

Sober Truth for Preventing Underage Drinking Act (Short Title: STOP ACT)

(Request for Applications (RFA) No. SP-08-004)

| FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS | |
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| QUESTION | RESPONSE |
| <p>1. I am currently a recipient of SAMHSA’s RFA # SP-07-001 (<i>Drug Free Communities Support Program</i>). Am I eligible to apply for funding under this new RFA?</p> | <p>Yes, you are eligible to apply if you meet the requirements outlined in Section III-1, Eligibility Information.</p> |
| <p>2. Can you send me or e-mail me the RFA?</p> | <p>You may download the RFA and required documents from the SAMHSA Web site at: www.samhsa.gov/grants/apply.aspx.</p> <p>You may also request a complete application kit from the SAMHSA Information Line at 1-877-SAMHSA-7 [TDD: 1-800-487-4889].</p> |
| <p>3. What is SAMHSA’s Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF)?</p> | <p>SAMHSA’s SPF is a five-step evidence-based process for community planning and decision-making and serves as the basis for the project narrative section of the RFA. The five-step process includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) needs assessment (profile community needs); 2) capacity building (mobilize/build capacity to address community needs); 3) planning (develop a comprehensive strategic plan); 4) implementation (implement the plan with multiple interventions); and 5) evaluation (monitor, sustain, improve, or replace prevention strategies). |
| <p>4. What is the definition of “environmental prevention strategies?”</p> | <p>Prevention strategies that focus on altering and improving the environment rather than focusing on the individual are known as "environmental strategies." Some environmental strategies attempt, for example, to change social norms or attitudes relating to the use of illicit drugs or alcohol. Other environmental strategies work to control the availability of these substances, or to create or strengthen enforcement of laws and regulations affecting their use.</p> <p>Some examples of alcohol environmental strategies are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raising alcohol excise taxes • Keg registration • Responsible beverage service training • Limiting alcohol sales licenses • Enforcement of underage drinking laws |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limiting alcohol sales at public events • Restrictions on alcohol advertisements • Holding adults responsible for teen parties • Land use policies • Public safety policies <p>For more information on environmental prevention strategies, please visit http://www.alcoholpolicymd.com/alcohol_policy/effects_ep.htm.</p> |
| <p>5. Where can I find resources about Evidence-Based Practices?</p> | <p>You will find information on evidence-based practices in SAMHSA’s <i>Guide to Evidence-Based Practices on the Web</i> at www.samhsa.gov/ebpwebguide. SAMHSA developed this Web site to provide a simple and direct connection to information about evidence-based interventions to prevent and/or treat mental and substance use disorders. The <i>Guide</i> provides a short description and a link to dozens of Web sites with relevant evidence-based practices information – either specific interventions or comprehensive reviews of research findings.</p> <p>Please note that SAMHSA’s <i>Guide to Evidence-Based Practices</i> also refers to another SAMHSA Web site, the <i>National Registry of Evidence-Based Programs and Practices (NREPP)</i>. NREPP is a searchable database of interventions for the prevention and treatment of mental and substance use disorders. NREPP is intended to serve as a decision support tool rather than an authoritative list of effective interventions.</p> <p>(NOTE: Inclusion in NREPP, or in any other resource listed in the <i>Guide</i>, does not mean an intervention is “recommended” or that it has been demonstrated to achieve positive results in all circumstances.)</p> |

