



Lynn Fitch
ATTORNEY GENERAL

NOTICE OF MEETING
of the
OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUND ADVISORY COUNCIL

Pursuant to the provisions of Mississippi Code Annotated Sections 25-41-1 *et seq.* (1972), notice is hereby given of a meeting of the Opioid Settlement Fund Advisory Council to be held on Friday, August 8, 2025, beginning at 1:00 p.m, at the Carroll Gartin Justice Building, 450 High Street, Jackson, MS 39201. The purpose of the meeting is to conduct the regular business of the Council as set forth in the attached Agenda. A public view only link is available below.

<https://itsmsgov.zoom.us/j/81499207256?pwd=VYkEoxOFkicaFIkymm6G93joaOI8aS.1>

This the 7th day of August, 2025.

BY: /s/ Caleb A. Pracht
Caleb A. Pracht
Special Assistant Attorney General



Meeting of the:
Mississippi Opioid Settlement Fund Advisory Council

August 8, 2025

1:00 PM

Carroll Gartin Justice Building
450 High Street, Jackson, MS 39201

Meeting Agenda

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Approval of July 9, 2025 Meeting Minutes**
- III. Old Business**
 - A. Rules, as Amended and Adopted
 - B. Priorities, as Amended and Adopted
- IV. New Business**
 - A. Proposed Request for Grant Applications
 - B. Proposed Application Form and Timeline
 - C. Proposed Scoring Rubric and Subcommittee Assignments
 - D. Sample MOU and Project Budget
- V. Adjourn**

Next Meeting: November 3, 2025



Mississippi Opioid Settlement Fund Advisory Council July 9, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Call to order

The first meeting of the Mississippi Opioid Settlement Fund Advisory Council was called to order at the Walter Sillers State Office Building in Jackson, Mississippi at 1:31 p.m on July 9, 2025.

Introductions and Roll Call

Council members introduced themselves and announced their attendance at the meeting. A quorum was established. An attendee list is attached as Appendix A to these minutes.

Background

Attorney General Lynn Fitch gave remarks on the opioid litigation and settlement agreements. Special Assistant Attorney General Caleb Pracht spoke on the role of the Council and the financial status of the Opioid Settlement Fund.

New Business

Acting as Chair by the Attorney General's designation, Special Assistant Attorney General (SAAG) Caleb Pracht brought forward the Council's Proposed Rules as the first item of new business.

Ms. Veazey moved to amend Rule 100 to add a definition of "Qualified Applicant" to be tied to the eligibility criteria in the Council's Request for Grant Applications. The motion was seconded by Chief Cooper and passed by voice vote.

Mr. Taggart moved to amend Rule 404 to add "(h)," aligning the project with the core strategies outlined in the settlement agreements under Opioid Remediation Uses. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stovall and passed by voice vote.

Mr. Sclafani moved to amend Rule 405 to add that applications will be evaluated according to a scoring rubric and to assign point values to each recommendation tier. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stovall and passed by voice vote.

Mr. Taggart moved to amend Rule 502 to add "financial and" before "performance" on line 2 and to amend Rule 501 to add "accountability" after "appropriation on line 4. The motion was seconded by Chief Cooper and approved by voice vote.

Sheriff Jones moved to approve and adopt the Proposed Rules, as amended. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hudson and approved by voice vote, with Chief Justice Randolph voting No.

SAAG Pracht then brought forward the Council's Proposed Priorities for 2025 as the second item of new business.

Mr. Sclafani moved to amend Priority 3 to add "including but not limited to the organization's ability to provide matching funds in cash or in kind" after "project." The motion was seconded by Ms. Bailey and approved by voice vote.

Chief Cooper moved to amend the Priorities to add as (10) the same language referring to core strategies in the settlement agreements as had been approved for the Rule 404. The motion was seconded by Mr. Moore and approved by voice vote.

Ms. Veazey moved to amend Priority 8 to add "the disproportionate impact of the opioid epidemic on the population to be served." The motion was seconded by Dr. Edney and approved by voice vote.

Ms. Bailey moved to amend Priority 1 to add "surveil" before "or reduce. . . ." The motion was seconded by Mr. Collier and approved by voice vote.

Mr. Moore moved to approve and adopt the Priorities, as amended. The motion was seconded by Ms. Bailey and approved by voice vote, with Chief Justice Randolph voting No.

SAAG Pracht then brought forward the Council's Proposed Request for Grant Applications (RGA) as the third item of new business.

Upon the request of Chief Cooper, and without objection, the Council took a brief recess.

Mr. Taggart moved to conform the "Application Evaluation" section of the RGA to the Rules and the Priorities, as amended and adopted. The motion was seconded by Ms. Wiggins and approved by voice vote.

