# Request for Applications Opioid Abatement Special Fund For State Fiscal Year 2027 (July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027)

#### **Background**

### Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee (OSAC)

Per 18 V.S.A. § 4772, the Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee was established to provide advice and recommendations regarding remediation spending from the Opioid Abatement Special Fund. The Committee identifies spending priorities as related to opioid use disorder prevention, intervention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery services for the purpose of providing recommendations to the Governor, the Department of Health, and the General Assembly on prioritizing spending from the Opioid Abatement Special Fund.

#### **Funding Priorities**

See <u>18 V.S.A.</u> § <u>4774</u> for the list of priorities for use of the Opioid Abatement Special Fund adopted in statute.

To further clarify the priorities in statute, applications for activities that are otherwise reimbursable by Medicaid and/or other third-party payers will not be considered (per 18 V.S.A. § 4774, "Disbursements from the Opioid Abatement Special Fund shall supplement and not supplant or replace any existing or future local, State, or federal government funding for infrastructure, programs, supports, and resources, including health insurance benefits, federal grant funding, and Medicaid and Medicare funds.")

#### **Application Process**

The Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee uses the following process for accepting, evaluating and voting on proposals:

- 1. Written applications are submitted in which the applicant describes their project, the need it addresses, and the amount of funding requested. Applications are collected via an online form.
- 2. All submitted applications are provided to the OSAC members for review.
- 3. Committee members provide feedback as to which proposals should be further considered based on:
  - whether the application addresses one or more of the priorities listed in statute (referenced above)
  - the amount of funding requested
  - the amount of funding available
  - the applicant's demonstrated experience and ability to carry out the initiative
- 4. Applicants who receive majority support from OSAC members are asked to submit a detailed budget and budget narrative and are invited to attend an OSAC meeting to present their proposal to the Committee. They are also invited to share letters of support from partners.

- 5. OSAC members vote on each proposal as to whether they strongly support, somewhat support, do not support or recuse.
- 6. Final decisions on what proposals to recommend for funding will be based on OSAC votes and the amount of funding available from the Opioid Abatement Special Fund.
- 7. Both the Committee and the Department submit their recommendations for funding to the General Assembly separately.

# The application for Opioid Abatement Special Funds is available here.

## <u>Timeline</u>:

Application Released	August 26, 2025
Applications Due	September 17, 2025
	by 5:00 p.m. EST
Committee Meets and Votes on Preliminary Proposals to	October 6, 2025
Further Consider	
Applicants Notified of Status	October 7, 2025
Presentations at OSAC Meetings for Applications under	October 20, 2025
Consideration	November 17, 2025
	December 15, 2025
Committee Conducts Final Vote on Applications to	January 5, 2026
Recommend for Funding, Reviews Draft Letter, and	
Votes on Final Recommendation Letter for Submission	
Applicants Notified of Status	January 9, 2026
Committee Submits their Recommendations to the	By January 9, 2026
General Assembly	
Department of Health Submits its Recommendations to the General Assembly	No later than January 15, 2026

#### **Questions**

Questions can be directed to Sarah Gregorek at <u>sarah.gregorek@vermont.gov</u> or via phone at (802) 863-7280.