

Improving Academic Achievement Through Mental Health

Questions and Answers

Updated 3/28/2017

Key Dates and Times

Teleconference questions and answers will be posted here: http://hogg.utexas.edu/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/RFP-Questions-and-Answers.pdf	Updated as needed
Grants management system (Fluxx) registration https://hogg.fluxx.io	Friday, April 7, 2017 3:59 pm Central Time
Proposal due date https://hogg.fluxx.io	Wednesday, April 12, 2017 3:59 pm Central Time
Notice of Awards	Applicants will be notified of award or declination by mid-May 2017.
Funding released/ Project Start Date	Funding for the first grant period of the project is typically released within 30 days of notification of award. The grant officially starts July 1, 2017.

Registration and Submission Process

- 1. Is there a limit on how many proposals an organization can submit?**
No.
- 2. Are there character/ word limits in the application?**
All sections are unlimited characters except for the project summary which has a 1500 character limit including spaces. 1500 characters is approximately 200 words. The average word count for the Project Description section is 3500 words which is approximately 24,500 characters . Fluxx only counts characters.

Inquiries

- 1. How do I ask a question after the teleconference?**
Please send all questions to Hogg-grants@austin.utexas.edu. They will be answered through email in the order they are received. You may also check back here for updates.

Award Notification

- 1. When will applicants find out if they have been accepted?**
The foundation expects to notify applicants of award or declination in mid-May.

Initiative

- 1. How do you define an educational setting?**
One in which students are enrolled in a school or college/ university.
- 2. Do we have to be accredited with TEA or some other entity?**
No, TEA or other accreditation is not a requirement of this RFP.
- 3. If our campus-based educational and prevention program has no clinical licensure, can we still apply?**
Clinical licensure is not necessary to apply.

4. Is there an age range of eligible recipients?

No. However, recipients of resources and supports must be enrolled in a school or college/university setting. As this initiative is focused on academic achievement, the typical students will be Kindergarten through college age.

5. We are a faith-based organization (FBO) with strong interest in mental health and would like to be involved with organizations that are providing such services in our community. How can we get involved?

While the foundation strongly encourages collaboration between community organizations and faith-based entities, we do not have a mechanism for linking organizations with potential partner agencies. Your organization might consider proactively contacting local schools and other organizations in your community to see if they are aware of the funding opportunity and would consider you as a potential partner.

6. Do all services need to be on-campus?

No, there is not a requirement for identified resources to be provided on-campus. However, the foundation has a preference for funding nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations with a strong history of providing campus-based mental health supports and interventions.

7. The grant begins in July. Would it be appropriate for a budget to include a one to two-month start -up period before the actual program delivery begins in the schools in the Fall?

Yes. Applicants may want to consider including a planning period during the first months of the grant to identify strategies for implementation, and to identify and meet with potential community partners.

8. You reference mental health interventions throughout the RFP. Are you interested in specific evidence-based therapies, psychoeducational groups, or both?

We are not looking for specific interventions. We expect the grantee to propose what will be most likely to allow them to accomplish their proposed goals.

Eligibility

1. Who is eligible to apply?

Eligible organizations include: Texas public schools, charter schools, school districts, college and university campuses, and Texas-based 501(c)(3) organizations. The foundation has a preference for funding nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations with a strong history of providing campus-based mental health supports and interventions. Applicants can collaborate with outside organizations or individuals for support in areas such as technical assistance, training, service delivery, and evaluation support. The lead applicant must be based in Texas and the role of each entity must be clearly defined in the proposal.

2. Does that fact that our project takes place in a private school setting as opposed to within a public school make it ineligible for support from this grant opportunity?

No, a private school setting for services versus a public school setting does not make your organization ineligible. If the applicant is a Texas-based 501(c)(3) organization, they are eligible to apply.

3. We are a current recipient of a multi-year Hogg Foundation grant initiative. Are we eligible to apply for the RFP?

Yes.

4. Is a Texas-based program whose non-profit headquarters are located in another state eligible to apply for this grant program?