Sheriff Jones moved to amend the "Proposal Narrative" section of the RGA to clarify that the page limit applies only to Items 1-13. The motion was seconded by Chief Cooper and approved by voice vote.

Ms. Veazey moved to amend Item 4 in the "Application Submission Information" section of the RGA to change "audit" to "statement of financial affairs" and tie the form of that statement to that required by the Secretary of State. The motion was seconded by Mr. Moore and approved by voice vote, with Mr. Taggart and Chief Justice Randolph voting "No."

Sheriff Jones moved to add as Item 18 in the "Proposal Narrative" section of the RGA a requirement that applicants submit a proposed project budget in which no more than 10% of grant funds are assigned to administrative costs. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stovall and approved by voice vote.

Mr. Sclafani moved to amend by striking the "s" in "audits" and to add "of grant funds" after "annual audit" in line 4 of the Post-Award Reporting Requirements Section of the RGA. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stovall and approved by voice vote.

Without objection, the members agreed to adjourn and table a vote on the RGA as amended until the next meeting, at which time SAAG Pracht agreed to provide the Council with the following for their review and approval: a revised RGA, a scoring rubric, a Memorandum of Understanding, and a sample budget.

Announcements

The members agreed to meet again in the near future by zoom and to set the date and time for the next meeting via an online poll.

Adjournment

Sheriff Jones made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Veazey seconded the motion, and the motion was approved by voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 4:12 p.m.

Caleb Pracht

Date of approval

Chapter 01 Opioid Settlement Fund Advisory Council

100 Definitions

As used in this Part, the following terms shall have the meanings as defined in this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

- (a) “Opioid Settlement Fund” means the special fund created in the State Treasury under Mississippi Code Annotated Section 27-103-305, which consists of the monies received by the Attorney General on behalf of the State of Mississippi from settlements of opioid litigation with certain distributors, manufacturers, retail pharmacy chains, and other defendants of related opioid litigation;
- (b) “Council” means the Opioid Settlement Fund Advisory Council, created by Senate Bill No. 2767 of the 2025 Regular Legislative Session (code section later).
- (c) “Opioid settlements” means the current and future settlements of opioid litigation with certain distributors, manufacturers, retail pharmacies, and other defendants of related opioid litigation;
- (d) “Abatement” means efforts to treat, prevent, or reduce opioid use disorder or the misuse of opioids or to otherwise remediate the harmful effects of the opioid epidemic;
- (e) “Abatement settlement funds” means those monies from the opioid settlements that are required to be spent on opioid abatement programs, goods, and services; and
- (f) “Qualified Applicant” means an applicant who meets the eligibility requirements in the Council’s annual Request for Grant Applications.

101 Purpose

The purpose of the Council is to review applications for grants funded by the proceeds of opioid settlements and to make recommendations to the Legislature for the appropriation of abatement settlement funds to fund the grants. [3] The Council shall ensure that opioid settlement funds are allocated and spent in accordance with the terms of the settlement agreements and shall ensure public involvement, accountability, and transparency in allocating and accounting for the monies in the fund. [2]

102 Legal Authority

The Council shall adopt necessary rules, regulations, and procedures to effectuate the purposes of Senate Bill 2767 [code section pending] and to ensure that a grant applicant expends all grant funds in a manner consistent with the terms of the opioid settlement agreements. [14]

103 Source of Funding

The Council shall make prioritized recommendations for grant recipients to the Legislature for projects funded from the abatement settlement funds in the Opioid Settlement Fund.

104 Expenses

Members of the Council shall serve without compensation but may be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties, in accordance with Section 25-4-41. All such expenses shall be paid from the Opioid Settlement Fund or the State General Fund. Reimbursement requests should be submitted to the Attorney General using the form and procedure proscribed by the Attorney General's Office. [9]

105 Administration

The Council shall be housed within the Office of the Attorney General. The Attorney General shall provide the staff and facilities necessary to assist the Council in the performance of its duties. [10]

106 Termination

The Council shall terminate when all opioid settlement funds being paid pursuant to the opioid settlements have been received and disbursed, unless the Attorney General certifies that additional funds are anticipated within one (1) year. [15]

Chapter 2 Composition

201 Membership

The Council is comprised of thirty-seven (37) members, fifteen (15) voting members [5][a] - [l] and twenty-two (22) non-voting advisory members [6][a] - [r]. Voting members may request to add additional nonvoting advisory members with expertise in opioid prevention, treatment, and recovery. [7] Such members may be added by majority vote of the voting members. [7]

202 Leadership

The Attorney General or a designee shall serve as Chair of the Council. The Executive Director of the Department of Mental Health or a designee and the State Health Officer or a designee shall serve as Co-Vice Chairs of the Council. The Chair and Co-Vice Chairs shall serve permanently during their tenure in their respective offices. [5][a]-[c]; [8][a]

203 Terms of Service

Voting members of the Council appointed by the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or Speaker of the House of Representatives shall serve an initial term beginning June 10, 2025 and ending December 31, 2027.[8][b] After the expiration of the initial term, each subsequent appointment of such members shall be for a term of four (4) years from the expiration date of the previous term.

