# Oregon Health Authority Youth Advisory Council (YAC) COVID-19 Recovery Grant Application

## Frequently Asked Questions (Q and A)

### General Grant

1. When would the funding be distributed? And is it a lump sum or smaller amounts over the year?
   a. *OHA aims to have grant agreements to all grantees for signature in mid-summer 2023. In order to support startup costs:*
      i. *OHA would provide a lump sum percentage of the total grant amount to grantees upon signature of the grant agreement.*
      ii. *OHA would also allow for coverage of costs incurred after July 1st and prior to grant agreement signature.*
   b. *After the initial lump sum payment, grantees will invoice for remaining funds on a schedule provided by OHA.*

2. Can the students provide some insight on what they wanted to see with the cultural and community engagement grant?
   a. *The YAC members stated that they would be interested in seeing:*
      i. *More curriculum that teaches about different cultures.*
      ii. *More cultural clubs.*
      iii. *More translation services in multiple languages.*
      iv. *Cultural events at schools.*
   b. *YAC members would like to see youth led projects and events that reflect what students want to see in their community.*

3. If the proposer has a project idea, is there a way to seek feedback before submitting an application?
   a. *OHA staff can't provide feedback or critique of application prior to submission. However, staff can answer specific questions of whether grant activities are eligible or ineligible costs.*

4. Will proposers be able to have access to feedback/ideas form the YAC if they are awarded?
   a. *Over the next couple of months, the YAC will determine how they will interact/support grantees. Those supports will be available to all awarded grantees and outlined in grant agreements. OHA staff are always available to support grant management, reporting, and logistics.*

### Budget

5. For the budget submission, are proposers to submit a one-time budget showing the use of the funds over one year? Are the budgets to be project based or reflect the budget of the entire organization?
   a. *Budgets are meant to show the annual expenditure from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024. Currently, this is a one-time federal grant, so OHA cannot offer funds beyond those dates.*

b. _Budgets should reflect the project costs related to the grant, not the costs/expenditures of the entire organization._

6. Can a proposer apply for multiple grant areas and can a proposer apply for $50,000 in each of the three grant areas?
   a. _Yes – a proposer can apply for multiple grant areas and may apply for $50,000 in each area. The stated $10K to $50K award range is an average – the YAC and OHA will provide awards based on needs, number of applications, and available resources._

7. If a proposer is applying for multiple grant areas, do they need to provide a project budget for each area— or can they combine into a single project budget?
   a. _Proposers can submit one single project budget for multiple grant areas. Proposers should document in the application or in the budget what percentage of FTE or resources are going to which grant area._

8. Are there templates available for the budget submission on the website?
   a. _Yes, the budget templates can be found here on the right-side panel:_ https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/HEALTHYPEOPLEFAMILIES/YOUTH/Pages/Youth-Advisory-Council-Grant-Application.aspx

9. What are the reporting requirements/expectations after the grant term is concluded?
   a. _The YAC is still determining reporting requirements. However, OHA has made an effort to limit reporting requirements for small grants through this funding to twice a year (mid-year and end of year report) and to keep the activity reports short and simple to what is required by the YAC and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)._

10. Can the proposer articulate a priority to serve a specific race or ethnic group?
    a. _Yes – the YAC encourages applications by proposers serving communities disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 including but not limited to youth of color, tribal communities, communities with lower median family income, and rural and frontier communities. Moreover, provision of culturally and linguistically responsive services is required by the grant eligibility requirements._

11. Can your budget include indirect costs?
    a. _Yes – and in general, indirect rates of 10-15 percent are typically acceptable. Program staff may be in touch for indirect costs above 15 percent._

## Allowable expenses

12. Is this grant mainly for personnel? Or can you use the funds to purchase supplies or "items" such as office equipment (computers/cellphones), outreach and training materials, equipment, refreshments for an outreach event or youth club?
    a. _Yes – the grant is mainly for personnel and capacity.  The vast majority of a proposer's budget should be contributing to:_

       *i.   Wages/Salaries/Benefits*
      *ii.   Bonuses/Pay Increases/Hazard Pay*
     *iii.   Training Costs*
     *iv.   Costs associated with professional development, including licensure/certification courses and fees.*
      *v.   Stipends and alternative compensation for youth and young adults.*

*However, the grant can support equipment, software and supplies (including those named above) that are necessary for ones' position and role. Those expenses should be less than 10 percent of the grant proposal.*

13. Since these grants are focused on schools/work in partnership with schools, do grant activities have to occur during school hours, or can it be outside of school hours (an after-school program)? Could a program be funded to fill support gaps that occur during school breaks?
    a. *The grant supports health, prevention, and recovery work in schools or in partnership with schools. Afterschool or weekend hour grant activities __are allowable__ if they take place on a school's campus or happen in partnership with a school or school district. This includes afterschool programs, summer school programs and programs that happen during school breaks.*

14. Can the grants be used to fund college scholarships?
    a. *No, funds may not be used for scholarship or tuition for higher education. However, the funds can be used for training, certification, and licensure expenses for workforce.*

15. With respect to the food, housing and income support, the examples mention a farm-to-table program, but would the funds be able to purchase food for food boxes?
    a. *No, funds cannot be used for "direct service benefits," such as food or housing assistance, for clients. The funds cannot support benefits that mirror or supplement public financial assistance.*

16. Is there any trainings recommended for Cultural and Community Engagement?
    a. *OHA does not have a list of endorsed trainings, but will discuss with the YAC and provide updates on the website.*

17. Can funds be use for stipends for volunteers and students, including students who serve as peer mentors in afterschool programming?
    a. *Yes – see Funding Parameters on the website – the costs would constitute compensation of workforce.*

18. Can the mental health funds be used to supplement the low salary that the district is already paying or budgeting for a mental health clinician?
    a. *Yes – see Funding Parameters on the website – the costs would constitute pay increases of workforce.*

19. Does the grant or OHA have a standard or cap on cost of wages?
    a. *No – it is up to the proposer to determine the wages of their employees, contractors, youth, etc.*

20. Can the grant be used for diversity, equity and inclusion training for teachers and other staff?
    a. *Yes – see Funding Parameters on the website – the costs would constitute training costs for the workforce.*

## Eligibility

21. If an organization already receives some federal funding (i.e. Medicaid), does that influence eligibility?
    a. *No – this does not influence eligibility.*

22. If an organization supports both students in college or high school students, is the program eligible for funding? If so, can the grant fund programming that is offered to both populations an eligible expense?
    a. *Yes, and yes. The funds are meant to support K12 education, but if the program serves both high school and college students with the same programming, those programs are eligible for funding.*

23. Can an MOU between as a letter of reference for the application?
    a. Yes, an MOU would work.