Yes, applicants must be Texas-based or have offices, chapters, or affiliates in Texas.

5. We are national non-profit 501(c)(3) with the parent organization outside Texas. All sites do operate under the same national 501(c)(3) designation and the same EIN with the parent organization. Are we eligible to apply?

Yes, a Texas-based program with headquarters in another state may apply. An approval letter from the headquarters must be included. The lead applicant must be based in Texas and the role of each entity must be clearly defined in the proposal.

6. We are a student organization whose mission is to educate our peers about mental health and suicide on college campuses. Are we eligible to apply?

If your student organization is a non-profit 501(c)(3), you would be eligible to apply. If your student organization is not a non-profit 501(c)(3), you might consider partnering with your college, university, or another eligible organization.

7. Is our education service center eligible to apply for this grant?

If your education service center is a non-profit 501(c)(3), you would be eligible to apply.

Budget/ Funding

1. How much is a typical award amount? How many grants do you expect to give? Is there a maximum amount of funding that can be requested?

Depending on the quality of proposals received, the foundation plans to award up to \$1.5 million over three years to Texas public schools, charter schools, school districts, college and university campuses, and Texas-based 501(c)(3) organizations. We anticipate distributing approximately \$500,000 per year total for this initiative. There is no maximum or minimum request amount. Applicants should propose a budget that is reasonable and justifiable given the proposed activities. The number and size of grants awarded will be determined based on the quality of proposals received. Because of the high interest of this initiative, it is likely that most awards will be under \$100,000 per year per grantee.

2. When will the funds be released?

Funding for the first grant period is typically released within 30 days of notification. The grant program starts July 1, 2017.

3. Will funds be disbursed all at one time or over a period of time?

Funds will be disbursed over a three-year grant term based on the approved budget.

4. How many years does the grant funding cover?

Funding is for three years starting July 2017 and ending in June 2020.

5. Regarding the program budget, what percentage is allowed for overhead expenses and what can overhead expenses include?

The Hogg Foundation recognizes that organizations incur unreimbursed costs in applying for funding and operating programs. As a result, each grant awarded includes an additional ten percent characterized as overhead. No narrative description is necessary.

6. The grant begins in July. Would it be appropriate for a budget to include a one to two-month start -up period before the actual program delivery begins in the schools in the Fall?

Yes. Applicants may want to consider including a planning period during the first months of the grant to identify strategies for implementation, and to identify and meet with potential community partners.

7. Are we allowed to use funds to hire a contractor agency to work with our students/staff?

Yes, you may subcontract funds to provide specific services needed by the project; however, the foundation will not fund an organization to subcontract with another entity to carry out the project. Grants will only be awarded to organizations that are directly responsible for implementing the project.

8. Are applicants required to obtain matching funds for this RFP? Can the grant funds be used as a match for a federal grant?

No, matching funds are not a requirement of this RFP. Foundation grants may be used as matching dollars to obtain other funding.

9. How large of an organization do you have to be to apply for this particular grant and have a chance of being awarded funds?

The size of the organization is not a factor used to evaluate proposals for this RFP. However, if awarded, the funding amount approved will take into account the size and capacity of the organization.

10. Do you fund ongoing initiatives, or do you want to see new initiatives?

The foundation will fund on-going initiatives that are already providing resources that are improving academic advancement and mental health in educational settings.

Evaluation

1. What metrics do you want to see to measure improving academic achievement?

The applicant needs to identify metrics that are meaningful to their project and goals. There are not specific metrics we are looking for.

Submission

1. Are we required to submit a letter of support?

If you are a Texas public school, charter school, school district, college or university campus, you do NOT need to submit a letter of support unless you are partnering with another organization in your proposal. If you are a Texas-based 501(c)(3) organization, you MUST submit a letter of support from the Texas public school, charter school, school district, college or university campus you are partnering with.

2. We have many community partners who could write letters of support, even though they are not directly benefiting from this program. Can we include these letters of support, or only from our program partners?

If the applicant proposes to partner with any other organizations for this program, signed letters of support from those organizations must be submitted. Other letters of support may be submitted as attachments.