All other voting members and all advisory members of the Council shall serve a three-year term beginning June 10, 2025, and all subsequent terms shall be for a period of three (3) years. [8][c]

204 Removal

The respective appointing authority may remove a member for failure to attend at least one-half (1/2) of the scheduled meetings in any one-year period or for other good cause. Removal of a Council member shall be noticed in writing to the Chair and Co-Vice Chairs of the Council. [8][d]

205 Vacancy

If a vacancy on the Council occurs, the respective appointing authority shall fill the vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term. Notwithstanding the expiration of a member's term, each member shall serve until a successor is duly appointed. [8][e].

Chapter 3 Internal Procedures

301 Meetings

The Council shall meet no less than twice per calendar year. Meetings may be held in-person, by videoconference, or both. All meetings must be noticed to the public on the Department of Finance and Administration's public meetings website at least 24 hours in advance. The Council reserves the right to enter executive session to discuss certain matters privately pursuant to Section 25-41-7.

302 Quorum

A simple majority of the voting members of the Council (8 out of 15) shall constitute a quorum for doing business. [8][g]

303 Conflicts of Interest

Council members shall recuse themselves from the evaluation of grant applications from organizations in which they have a material financial or professional interest, receive any compensation or pecuniary benefit from, or the leadership of which they have a familial relationship with in the first degree.

304 Transparency

The Council shall operate according to the Attorney General's Office Public Records Policy, available on the Attorney General's website.

The Council shall also create and maintain a web page on the Attorney General's website, on which it shall publish its rules, priorities, requests for grant applications, meeting minutes, attendance rolls, and votes.

Chapter 4 Application Review Process

401 Application Procedures

The Council shall develop and publish procedures for the submission of grant applications. [11]([b], including the content and form of an annual Request for Grant Applications ("RGA"). All responses to the RGA shall be submitted to the Council at the following email address: OpioidCouncil@ago.ms.gov.

402 Priorities

At its first meeting of each calendar year, the Council shall prepare a list of priorities to guide the selection of grant recipients. The list of priorities will be published with the annual Request for Grant Applications. [11][a]

403 Subcommittees

Dependent on the volume of grant applications, the Council may, by majority vote, establish and utilize subcommittees to efficiently divide and review applications. Subcommittees may consist of no less than three (3) and no more than five (5) Council members, and may consist of either voting members, advisory members, or both. Subcommittees may consult with industry experts, community stakeholders, and the general public in developing their recommendations.

All subcommittee recommendations must be submitted to the entire Council for review and approved by the voting Council members before inclusion in the report to the Legislature.

404 Evaluation Criteria

In reviewing applications for funding, the Council shall primarily consider whether the services the organization intends to provide with the requested grant funding comply with the terms of the opioid settlement agreements. All qualified applicants shall be included on the list of recommended recipients.

In prioritizing the list of grant recipients, the Council may also consider the following non-exhaustive list of factors:

- (a) The geographic area the project serves;
- (b) The population the project serves;

- (c) The types of abatement services the project provides;
- (d) The length of time the organization has provided abatement services;
- (e) The sustainability of the abatement project;
- (f) The financial stability of the organization seeking grant funding;
- (g) The anticipated impact of the abatement project; and
- (h) The project's alignment with the core strategies outlined in the settlement agreement exhibits listing opioid remediation uses.

405 List of Recommended Recipients

- (a) The Council shall prepare a prioritized list of recommended grant recipients, which shall include a description of how each recommended recipient complies with the Council's published priorities. [11][e]. Upon approval of the list by the Council, the list shall be submitted to the Lieutenant Governor, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Chairs of the Senate and House Appropriations Committees, Chairs of the Senate Public Health and Welfare and House Public Health and Human Services Committees, and Chairs of the Senate and House Judiciary A Committees no later than thirty (30) days before the first day of the Regular Legislative Session.
- (b) Applicants shall be scored according to a scoring rubric developed and approved by the Council, which shall be made available at the time the Request for Grant Applications is published.
- (c) The list shall be prioritized by Tiers 1 through 3, with Tier 1 projects being the highest priority recommended recipients with a score of 70-100, Tier 2 projectst following with a score of 40-69, and a concluding with Tier 3 projects with a score under 40.

