

Question: Who can apply for Program funds?

Response: Cities, counties, and cities and counties may apply for Program funds.

Question: How much funding is available for the Program?

Response: The Program is funded by a \$25 million appropriation in the 2016 Budget Act.

Question: What are the minimum and maximum Program grant amounts?

Response: The maximum Program grant amount is \$2 million per application. Statute does not specify a minimum grant amount.

Question: Can a city or county request Program funds for multiple facilities in their jurisdictions?

Response: Yes. However, the city or county must submit an individual application for each facility. The maximum grant award for each facility is \$2 million.

Question: Is there a due date for Program applications?

Response: Applications may be submitted between October 1, 2016 and October 1, 2018. Because the Department of Finance will review applications as they are received, interested cities and counties should apply at their earliest convenience, to ensure Program funds will still be available if their application is approved.

Question: What criteria will the Department of Finance use to select Program participants?

Response: Please see Government Code section 30035.4 (b) for the criteria that the Department shall consider when reviewing Program applications.

Question: Are Program funds one-time in nature, or can applicants request Program funds for multiple years?

Response: The Program is funded by a one-time 2016 Budget Act appropriation of \$25 million. Applicants therefore should not request multiple years' worth of Program funds. However, successful applicants may use their Program funds over whatever period of time they deem appropriate.

Question: What can Program funds be used for?

Response: Please see Government Code section 30035.5 (b) for a complete list of the approved activities for which the city or county and the partner facility operator may use Program funds.

Question: Are Program participants required to provide matching funds?

Response: No. However, Government Code section 30035.4 (c) states the proposed provision of matching funds by the applicant city or county shall be used by the Department of Finance as a tiebreaker when two or more applications are equal in merit.

Question: Can Program funds be used to supplement a contract with an existing facility operator?

Response: Yes. However, the city or county must ensure the conditional use permit or equivalent local entitlement for the partner facility is valid for at least 10 years from the date that Program funds are awarded, in accordance with Government Code section 30035 (a) (2) (B).

Question: Can Program funds be used to support facilities that provide long-term housing and services?

Response: No. Per Government Code section 30035.2 (a), Program funds shall be for facilities that provide transitional housing under a conditional use permit or other local entitlement that is valid for at least 10 years.

Question: Do cities and counties need to pick their partner facility operator before they submit their application?

Response: Yes. This is because statute requires the Program application to include information concerning the past operational history of the partner facility operator.

Question: Are cities and counties limited to partnering with non-profit facility operators?

Response: Statute contains no such limit. Program participants may therefore partner with either non-profit or for-profit facility operators.

Question: Is there a limit to the amount of Program funds that cities, counties, and facility operators can use for administrative expenses?

Response: Statute specifies no such limit. However, participants may only use Program funds for the approved activities specified in Government Code section 30035.5 (b). While administrative costs, per se, are not one of the approved activities, it is possible the approved activities will have administrative cost components. The Department of Finance believes legislative intent is that the administrative cost component of an approved activity shall be minor and shall not inhibit the fulfillment of that activity.

Question: Instead of a 10-year conditional use permit or equivalent local entitlement, can applicants provide a city council or county board of supervisors' resolution that promises their partner facility can operate for at least 10 years?

Response: No. The city or county must provide the facility operator a 10-year conditional use permit or equivalent local entitlement that is legally binding. City council and county board of supervisors' resolutions can be rescinded by a subsequent council or board resolution. Such resolutions therefore do not provide the partner facility operator with legal assurance that they can operate their facility for at least 10 years.