



Agenda Item 16a:

Program Overview Including Terms and Conditions

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Program Summary

- **Description:** Awards grants to Medi-Cal organizations to provide stipends, recruitment and retention bonuses, supervision, licensure costs, and cover backfill costs. Counties will be eligible. Includes a service obligation for individual behavioral health providers receiving funds.
- **Targeted Professions:** Any behavioral health profession within the Medi-Cal system
- **Money Available:** \$966,000,000 across 4 years

Crucial Definitions

- **Service obligation-** the service commitment for individuals receiving funds is:
 - 4 years for more than \$20,000
 - 3 years for more than \$9,999 and less than \$20,000
 - 2 years for \$9,999
- **Safety Net Setting (Medi-Cal Organization)-** service commitments must be served in one of the below settings:
 - A Federally Qualified Health Center, Community Mental health Center, Rural Health Clinic or
 - A hospital with 40% or higher Medi-Cal or uninsured payer mix or
 - A rural hospital with 30% or higher Medi-Cal or uninsured payer mix or
 - Other behavioral health settings with \geq 40% or higher Medi-Cal or uninsured payer mix

Eligible Activities

Recruitment Bonus (Stipends)

- **Description:** Grantees can receive up to \$50,000 per individual to support the pursuit of a behavioral health related degree. Individuals who receive funds will commit to a service obligation.
- **Service Obligation:**
 - 4 years for \$20,000
 - 3 years for bonuses of \$10,000 and up to \$20,000
 - 2 years for less than \$10,000
- **Opportunity for Input:** What bachelor's and master's degrees should HCAI consider funding?

Recruitment and Retention Bonuses

- **Description:** Grantees can receive up to \$20,000 per provider for recruitment bonuses and up to \$4,000 for retention bonuses. Individuals who receive funds will commit to a service obligation.
- **Service Obligation:**
 - 4 years for \$20,000
 - 3 years for bonuses of \$10,000 and up to \$20,000
 - 2 years for less than \$10,000

Supervision

- **Description:** Provider organizations can receive up to \$35,000 per year to support the supervision of pre-licensure and pre-certificate practitioners who are gaining required hours for licensure or a certificate.
- **Service Obligation:** None

Licensure Fees

- **Description:** Grantees can receive up to \$1,500 per provider for licensure or certificate fees. This can include study materials and exam fees.
- **Service Obligation:** 2 years
- **Opportunity for Input:** The STCs specifically call out exam fees, licensure fees and study materials, but say “included but not limited to.” Are there any other costs to obtain licensure that should be considered?

Backfill Costs

- **Description:** Grantees can receive funds for backfill of providers that are attending trainings for evidence-based practices.
- **Service Obligation:** None
- **Backfill costs cannot exceed:**
 - \$750 per day for practitioners with prescribing privileges
 - \$500 per day for non-prescribing licensed practitioners
 - \$250 per day for all other behavioral health practitioners

Reflection on Similar Past Program & Panel Discussion

Community-Based Organization Grants

- HCAI ran a similar program in 2022-2023 called the [Community-Based Organization \(CBO\) Behavioral Health Workforce Grant Program](#)
- **Awards:** \$116,629,924 to [89 organizations](#)
- Our panel today has some of the awardees from this program and they will share how they used these funds, and provide reflection and lessons learned

Key Differences between CBO grants and Medi-Cal BHRRP (1 of 2)

- **Scale:**
 - CBO grants were restricted to CBO non-profit organizations, Medi-Cal BHRRP is available to any safety net setting (for example county behavioral health)
 - CBO was a one-time 116-million-dollar grant program; Medi-Cal BHRRP is a multi-cycle, multi-year program with up to \$821M in available funding.
 - Individuals only received up to \$25,000 under CBO, Medi-Cal BHRRP provides up to \$50,000
- **Scope:**
 - CBO grant did not include backfill costs for those attending evidence-based trainings
- **Obligations:**
 - Service obligations under CBO were 1 year, they will be 2-4 years under Medi-Cal BHRRP

Key Differences between CBO grants and Medi-Cal BHRRP (2 of 2)

	CBO	BHRRP
Total Funding	\$116,000,000	\$821,100,000
Program Duration	One-Time	5 years
Recruitment bonuses	\$2K	Up to \$20K
Retention bonuses	Up to \$10K	Up to \$4K
Scholarships*	Up to \$25K	Up to \$50K*
Loan Repayment	Up to \$25K	No
Licensure Stipend	No	Up to \$1,500
Supervision	No	Up to \$35K**
Backfill Costs	No	Yes
Recruitment Activities	\$1,250	No
Service obligations	1 year	2-4 years

* A recruitment bonus to support individuals pursuing behavioral health related associate's degrees, bachelor's degrees, master's degrees, or doctorate programs who are completing required training in advance of their final year of education

** Per year per organization