406 Non-Exclusion

The Council shall not exclude any qualified applicant from the list provided to the Legislature. [12]

Chapter 5 Reporting Requirements

501 Annual Report

By December 1 of each year, beginning December 1, 2026, the Council shall submit an annual report to the Legislature and the Governor summarizing the distribution of funds, outcomes of funded programs, and any recommendations for improving the process of appropriation, administration, and accountability of settlement funds. [16][a]. The report shall be made publicly available on the Attorney General's website. [16][b]

502 Quarterly Reports

Upon approval of the Council's recommendations by the Legislature and disbursement of funds, grant recipients shall be responsible for collecting certain financial and performance data associated with abatement projects and shall submit such data to the Council on a quarterly basis, no later than January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1 of each year. The

specific reporting requirements shall be determined by the Council and clearly stated in a Memorandum of Understanding.



Mississippi Opioid Settlement Fund Advisory Council 2025 Abatement Grant Priorities

Abatement projects seeking grant funding will be evaluated by the Council subject to the following priorities:

- 1) The abatement project's ability to treat, prevent, surveil, or reduce opioid use disorder or the misuse of opioids, or to otherwise remediate the harmful effects of the opioid epidemic;
- 2) The anticipated impact of the abatement project;
- 3) The sustainability of the abatement project, including but not limited to the organization's ability to provide matching funds in cash or in kind;
- 4) The financial stability of the organization seeking grant funding;
- 5) The size of the population the abatement project will serve;
- 6) The types of abatement services the organization already provides and/or seeks to provide with grant funding;
- 7) The length of time the organization has provided similar services;
- 8) The demographic variety of the population the project will serve, including age and socioeconomic status, and the disproportionate impact of the opioid epidemic on the population to be served;
- 9) The geographic location of the population expected to be served; and
- 10) The project's alignment with the core strategies outlined in the settlement agreement exhibits listing opioid remediation uses.



Mississippi Opioid Settlement Fund Advisory Council 2025 Request for Grant Applications

Overview:

The Mississippi Opioid Settlement Fund Advisory Council (“Council”) was established by the Mississippi Legislature during the 2025 legislative session (SB 2767, 2025 Regular Session). *See also* Laws of 2025, Ch. 469, Sections 1 & 3. The Council seeks applications from eligible organizations to support opioid abatement programs and projects throughout Mississippi.

NOTE: The Council will develop a prioritized list of recommended grant recipients, but the Mississippi Legislature has the ultimate authority to approve or reject the recommended funding.

Funding Source:

Pursuant to Mississippi Code Annotated Section 27-103-305, the Opioid Settlement Fund (“Fund”) is a special fund in the State Treasury funded by the settlement payments from litigation by the State against various companies involved in the manufacturing, distribution, dispensation, and advertisement of opioid painkillers. These proceeds are deposited into the Fund by the Attorney General.

Availability of Funds:

This solicitation, and any awards made under this solicitation, are subject to the availability of 1) the settlement money actually received by the State pursuant to the terms of the settlement agreements and deposited into the Fund by the Attorney General and 2) the appropriation of such funds by the Legislature upon recommendation by the Council.

Eligible Projects:

Grant applications will be evaluated by the Council for compliance with the terms of the settlement agreements. In order to receive abatement funding, eligible programs and projects must fall within the umbrella of “opioid abatement,” which means efforts to treat, prevent, or reduce opioid use disorder or the misuse of opioids or to otherwise remediate the harmful effects of the opioid epidemic. Programs and projects from qualified applicants that do not directly seek to remediate harm caused by the opioid crisis will not be considered for abatement funding, but may be included in the Council’s report to the Legislature .

Application Evaluation:

Applications will be evaluated by the Council based on the following priorities:

- 1) The abatement project's ability to treat, prevent, surveil, or reduce opioid use disorder or the misuse of opioids, or to otherwise remediate the harmful effects of the opioid epidemic;
- 2) The anticipated impact of the abatement project;
- 3) The sustainability of the abatement project, including but not limited to the organization's ability to provide matching funds in cash or in kind;
- 4) The financial stability of the organization seeking grant funding;
- 5) The size of the population the abatement project will serve;
- 6) The types of abatement services the organization already provides and/or seeks to provide with grant funding;
- 7) The length of time the organization has provided similar services;
- 8) The demographic variety of the population the project will serve, including age and socioeconomic status, and the disproportionate impact of the opioid epidemic on the population to be served;
- 9) The geographic location of the population expected to be served; and
- 10) The project's alignment with the core strategies outlined in the settlement agreements exhibits listing opioid remediation uses.

