

Opioid Proceeds Council



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Opioid Proceeds Council

Notice of Funding Opportunity

**Transportation Access for Persons in Recovery
SUD/OD Care & Contingency Management Reinforcement**

Funding provided by the OPC is made available through the Opioid Litigation Proceeds Fund.

Foreword

The CNMI Opioid Proceeds Council (OPC) is committed to addressing the structural, clinical, and logistical gaps that individuals in recovery face throughout the Commonwealth. Transportation has been consistently identified by local service providers as a critical barrier that limits treatment engagement, compliance, and long-term recovery stability.

This Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) represents a competitive, strategic financial assistance effort to award funding to established and licensed behavioral health organizations, substance use treatment facilities, and recovery support networks to integrate reliable, structured transportation access options. Resources must be dedicated strictly to:

General Support Transportation Services: To reduce logistical and geographic barriers, ensuring that individuals can physically access treatment, clinical services, and peer recovery environments.

Behavior-Contingent Incentives: As part of structured, evidence-based Contingency Management (CM) protocols to reward clinical progress and motivate recovery compliance.

It is the applicant's responsibility to fully read and follow these guidelines. Please carefully review the eligibility criteria, allowable cost categories, programmatic expectations, and evaluation criteria.

All applications must be complete and comply with the requirements and guidelines set forth in this NOFO, all applicable local and CNMI regulations.

Please address all technical or administrative questions regarding this NOFO in writing to the OPC Executive Director at opc@cnmioag.org. Potential applicants must refrain from asking questions that may be considered a conflict of interest.

Section 1: Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) -- General Information

The CNMI Opioid Proceeds Council (OPC) is soliciting competitive applications to award programmatic funding dedicated to transportation services for individuals undergoing recovery for Substance Use Disorders (SUD) and Opioid Use Disorders (OUD) across the Commonwealth.

Description	Details
Funding Opportunity Title	Transportation Access for Persons in Recovery (SUD/OUD Care & Contingency Management Reinforcement)
Eligibility	Licensed CNMI SUD/OUD treatment centers, established peer recovery organizations, licensed behavioral health clinics, local CNMI government agencies, and CNMI-registered non-profit organizations specializing in recovery support services.
Total Funding Available	\$100,000.00 (Single or multiple awards may be issued depending on application merit and alignment with programmatic criteria.)
Cost Share Requirement	None
Authorizing Authority	The Opioid Proceeds Council
Announcement Date	September 1, 2026
Question Deadline	October 01, 2026 (Must be submitted in writing via email to opc@cnmioag.org)
Application Submission Deadline	October 16, 2026. No later than 4:00 PM ChST.

Award Notification Date	December 13, 2026 (60 days post-submission deadline)
Period of Performance	January 01, 2027 to June 30, 2028 (18-month performance period)

NOTE: Only one (1) application package per organization is allowed for this competitive funding.

Section 2: Program Background and Statement of Need

Based on provider feedback, the OPC has identified Transportation Access as priority for this funding.

This transportation initiative is compounded by the catastrophic aftermath of the recent Super Typhoons that devastated the CNMI this year, the disparities in access to care (where centralized outpatient and residential services are located on Saipan, residents of the neighboring islands of Tinian and Rota face severe logistical isolation), and the need to strengthen behavior-based incentives that help individuals remain engaged in treatment and recovery activities.

Section 3: Program Description and Requirements

This NOFO establishes two distinct funding tracks:

1. **Transportation as Logistical Support** — Transportation provided as a direct, non-contingent service to ensure access to treatment, recovery activities, and essential appointments.

Transportation may be funded as a practical, non-contingent service that ensures participants can reliably access treatment and recovery activities. This includes direct transport, mileage reimbursement, ride-share vouchers, shuttle services, or other mechanisms that reduce geographic isolation and improve access to care. Logistical transportation support is intended to remove structural barriers and promote equitable participation in treatment.

2. **Transportation as Contingency Management (CM)** — Transportation provided as an incentive tied to specific, measurable recovery behaviors within an evidence-based CM framework.

Transportation may also be funded as part of a structured contingency management framework, where transportation assistance is provided as an incentive tied to specific, measurable recovery behaviors. Under this model, transportation is not a baseline service but a reward for completing target activities such as attending counseling sessions, participating in peer support groups, and adhering to treatment program requirements. CM-based transportation must follow evidence-based CM principles, including transparency, consistency, and documentation of target behaviors.

Funding will be strictly restricted to programs that provide direct, client-facing transportation services and structured behavioral transit support to persons in active recovery for SUD/OD. Applications must describe a clear, actionable service delivery model.

Applicants may apply for **either track** or **integrate both** within a single program design.

NOTE DISTINCTION: Logistical Support vs. Contingency Management
Proposals must strictly distinguish between these two tracks in their programmatic designs and line-item budgets. Transportation **does NOT qualify** as Contingency Management when it is

*deployed as a baseline barrier-reduction tool to facilitate initial attendance, provided systematically to all clients regardless of behavioral compliance, or handled as a routine, non-behavioral case management function. If transportation is provided automatically to resolve geographic distance, it must be categorized under Logistical Support and funded accordingly. Transportation **QUALIFIES** as Contingency Management when applicants adhere to evidence-based CM principles and models.*

Section 4: Cost Guidelines -- Allowable and Non-Allowable

Allowable Program Costs

All proposed expenditures must be aligned with the National Opioid Settlement Agreement guidelines, Public Law 23-19, and CNMI Opioid Proceeds Regulations. For details, please visit our website at the [CNMI OPC - Office of the Attorney General](#).

