



**DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH CARE SERVICES**

## **Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative**

### **Evidence-Based and Community-Defined Evidence Practices Grant Program**

#### **Request for Application Round One: Parent and Caregiver Support Programs and Practices**

#### **Frequently Asked Questions**

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## PURPOSE

The purpose of this document is to answer frequently asked questions (FAQ) about the Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI) Evidence-Based and Community-Defined Evidence Practices (EBP and/or CDEP) Grant Program, Request for Application (RFA) Round One: Parent and Caregiver Support Programs and Practices.

## BACKGROUND

Authorized as part of the 2021 Budget Act, the Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative is a multi-year, multi-department package of investments that reimagines the systems that support behavioral health and wellness for all of California’s children, youth, and their families. Efforts focus on promoting social and emotional well-being; preventing behavioral health challenges; and providing equitable, appropriate, timely, and accessible services for emerging and existing behavioral health needs for children and youth ages 0-25. The \$4.7 billion investment of state General Funds for the CYBHI will improve access to, and the quality of, behavioral health services for all children and youth in California, regardless of payer.

As part of the CYBHI, the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) released a [RFA](#) on December 1, 2022, seeking proposals for the first round of grant funding (totaling \$30 million) to scale specified EBPs and CDEPs throughout the state. Interested parties are encouraged to apply for funding using [this application form](#) and to submit by January 31, 2023, at 5 p.m.

For the first round of EBP and CDEP grant funding, DHCS seeks proposals from individuals, organizations, and agencies to scale parent and caregiver support and training services offered to parents, caregivers, and children and youth with emerging or existing mental health and/or substance use disorders. This RFA details the grant parameters and requirements for Round One: Parent and Caregiver Support Programs and Practices. DHCS developed a [Grant Strategy Overview document](#) to highlight its overall strategy for scaling EBPs and CDEPs across multiple funding rounds.



In Round One, DHCS seeks to promote wellbeing for parents/caregivers and to improve their ability to support positive social and emotional development for children/youth with, or at risk of, developing behavioral health conditions. Specifically, this grant funding round aims to:

- Strengthen positive parenting practices (e.g., skills and strategies that help support the healthy development of children and youth);
- Improve emotional challenges (e.g., anxiety), behavioral challenges (e.g., self-regulation, noncompliance) commonly experienced in early childhood;
- Promote child social and emotional development;
- Strengthen child and parent/caregiver relationships, family dynamics, and parent/caregiver involvement;
- Improve the availability and sustainability of services for pregnant and parenting people, mothers, fathers, caregivers, and children and youth; and
- Reduce health disparities through improving equitable access to services for parents, caregivers, and children in California that are culturally and linguistically responsive to the needs of the priority populations.

For more information about the RFA and DHCS' strategy for scaling EBPs and CDEPs please see our [EBP and CDEP Grants page](#). If you have any questions about the RFA, please contact DHCS at [CYBHI@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:CYBHI@dhcs.ca.gov).

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTION OVERVIEW

The FAQs below pertain to the EBP and/or CDEP Grant Program Round One: Parent and Caregiver Support Programs and Practices. FAQs are organized in five categories:

- Grant Application and Tracks
- Grant Eligibility/Requirements
- Grant Award/Funding
- Eligible Expenditures
- Data Reporting and Monitoring

### Grant Application and Tracks

#### 1. **When are applications due for all grant tracks?**

All applications are due January 31, 2023, at 5:00p.m. PDT.

#### 2. **Can an entity submit more than one application to fund different EBPs or CDEPs (e.g., Triple P and Parent Child Interaction Therapy)?**

Yes, applicants may apply for funding for more than one EBP and/or CDEP by submitting separate applications for each EBP and/or CDEP. DHCS reserves the right to determine the number of awards granted to a single entity based on the selection criteria, which include but are not limited to statewide need and geographic distribution of funding (by practice, as applicable).

#### 3. **Can an entity submit an application for an unlisted EBP and/or CDEP?**



Yes, entities are eligible to submit applications for unlisted practices and programs relating to Parent and Caregiver Support and Training. Unlisted programs and practices may be considered eligible for grant funding with the submission of supplementary material demonstrating how the program or practice aligns with the objectives of this RFA. Practices and programs that are appropriate and/or can be adapted for focus populations will be prioritized.

**4. Is there an expectation that large entities should submit one integrated proposal<sup>1</sup>?**

Regardless of entity size, applicants are welcome to submit an application for any grant track. If applicants are applying for more than one grant track, DHCS encourages entities to submit an integrated proposal.