Proposal Narrative:

The Proposal Narrative should be submitted with the Application. Excluding any attachments, your narrative should not exceed 10 pages, double-spaced.

The following must be included in the Proposal Narrative:

- 1) Identify the nature and scope of the problem the proposed program or project will address. Cite sources for any data provided;
- 2) Identify the type of harm caused by the opioid crisis;
- 3) Identify the population to be served;
- 4) Identify the geographic area the program or project will serve by County;
- 5) Identify the number of people expected to be served with the requested award;
- 6) Describe any previous attempts by the applicant to address the problem;
- 7) Describe any current programs of the applicant which address the problem;
- 8) Clearly state the goals and objectives of the proposed program or project;
- 9) Provide a detailed description of proposed actions required to complete the program or project;

- 10) Identify specific services which will be provided to people through the proposed program or project;
- 11) Identify any program or project partners, if applicable;
- 12) Specifically describe how the program or project will utilize evidence- based practices; and
- 13) Demonstrate institutional experience and expertise to implement the proposed program or project effectively.
- 14) Describe the specific roles and responsibilities of all staff who will be involved in the proposed program or project;
- 15) Demonstrate that staff have the appropriate training to carry out all of the duties proposed for the program or project (i.e. Curriculum Vitae, resumes, etc.);
- 16) Provide a plan for collection of performance measure data; and
- 17) Submit copies of any and all Memoranda of Understanding with proposed partners for the program or project, if applicable.

Application Submission Information:

The following **must** be submitted with the Application to be eligible to advance to Council review and receive consideration for recommendation for funding.

- 1) Completed Application Form;
- 2) Proposal Narrative;
- 3) Current organization budget and sources of income, and a proposed project budget in which no more than 10% of grant funds are used on administrative costs;
- 4) The organization's most recent statement of financial affairs, the form of which shall be consistent with that required by the Mississippi Secretary of State under Mississippi Code Annotated Section 79-11-507;
- 5) Policy and Procedures Manual to include: a detailed description of your accounting system, handling of bank statements, disbursements and procurement and property control policy;
- 6) 501(c)(3) documentation, if applicable;
- 7) Proof of incorporation in the state of Mississippi or recognition by the Mississippi Secretary of State as a private or public nonprofit corporation operating within the state of Mississippi, if applicable;
- 8) List of organization's Board of Directors and their contact information;
- 9) A copy of the organization's Mission Statement; and

10) Letters of Support – at least one (1) letter and no more than three (3).

Post-Award Reporting Requirements:

Applicants who are both recommended by the Council to receive grant funding and ultimately do receive such funding from the Legislature will be required to sign a Memorandum of Understanding and provide quarterly financial and performance reporting, an annual audit of grant funds, and final financial and performance reports to the Council.

Submission Deadline:

All applicants must submit the full application, including required attachments, by **5:00 p.m. Central on September 19, 2025**. Any applications received after the deadline will not be accepted.

Contact Information:

All applications and required attachments should be emailed to OpioidCouncil@ago.ms.gov.

For assistance with submitting this Application, contact Caleb Pracht with the Office of the Attorney General at (601) 540-0157 or Caleb.Pracht@ago.ms.gov.



Mississippi Opioid Settlement Fund Advisory Council Grant Application 2025

SECTION 1: Contact Information

Applicant Contact Information

Legal Name:

DBA (if applicable):

Mailing Address:

Telephone:

Website:

Applicant Organization Leadership Information

Name:

Title/Position:

Mailing Address:

Telephone:

Email:

Program Director Contact Information

Name:

Title/Position:

Mailing Address:

Telephone:

Email:

Financial Director Contact Information

Name:

Title/Position:

Mailing Address:

Telephone:

Email:

SECTION 2: Eligibility

Please indicate “Yes” or “No” for the following statement about the applicant’s proposed project:

Y	N	
		The proposed project will treat, prevent, surveil, or reduce opioid use disorder or otherwise remediate the harmful effects of the opioid epidemic in the State of Mississippi.

SECTION 3: Funding Amount Requested

Amount requested for this application:

SECTION 4: Proposal Narrative

Attach a detailed description of the specific objectives of the proposed project for which the Applicant seeks grant funding. Excluding any attachments, your narrative may not exceed 10 pages, double spaced, and must include the following information:

- 1) Identify the nature and scope of the problem the proposed program or project will address. Cite sources for any data provided;
- 2) Identify the type of harm caused by the opioid crisis;
- 3) Identify the population to be served;
- 4) Identify the geographic area the project will serve by County;
- 5) Identify the number of people expected to be served with the requested award;
- 6) Describe any previous attempts by the applicant to address the problem;
- 7) Describe any current programs of the applicant which address the problem;
- 8) Clearly state the goals and objectives of the proposed program or project;
- 9) Provide a detailed description of proposed actions required to complete the program or project;
- 10) Identify specific services which will be provided to people through the proposed program or project;
- 11) Identify any program or project partners, if applicable;