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| <p>6. Since the requirements for Section G ("Biographical Sketches and Job Descriptions") and for Section C of the narrative request very similar information, would you prefer that applicants include the job/position descriptions in BOTH Section 'C' and Section 'G'? Or would you prefer that we summarize in Section 'C' the descriptions that we will include in Section 'G' (and refer reviewers to Section 'G' for the full descriptions)?</p> | <p>You are required in Section C of your project narrative to submit a complete list (preferably, in a table format) of <u>all</u> staff positions (including key staff—e.g., Project Director, Project Coordinator, Evaluator) for the project, showing the role of each, and their level of effort and qualifications.</p> <p>You are required in Section G to submit detailed biographical sketches and job descriptions for key positions—e.g., Project Director, Project Coordinator, Evaluator.</p> <p>Please refer to Section VII of the RFA for SAMHSA’s contact information, should you need further clarification.</p> |
| <p>7. When can I expect that this grant will be awarded and when do you expect us to implement our plans?</p> | <p>SAMHSA expects to make grant awards by September 2008.</p> <p>The exact timing of implementation will vary depending on the grantee’s progress with the SPF process. For most grantees, implementation is expected to begin in the latter part of Year 1 or at the beginning of Year 2.</p> |
| <p>8. How much of the total direct cost can I use for evaluation?</p> | <p>No more than 20% of the total direct cost of the award may be used for data collection, performance measurement or performance assessment activities (as specified in Section I-2.2, <i>Data Collection and Performance Measurement</i> and Section I-2.3, <i>Performance Assessment</i>, of this RFA).</p> |
| <p>9. What data are the grantees expected to collect for the STOP Act program?</p> | <p>Grantees will be expected to collect data semiannually on the four core measures (below) and across at least three grades from grades 6 through 12. The size and data collection must be sufficient to provide an accurate and meaningful statistical representation of the geographic areas served by the DFC coalition.</p> <p>Four Core Measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Average age of onset:</i> increased average age that respondents report first trying alcohol. • <i>Past 30 day use:</i> decreased percentage of respondents who report using alcohol at least ONCE. • <i>Perception of risk:</i> increased percentage of respondents who report that regular use of alcohol has moderate or great risk. • <i>Perception of parental disapproval:</i> increased percentage of respondents who report that their parents feel use of alcohol is wrong or very wrong. |

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| <p>10. We were a DFC coalition that received SAMHSA funding 2 years ago. However, we are no longer affiliated with the fiscal agent that received the DFC grant. As a coalition, are we eligible to apply for STOP ACT funding?</p> | <p>Only the legally responsible entity that is receiving or has received DFCSP grant funds is eligible to apply. See Section III-1 of the RFA for additional information about eligibility.</p> |
| <p>11. We were a fiscal agent for a DFC grant that ended four years ago and currently have no other active prevention funding. Are we still eligible to apply for STOP ACT funding?</p> | <p>Yes.</p> |
| <p>12. I am the Project Director on a DFC Grant. Our fiscal agent is applying for the STOP ACT funding. Can I list myself as a Project Coordinator (10% of my time) on the STOP ACT application and utilize a small percentage of STOP ACT funds to support my time on the STOP ACT project?</p> | <p>Yes, as long as you adjust your DFC staffing budget accordingly.</p> |
| <p>13. Will SAMHSA be scheduling applicant technical assistance workshops for prospective STOP ACT applicants?</p> | <p>No. The following technical assistance “helpline” is available for prospective applicants to submit questions. Helpline: (240) 276-1270 Email inquiries to: StopAct2008@samhsa.hhs.gov</p> |
| <p>14. I have additional questions about grants management. Whom should I contact?</p> | <p>For questions on grants management issues, contact: Edna Frazier, Grants Management Specialist, at (240) 276-1405 or edna.frazier@samhsa.hhs.gov.</p> |
| <p>15. What is the Surgeon General’s <i>Call to Action to Prevent and Reduce Underage Drinking 2007</i>?</p> | <p>The Surgeon General of the United States focuses public attention on important public health concerns that affect our Nation. Underage drinking in this country is identified as one such concern. One of the goals of the <i>Call to Action</i> is to foster changes in American society that facilitate healthy adolescent development and that help prevent and reduce underage drinking. For communities, some of these “environmental strategies” in achieving this goal are outlined on page 42 of the <i>Call to Action</i>, and are directly relevant to this RFA. To view the <i>Call to Action</i> go to www.surgeongeneral.gov.</p> |