Non-Allowable Costs and Exclusions

Supplanting: Funding must not be used to replace existing local, state, or federal funds already allocated for the same transportation purposes. OPC dollars are strictly for program expansion and enhancement.

High-Value Capital Acquisitions: Purchase of real property, facility construction/renovation, or acquisition of high-value non-transportation equipment.

General Operational/Administrative Costs: Litigation expenses, legal fees, standard corporate overhead, or political/campaign contributions of any kind.

Unapproved, Non-Behavioral Incentives: Distribution of gas cards, transit passes, or vouchers are considered invalid if they are not tied to the intended behavioral requirement and without verified clinical approval.

Exclusions: Personnel and vehicle purchases.

Section 5: General Requirements

All applying organizations must satisfy the following requirements:

Evidence-Based Practice: Programs must provide direct, client-centered services utilizing evidence-based practices (EBPs) for substance use disorder (SUD) recovery and behavioral health support.

Licensure and Certification: Applicants must possess and maintain all necessary certifications, business licenses, clinical licensures, and professional credentials required to operate behavioral health, counseling, or peer recovery services within the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Administrative Compliance: Applicants must demonstrate their organizational capacity to manage public funds, maintain meticulous records, and submit comprehensive progress and financial reports on schedule.

Contracts: Any funds used for contractual purposes must clearly state the name of the sub-recipient and intended scope of work.

Section 6: Application Submission Content and Layout

Applicants must organize their application package in the exact order and format detailed below. The application narrative (Items I through VI) must not exceed six (6) pages. Administrative support documents (Item VII) do not count toward this page limit.

Applicants must organize their application package in the exact order and format detailed below. The application narrative (Items I through VI) must not exceed six (6) pages and must be typed in 12-point font. Administrative support documents (Item VII) do not count toward this page limit.

I. Cover Letter & Executive Summary (1 Page Limit)

A formal cover letter signed by the organization's authorized signatory. Include the organization's legal name, business physical and postal address, active email, contact telephone number, requested amount, and an executive summary of the proposed transportation program.

II. Project Narrative

Project Purpose & Problem Statement (1 Page Limit) -- 25 Points

A detailed description of the target population to be served (including age groups, socioeconomic status, and high-risk villages across Saipan, Tinian, and Rota).

For Track 1: Applicants must address the post-typhoon challenges and geographic barriers detailed in Section 2, while providing local data, assessments, and/or surveys that substantiate need and outline the clinical and social consequences of inaction if these transportation gaps remain unaddressed.

For Track 2: Applicants must demonstrate the need of how transportation will function as a contingency management (CM) reinforcement, directly tied to verified behavioral engagement in treatment and recovery services.

Solution-Driven Program Design - Goals & Objectives (2 Page Limit) -- 35 Points

State clear, measurable program goals and objectives, along with a comprehensive project timeline. Describe the direct transportation model in detail, specifying the number of unduplicated recovery participants to be served, how Track 1 (Logistical Support) and/or Track 2 (Contingency Management) will be operationalized (ex: describe protocol, how it will be integrated into clinical workflow), and any plans for long-term program sustainability.

III. Key Personnel & Grant Management Capacity (1 Page Limit) -- 25 Points

Provide a list of key personnel, including professional credentials, licensing, and years of experience working with SUD/ODU populations. Identify the designated Point of Contact who will be directly responsible for managing the OPC funds and maintaining compliance. Indicate if the organization has managed OPC funds or other federal/local grants in the past. If your program has managed OPC funds, please indicate standing with OPC.

IV. Detailed Budget and Spending Plan (1 Page Limit) -- 10 Points

Submit a comprehensive line-item budget aligning with the proposed activities, specifying units of cost and totals per category. A detailed narrative justification must be provided for every single expenditure, establishing a clear link to the transport pathways. Applicants must indicate if other funding sources are being leveraged to support the project.

V. Data Collection, Measurement, and Reporting Plan (1 Page Limit) -- 5 Points

Explain the data collection and measurement methodology to track outcomes. Applicants must demonstrate the capacity to maintain meticulous driver logs, trip logs, passenger manifests, and CM incentive verification ledgers. Outline the workflow for compiling and submitting the mandatory 6th-month (Mid-term) and 12th-month (Closeout) project reports.

VII. Administrative & Required Support Documents (Appended - No Page Limit)

Include the following mandatory verifications at the end of the application package:

For Private Non-Profits: Proof of business establishment, non-profit tax-exempt status (501(c)(3) determination letter), CNMI-compliant business license, and clinical licensures.

For Government Agencies: Proof of agency/program establishment and authorizing enabling legislation.

For All Applicants: Staff professional credentials, current certificates of insurance (general liability and commercial auto coverage), and written confirmation of the applicant's willingness to enter into an OPC Award Agreement.

Section 7: Review and Evaluation Process

Once applications are submitted, the OPC may contact applicants for clarification or to request additional information during the evaluation phase. Applications will undergo a competitive review process. As this is a highly competitive funding, not all qualifying and meritorious applications will be funded. Applications will be scored out of a maximum of 100 points, as broken down in Section 6. Final selection will be determined by the OPC. OPC reserves the right to negotiate award amounts, scope modifications, or to issue partial awards based on available funding and application merit.

Section 8: Notice of Award and Funding Obligation

If an application is approved, the organization will receive a formal Notice of Award. Award of funding does not guarantee subsequent years of funding.

All award funding must be spent strictly according to the proposed budget approved by the OPC. If the recipient fails to utilize the awarded settlement dollars as specified in the approved budget, or utilizes funds for non-abatement or unapproved costs, the recipient must return all misspent or unused funds to the OPC immediately upon discovery or notification.

OPC reserves the right to modify or cancel this NOFO for any reason prior to award.