- 12) Specifically describe how the program or project will utilize evidence-based practices;
- 13) Demonstrate institutional experience and expertise to implement the proposed program or project effectively;
- 14) Describe the specific roles and responsibilities of all staff who will be involved in the proposed program or project;
- 15) Demonstrate that staff has the appropriate training to carry out all of the duties proposed for the program or project (i.e. Curriculum Vitae, resumes, etc.);
- 16) Provide a plan for collection of performance measure data; and
- 17) Submit copies of any and all Memoranda of Understanding with proposed partners for the program or project, if applicable.

SECTION 5: Attachments

Please attach the following documents:

- 1) Completed Application Form;
- 2) Proposal Narrative;
- 3) Current organization budget and sources of income, and a proposed project budget in which no more than 10% of grant funds are used on administrative costs;
- 4) The organization's most recent statement of financial affairs, the form of which shall be consistent with that required by the Mississippi Secretary of State under Mississippi Code Annotated Section 79-11-507;
- 5) Policy and Procedures Manual to include: a detailed description of your accounting system, handling of bank statements, disbursements and procurement and property control policy;
- 6) 501(c)(3) documentation, if applicable;
- 7) Proof of incorporation in the state of Mississippi or recognition by the Mississippi Secretary of State as a private or public nonprofit corporation operating within the state of Mississippi, if applicable;
- 8) List of organization's Board of Directors and their contact information;
- 9) A copy of the organization's Mission Statement; and
- 10) Letters of Support- at least one (1) letter and no more than three (3).

All applications and required attachments should be emailed to: OpioidCouncil@ago.ms.gov by **5:00 p.m. Central on September 19, 2025**. Any applications received after the deadline will not be accepted.



Lynn Fitch
ATTORNEY GENERAL

Total Score	
-------------	--

Opioid Settlement Fund Advisory Council Scoring Rubric

Applicant Name: _____

Reviewer Name: _____

Subcommittee Team #: _____

Note: Reviewer name will be redacted if form is provided to applicant.

Date Reviewed: _____

Application Eligibility and Minimum Requirements Checklist

Is this an eligible applicant as defined in the solicitation?

____ Yes ____ No

Does the applicant meet all provider requirements?

____ Yes ____ No

If not, what is missing?

Does the applicant provide all required attachments?

____ Yes ____ No

If not, what is missing?

Does the applicant sufficiently provide in their proposal narrative all information solicited?

____ Yes ____ No

If not, what is missing?

Would you like to request any clarifying information?

EVALUATION CRITERIA	POINTS
<p>Abatement Impact</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project will treat, prevent, surveil, or reduce opioid use disorder or the misuse of opioids, or otherwise remediate the harmful effects of the opioid epidemic • Project aligns with one or more of the core strategies outlined in Exhibit E, List of Opioid Remediation Uses • Overall, project will have a significant anticipated impact on opioid abatement <p>Additional Comments:</p>	<p>____ /20</p>
<p>Proposal Narrative and Attachments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicant identifies the nature and scope of the problem the proposed program or project will address • Applicant identifies the type of harm caused by the opioid crisis • Applicant describes any previous attempts by the applicant to address the problem and any current programs of the applicant which address the problem • Applicant clearly states the goals and objectives of the proposed program or project and provides a detailed description of proposed actions required to complete the program or project • Applicant identifies specific services which will be provided to people through the proposed program or project • Applicant identifies any program or project partners and submits any Memoranda of Understanding with such partners, if applicable <p>Additional Comments:</p>	<p>____ /25</p>
<p>Geographic Area and Population to be Served</p>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project will serve a large geographic area, a disproportionately impacted geographic area, or a geographic area currently lacking access to the types of services the project aims to provide • Project will primarily serve Mississippians • Applicant organization is located, incorporated, or otherwise deeply connected to and invested in the State of Mississippi • Project will serve a large population • Project will serve a population that has been disproportionately impacted by the opioid epidemic • Project will serve a variety of individuals from different age groups and of different socioeconomic status <p>Additional Comments:</p>	<p>____/20</p>
<p>Financial Stability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicant has multiple sources of income • Applicant has a clearly established accounting system, a policy for handling bank statements, disbursements and procurements, and a property control policy • Applicant has provided a thorough and satisfactory statement of financial affairs in the form required by the Secretary of State • Applicant certifies ability to provide matching funds, in cash or in-kind, and states what level of matching applicant is capable of providing • Budget request is reasonable and includes allowable expenses, with no more than 10% of the proposed grant funds to be spent on administrative costs • Budget demonstrates a clear nexus between the specific project and the proposed budget items • Applicant provides a plan for the collection of performance and financial data • Budget only contains items that are supported by the proposal narrative <p>Additional Comments:</p>	<p>____/20</p>
<p>Project Sustainability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicant demonstrates institutional experience, expertise, and staffing necessary to successfully implement the project • Applicant will utilize evidence-based practices in the execution of the project 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organization has provided similar services for a significant length of time • Program describes a plan for the continuity of services without additional state funding • Application describes community-level support for the value of the project and a high need for the services • Applicant has strong letters of support from community stakeholders <p>Additional Comments:</p>	
TOTAL	____/15
Recommended Tier Number 1: 70-100 2: 40-69 3: <40	____/100