**5. Can multiple individuals (e.g., behavioral health providers) associated with a given entity (e.g., county) each submit an application under the training track?**

Yes, individuals associated with the same eligible entity can each submit an application under the training track. Per the RFA, the training track is designed for **individuals** seeking access to manualized training and/or certification in a short-listed EBP and CDEP (or related adaptation).

**6. Can an entity apply for more than one round of funding?**

Yes, applicants may apply under multiple rounds. Applicants should note that not all applicants will receive multiple (or even a single) awards.

**7. If an entity chooses to apply for multiple (e.g., all three) grant tracks, do they have to complete a separate application for each grant track?**

No, entities that are applying for more than one grant track are encouraged to submit an integrated proposal. Per the RFA, eligible entities can submit an application specific to a single track or an integrated proposal that includes activities on multiple tracks.

**8. If entities apply for multiple grant tracks (e.g., start-up and operational expansion), what is the maximum award amount for an integrated proposal?**

The funding maximums contained in the RFA are indicated by grant track. However, applicants are not guaranteed to be awarded the maximum amounts. DHCS will not guarantee funding for multiple tracks; however, DHCS will consider all applications.

**9. Can entities only apply for one grant track, or do they have to apply for more than one grant track?**

Yes, entities may apply to a single grant track.

**10. What individuals (e.g., provider type) are eligible to apply for funds under the training track?**

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<sup>1</sup> The term “integrated proposal” per the RFA, is intended to mean an individual and/or organization can submit an application for more than one grant track.



Please reference Part 2: Grant Requirements, Section 2.2 Eligible Grant Recipients.

**11. Will DHCS consider entities leveraging funding from Round One to secure matching funds from other sources to increase the maximum allotted grant awards?**

This RFA does not contain a provision for increasing the maximum award amount per track based on obtaining matching funding.

**12. Can an unlicensed behavioral health provider (e.g., ASCW, AMFT, etc.) implement EBP/CDEPs?**

Providers implementing EBP/CDEPs must follow the existing federal and state requirements specified for each proposed EBP/CDEP to be administered.

**13. Can an entity apply for funds with the intent to combine it with other grants/funding streams (e.g., Student Behavioral Health Incentive Program (SBHIP))?**

Yes, the grant funding may be layered with additional funding.

**14. Can an individual and/or organization submit an application and be part of a coordinated application<sup>2</sup>?**

Yes, DHCS will accept coordinated applications from multiple providers.

**15. Can an individual submit more than one application?**

DHCS will only accept one application per individual for the training grant track.

**16. Can an organization submit more than one application?**

DHCS will accept multiple applications from the same organization for the implementation grant track (Start-up and Operational Expansion), if the applications address different EBP/CDEPs.

**17. Will DHCS accept more than one integrated proposal from the same organization?**

Yes.

**18. Can an organization be included on multiple coordinated applications?**

Yes.

**19. What support is provided to awardees after the grant period ends and is there a possibility of contract renewal?**

The grants are a one-time allocation, applicants should emphasize the sustainability plan for maintaining the uses of funding in the long-term.

**20. What are the EBPs and/or CDEPs that will be scaled with funding?**

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<sup>2</sup> The term “coordinated application” is intended to mean more than one individual and/or organization can come together to submit one application.



Scale is defined as expanding an organization's operations or capacity to deliver services, enabling replication and adaptation of well-established practices, and/or exploring policy innovations. DHCS encourages all interested parties to apply. DHCS recognizes that the short-listed EBPs may not have been developed or normalized on populations of focus and that additional EBPs/CDEPs may be relevant to this grant round. In turn, additional practices and programs relating to Parent and Caregiver Support and Training may be considered eligible for grant funding with the submission of supplementary material demonstrating how the program or practice aligns with the objectives of this RFA. Practices and programs that are appropriate and/or can be adapted for focus populations will be prioritized.

For Round One, the following EBPs and/or CDEPs will be scaled through competitive grant awards: HealthySteps, Incredible Years, Parent-Child Interaction Therapy, Positive Parenting Program (Triple P) and other practices for specified populations of focus (e.g., Parents Anonymous, Effective Black Parenting Program, Strong African American Families, Positive Indian Parenting).

**21. If we are adding a new curriculum to our existing portfolio of classes. Is this considered "implementation" or "expansion"?**

In this instance, it would be categorized as part of the implementation track. Per the RFA, the implementation track (start-up activity) is designed for organizations that are seeking start-up funds to newly implement an EBP/CDEP (or related adaptation).

