicant with a question about the solicitation, please contact the National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS) Response Center: toll free at 800-851-3420; via e-mail at grants@ncjrs.gov; or web chat at <https://webcontact.ncjrs.gov/ncjchat/chat.jsp>. The NCJRS Response Center hours of operation are 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday, and 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. ET on the solicitation close date.

If you require technical assistance with submitting an application, please contact the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 800-518-4726 or 606-545-5035, or via e-mail at support@grants.gov. The Grants.gov Support Hotline operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except on federal holidays.

If you are a congressional staff member, please direct CARA-related questions to Sabrina N. Scott at 202-616-1731 or Sabrina.N.Scott@usdoj.gov. Please note that this contact is for congressional staff members only.

Specific Questions about the FY 2017 Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Site-based Program

Who is eligible to apply for BJA's Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Site-based Program?

Eligibility varies by funding category. Depending on the category, eligible applicants may include state agencies, units of local government, and federally recognized Native American and Alaskan tribal governments (as determined by the Secretary of the Interior). BJA welcomes applications that involve

two or more entities, including treatment providers and other not-for-profit agencies, and regional applications that propose to carry out the funded federal award activities; however, one eligible entity must be the applicant, and the other(s) must be proposed as subrecipient(s).

May the applicant selected for one category also serve as a subrecipient in another Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Site-based Program category?

Applicants are free to submit applications under more than one category of the Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Site-based Program solicitation in which they are either the applicant and/or a proposed subrecipient.

What funding will be provided under BJA's Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Site-based Program solicitation?

[The Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Site-based Program](#) is designed to develop systemwide initiatives for promoting substance misuse treatment and recovery support services through innovative approaches and evidence-based strategies. The program encourages comprehensive, data-driven, and cross-system planning and collaboration among stakeholders, from law enforcement and court officials to healthcare providers and PDMPs.

BJA's Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Site-based Program solicitation contains six categories of funding. The funding categories include:

- Category 1: Overdose Outreach Projects
- Category 2: Technology-assisted Treatment Projects
- Category 3: System-level Diversion and Alternative to Incarceration Projects
- Category 4: Statewide Planning, Coordination, and Implementation Projects
- Category 5: Harold Rogers PDMP Implementation and Enhancement Projects
- Category 6: Data-driven Responses to Prescription Drug Misuse

The length of the award, funding amounts, and eligibility varies by category. Please review the solicitation for additional details. Applicants must register with [Grants.gov](#) prior to submitting an application. The application deadline is 11:59 p.m. ET on April 25, 2017. Applicants are strongly urged to apply in advance of the deadline.

Under Category 1, is it allowable to use the funds for law enforcement training related to overdoses?

Yes, law enforcement training related to overdoses is an allowable use of funds for Category 1.

How can I learn more about the Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Site-based Program solicitation?

On February 28, 2017, the Addiction Policy Forum, along with numerous national partners, is hosting a CARA implementation conference designed for states, counties, cities, tribes, law enforcement, and other agencies applying for BJA's Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Site-based Program. This free event will be held in Washington, D.C., from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET at the Washington Marriott Wardman Park. The event will be livestreamed if interested parties cannot attend in person. Registration is required and is available [here](#). As part of the agenda, BJA staff will review the solicitation and funding categories. This event is designed to promote the use of research and evaluation in the development and implementation of comprehensive strategies designed to address opioid abuse in the United States.

In addition, BJA will host a webinar to review the Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Site-based Program solicitation on Wednesday, February 22, 2017 at 3:30 p.m. ET. You can register for the webinar [here](#).

Specific Questions about the FY 2017 COAP TTA Grant Program

May the applicant selected as the Category A provider also serve as a subrecipient in other COAP TTA categories?

Applicants are free to submit applications under more than one category of the COAP TTA solicitation in which they are either the applicant and/or a proposed subrecipient. As noted in the solicitation, the agency selected as the Category A COAP Network TTA provider will not be selected to serve as the TTA provider for other COAP TTA categories (Categories B-D). It is BJA's preference that the applicant selected in Category A not be a subrecipient in Categories B-D. Applicants for Categories B-D that propose as subrecipients any organizations that have applied directly for Category A may consider including statements of intention regarding whether the proposed subrecipient would withdraw should they be chosen as the Category A recipient, and, if so, how any void left by the withdrawal would be filled.

How can I learn more about the COAP TTA Program solicitation?

You can register [here](#) for the COAP TTA Program webinar, to be held on Wednesday, February 22, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. ET. The COAP TTA Program is designed for applicants interested in delivering nationwide training and technical assistance. The COAP TTA Program solicitation is not designed for individual jurisdictions interested in receiving funding, training, or technical assistance from BJA.

Applicants must register with [Grants.gov](#) prior to submitting an application. The application deadline is 11:59 p.m. ET on April 25, 2017. Applicants are strongly urged to apply in advance of the deadline.

Does BJA intend for the Category D: Harold Rogers PDMP TTA provider to maintain an online PDMP Resource Center separate from the Category A TTA Coordination provider?

Yes, BJA intends for the Category D PDMP TTA provider to maintain an online PDMP Resource Center that is distinct from the broader COAP web site.