Overall Strengths:

Overall Weaknesses:



Mississippi Opioid Settlement Fund Advisory Council 2025 Subcommittee Assignments

Treatment and Recovery Response Subcommittee 1:

Dr. Tom Recore

Dr. Melody Madaris

Mr. Mark Stovall

Mr. Andy Taggart

Senator Angela Turner Ford

Treatment and Recovery Response Subcommittee 2:

Director Wendy Bailey

Representative Sam Creekmore

Mr. James Moore

Mr. Joseph Sclafani

Hon. Judge Brad Touchstone

Law Enforcement Response Subcommittee 3:

Sheriff Tyree Jones

Chief Adam Cooper

Mr. Marshall Fisher

Mr. Bryan Buckley

Local Government Response Subcommittee 4:

Mr. Troy Ross

Ms. Shari Veazey

Mr. Gerry Taylor

Representative Clay DeWeese



Education and Prevention Response Subcommittee 5:

Kym Wiggins

Dr. Saurabh Bhardwaj

Dr. Claude Brunson

Ms. Jennifer Dick

Mr. Greg Spore

Family Response Subcommittee 6:

Attorney General Lynn Fitch

Ms. Ta'Shia Gordon

Senator Nicole Boyd

Ms. Alicia Plunkett

Mr. Gerald Kucia

Public Health Response Subcommittee 7:

Dr. Daniel Edney

Ms. Julia Clarke

Ms. Suzanne Hudson

Mr. Terrance Shirley

Judicial Response Subcommittee 8:

Hon. Chief Justice Michael K. Randolph

Hon. Associate Justice Chamberlin

Hon. Judge Stanley Storey

Hon. Judge Celeste Embry-Wilson

Hon. Judge Trent S. Favre



Mississippi Opioid Settlement Fund Advisory Council 2025 Grant Cycle Timeline

August 11: Request for Grant Applications Published

September 19: Grant Applications Due to the Council by 5:00 PM CT

October 31: Council Subcommittee Scoring Rubrics and Recommendations Due to the Chair by 5:00 PM CT

November 3: Council Meeting to Create the Tiered Recommendations for the Prioritized List of Grant Recipients

December 1: Council Meeting to Approve Prioritized List and Annual Report; Annual Report is Due to the Legislature

December 5: Prioritized List of Recommended Grant Recipients is Due to the Legislature

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Memorandum of Understanding (the "MOU") is entered into between the Opioid Settlement Fund Advisory Council (hereinafter the "Council"), by and through the Mississippi Attorney General's Office (hereinafter the "AGO"), and _____ (hereinafter "Awardee") for funds from the Opioid Settlement Fund (hereinafter "Fund") for the purpose of supporting programs that treat, prevent, surveil, or reduce opioid use disorder or otherwise remediate the harmful effects of the opioid epidemic. Pursuant to the process established by the Council and with the approval of and appropriation by the Mississippi Legislature, the Council awards AWARDEE \$_____ for the express purpose of funding the Project as defined in the attached Proposal Narrative.

RECITALS

WHEREAS, this MOU directs the disbursement of the funds to AWARDEE to pay the costs of the Project; and

WHEREAS, the disbursement of the funds is contingent upon sufficient funds being available in the Fund and appropriation by the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, the attached Project Budget outlines the allocation of funds; and

WHEREAS, the AGO and Council have requested AWARDEE maintain on file documentation of expenditures, including invoices, and furnish any such documentation to the AGO and Council with the quarterly expenditure reports; and

WHEREAS, AWARDEE agrees to provide quarterly expenditure reports to AGO and Council that summarize the expenditure of the funds provided for the Project. AWARDEE shall provide the quarterly expenditure reports by April 10th, July 10th, October 10th and January 10th of each year, as well as an annual expenditures report no more than thirty (30) days after final expenditure of funds, including any/all documents not previously submitted, summarizing the expenditures and use of the proceeds upon completion of the Project; and