**22. Are these funds for providers who already provide an EBP (like Triple P Positive Parenting) and want to expand it OR is this for providers who want to learn about the EBP so that they can begin implementing?**

Funding can be used to enhance delivery of an EBP/CDEP currently provided by the applying entity. For these types of grants, please apply under the implementation "operational expansion" track. Funding can also be used for organizations that are seeking start-up funds to newly implement an EBP/CDEP (or related adaptation). For these types of grants, please apply under the "start-up" track. For individuals seeking training in a new EBP/CDEP, please apply under the training track.

**23. Should applications only list affiliations or contracts relevant to the program being proposed? For example, if an entity has a Triple P contract with a local county and additional contracts with a behavioral health department that are not affiliated.**

Please include information about contracts/affiliations relevant to the EBP/CDEP being scaled.

## Grant Eligibility Requirements

**1. Would a program that offers positive parenting practices for pregnant/parenting teens in a Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Program (STRTP) setting be a suitable component for a Round One application?**



Yes.

**2. Are 501(c)(3) Non-Profits eligible to submit applications for funding?**

Yes.

## Grant Award and Funding

**1. What is the timeline and process for distributing funds?**

Per the RFA, final budget and payment schedule will be determined in tandem with the applicant and DHCS or its designee (i.e., Third Party Administrator). DHCS, or its designee, will provide interval payments based on delivery of standard deliverables.

**2. Is there any Federal funding included in this grant program?**

No, there is no federal funding anticipated for this grant program.

**3. When will Round One awards be announced?**

Round One grant awards will be announced by April 30, 2023.

**4. How long will the grant funding last? For example, Round One, funding is scheduled to be allocated by Spring 2023. Will awardees have until Spring 2025 to spend the funds?**

Per the RFA, the grant funding is for a period of 1-2 years. The specific term dates will be agreed upon in the final executed contract with grant award winners.

**5. For any of the grant tracks, is the maximum allocation possible (\$10,000, \$750,000, and \$400,000) listed in the RFA, available per year for two years or is it across those two years?**

The maximum amounts cover the two-year period, and the budget should include expenditures for that two-year period.

**6. Is there a maximum amount of funding an organization (e.g., county) can receive?**

DHCS will consider all applications. Total number of awards will vary depending on multiple factors, such as number of applications by track, number of applications by practice model type, etc. DHCS will prioritize applications from organizations serving the populations of focus.

**7. What is the actual grant period? Fiscal Year 23/24?**

The contract start date will be determined by the contract development/execution process.

## Eligible Expenditures

**1. We are seeking to hire full-time staff to oversee outcome collection and to invest in outcome measurement tools and software. Would this grant cover any expenses for these items?**





Yes, funds could potentially be used for these reasons in combination with activities related to scaling the use of an EBP/CDEP; however, the grants are a one-time allocation, so applicants should emphasize their sustainability plan for maintaining the position after the expiration of the implementation period. In the proposed budget, include detailed line items that explain how grant funds will be used.

**2. Can grant funds be used to train clinicians in the EBPs and/ or CDEPs?**

Yes, funds could potentially be used for these reasons.

**3. Is program evaluation (e.g., survey instruments, etc.) or subcontractor's eligible expenditures?**

Eligible expenditures must be necessary, reasonable, and allocable to the activities proposed in the application. This may include: Equipment and capital improvements (e.g., modifications to physical space to support practices and programs), Program materials (e.g., manuals), Planning costs, Specialized training (e.g., disability training, cultural competence, anti-racism), Staffing (e.g., benefits, contractors), Supplies (e.g., printing, toys), Technology (e.g., computers, virtual care platform, electronic medical record), Technical assistance, Training costs, Travel, and Other (applicants must define).

**4. Can we apply for this grant to include payment of salaries for new staff who can lead the implementation of the EBP and/or CDEP targeted to scale across a county/program?**

Funds could potentially be used for staffing costs; however, the grants are a one-time allocation, so applicants should emphasize their sustainability plan for maintaining the positions after the expiration of the implementation period.

**5. Do you allow indirect cost (overhead) and, if yes, what percentage and type (MTDC, TDC, DC)?**

Yes. Per the RFA, eligible expenditures must be necessary, reasonable, and allocable to the activities proposed in the application. Please provide an estimated budget based on your understanding of the scope of your project. The budget total should equal the proposed grant amount and be itemized by specific resource (e.g., staff salaries by level, supplies, etc.) tying back to key deliverables or other program goals mentioned in the Section 3.2.F.

## Data Reporting and Monitoring

**1. What type of data would be required for reporting?**

As a condition of funding, all grantees will be required to share standardized data in a manner and form determined by DHCS.

**2. Are there any data reporting requirements post-award?**

As a part of the award, grantees must agree to report data and outcomes for a period of 1-2 years post award, as applicable based on award type.