WHEREAS, AWARDEE agrees to provide quarterly programmatic reports to AGO and Council that summarize progress made and action taken to achieve the goals of the Project, including, where applicable, statistics on parties served, resources distributed, and other performance data. AWARDEE shall provide the quarterly programmatic reports by April 10th, July 10th, October 10th and January 10th of each year, as well as an annual programmatic report no more than thirty (30) days after final expenditure of funds; and

WHEREAS, the Council finds, consistent with the Project, that it is in the Council and AWARDEE's best interests that the funds allocated for the Project should be disbursed to the AWARDEE by the AGO [in one lump sum/as reimbursement within ten (10) days of receipt of each quarterly report] and that AWARDEE shall directly administer

the expenditure of such funds for the Project.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS MUTUALLY AGREED BY THE MISSISSIPPI OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUND ADVISORY COUNCIL, BY AND THROUGH THE MISSISSIPPI ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE, AND AWARDEE AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Each and all of the facts and findings set forth in the preamble clauses of this memorandum are hereby found and determined to be true and accurate and are incorporated herein by this reference thereto as though set forth again in words and figures.

SECTION 2. Awardee will receive the funds in a lump sum within ten (10) days of the execution of this MOU.

OR

Awardee will receive funds as reimbursement within ten (10) days of the receipt of each quarterly report.

SECTION 3. AWARDEE agrees to use all funds received from the Council exclusively for the Project as authorized and provided by the attached Proposal Narrative and Project Budget. Failure on the part of AWARDEE to adhere to any provision within this MOU may result in immediate action by the State to recover any unexpended funds.

SECTION 4. AWARDEE agrees to maintain on file the documentation in accordance with the recitals of this MOU and to submit such documentation to the AGO as required.

SECTION 5. AWARDEE agrees to provide the AGO quarterly reports summarizing expenditures of the Project. AWARDEE shall provide the monthly expenditure reports by April 10th, July 10th, October 10th and January 10th of each year, as well as an annual expenditures report no more than thirty (30) days after final expenditure of funds, including any/all documents not previously submitted, summarizing the expenditures and use of the proceeds upon completion of the Project.

SECTION 6. AWARDEE agrees to maintain copies of all invoices and similar documentation for each expenditure of all funds received for the Project sufficient to satisfy and confirm, to AGO's satisfaction, that such funds have been expended **solely** for the costs of the Project as authorized and provided by the Proposal Narrative and Budget Narrative.

SECTION 7. AWARDEE agrees to provide quarterly programmatic reports to AGO and Council that summarize progress made and action taken to achieve the goals of the Project, including, where applicable, statistics on parties served, resources, distributed,

and other performance data. AWARDDEE shall provide the quarterly programmatic reports by April 10th, July 10th, October 10th and January 10th of each year, as well as an annual programmatic report no more than thirty (30) days after final expenditure of funds.

SECTION 8. All notices or information pursuant to this MOU shall be provided as follows:

AWARDEE

John Smith, Executive Director
Post Office Box 123
Coffee Pot, Mississippi
Phone: (601) 555-5555
Email: jsmith@awardde.org

Mississippi Attorney General's Office

Attention: Caleb Pracht, Special Assistant Attorney General
P.O. Box 220
Jackson, Mississippi 39205
Phone: (601) 540-0157
Email: Caleb.Prahct@ago.ms.gov

SECTION 9. This MOU shall be effective from and after the last signature date and expire on June 30, 2027. Should AWARDDEE require additional time to expend funds distributed under this MOU to complete the Proposal Narrative, and subject to spending authority and approval of the Council, as necessary, the parties will sign another MOU with similar terms for the next 12 months.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have affixed their signatures on the dates indicated below.

MISSISSIPPI ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE

By: _____
Lynn Fitch, Attorney General

Date: _____

AWARDEE

By: _____

Date: _____

John Smith, Executive Director

Category	As Approved	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Salaries					
Fringe					
Contractual					
Equipment					
Supplies					
Travel					
Other					
Totals					

Category	January	February	March	As Approved	Remaining
Salaries					
Fringe					
Contractual					
Equipment					
Supplies					
Travel					
Other					
Totals					

Category	April	May	June	As Approved	Remaining
Salaries					
Fringe					
Contractual					
Equipment					
Supplies					
Travel					
Other					
Totals					

Category	July	August	September	As Approved	Remaining
Salaries					
Fringe					
Contractual					
Equipment					
Supplies					
Travel					
Other					
Totals					

Category	October	November	December	As Approved	Remaining
Salaries					
Fringe					
Contractual					
Equipment					
Supplies					
Travel					
Other					
Totals					