



# Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA) Local Drug Crises Grant Program

Opportunity number: CDC-RFA-CE-26-0110

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# CARA NOFO



**Accessing the NOFO:  
Search for the NOFO in  
<https://simpler.grants.gov/opportunity/7859e970-00ec-4f1c-987c-d2d7c0e66415>**

Enter the funding opportunity number and click on the NOFO title; download NOFO and all supporting materials

**Due Date: June 8, 2026 at 11:59PM ET**

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## Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA)

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**Agency:** Centers for Disease Control - NCIPC

[Assistance Listings:](#) 93.799--CARA ACT Comprehensive Addition and Recovery Act of 2016

Last Updated: May 6, 2026 [View version history on Grants.gov](#)

**Description** [Jump to all documents](#)

The Drug-Free Communities (DFC) Support Program was created by the Drug-Free Communities Act of 1997 (Public Law 105-20). The Executive Office of the President, Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC) are accepting applications for Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA) Community-based Coalition Enhancement Grants to Address Local Drug Crises Grants (CARA Local Drug Crises Grants) as an enhancement to current or formerly funded Drug-Free Communities (DFC) Support Program recipients. The purpose of this program is to prevent and reduce the use of opioids and methamphetamines and the misuse of prescription drugs among youth ages 12-18 in communities throughout the United States.

**Eligibility**

**Eligible applicants**

**Government**

- Federally recognized Native American tribal governments
- County governments
- City or township governments
- Special district governments

**Education**

**Closing:** June 8, 2026

Electronically submitted applications must be submitted no later than 11:59 pm ET on the listed application due date.

**Application process**

This site is a work in progress. Go to [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) to apply, track application status, and subscribe to updates.

[View on Grants.gov](#)

**Award**

\$18,750,000	50
Program Funding	Expected awards
\$--	\$75,000
Award Minimum	Award Maximum

**Funding opportunity number:** CDC-RFA-CE-26-0110

# CARA | Program Theory

- A small amount of **Federal funding combined with a local match** of resources and volunteer support can reduce youth drug use.
- By **mobilizing community leaders** to identify and respond to the drug problems unique to their community, DFC is designed to change local community environmental conditions tied to substance abuse, the **entire community environment**.
- Focusing on **environmental change** ultimately contributes to reductions in substance use among youth, and over time, substance abuse among adults.



# CARA Program Overview

- The Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA) Community-based Coalition Enhancement Grants to Address Local Drug Crises Grants, known as the CARA Local Drug Crises Program was created by the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (P.L. 114-198).
- The purpose of this program is to enhance the efforts of current or former Drug-Free Communities (DFC) recipients to prevent substance use among youth by addressing local drug crises and emerging drug use issues.



# CARA Program Goals



- The CARA Program has two goals:
  - Prevent or reduce use of **opioids, methamphetamine, and/or prescription drug** use among youth.
  - Change the **culture and context** regarding the **acceptability** of youth use and misuse of these substances.



# FY 2026 CARA Grant Recipients

## Eligibility:

- Eligible applicants are community-based coalitions addressing opioid, methamphetamine, and/or prescription drug use/misuse by local youth.
- A CARA applicant must reside within the United States and/or the U.S. Territories



## Grant Details:

- Approximately 50 CARA-funded community coalitions
- \$3.75 million in grant funding directly to local communities
- Annual Grant Award: \$75,000
- Period of Performance: 5 Years in 12-Month Budget Periods

# CARA | Administrative & National Policy Requirements



Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government

Ending Radical and Wasteful Government DEI Programs and Preferencing

Enforcing the Hyde Amendment

Protecting the American People Against Invasion

Ending Crime and Disorder on America's Streets

## REMINDER

- ✓ **This is not an exhaustive list**
- ✓ **Additional Executive Orders, including any issued during the period of performance, may apply. Applicants are responsible for ensuring compliance.**

# Get Ready to Apply!

## **SAM.gov**

You **must** have an active account with SAM.gov to apply. To register: Go to **SAM.gov** Entity Registration and select Get Started. From the same page, you can also select the Entity Registration Checklist for the information you will need to register.

## **Grants.gov**

You **must** also have an active account with Grants.gov. You can see step-by-step instructions at the Grants.gov Quick Start Guide for Applicants.

The application package has all the forms you need to apply. Go to Grants.gov and search for opportunity number **CDC-RFACE-26-0110**.

## **NOFO Questions**

If you have questions specific to the CARA NOFO, please contact the CARA Helpline at:  
**CARA\_NOFO@cdc.gov**.

Please allow 24-48 hours for the team to follow-up with a response to your question.



## **Part II**

# **Statutory Eligibility Requirements and Submission Instructions**

Review the requirements for award eligibility

# CARA | Statutory Eligibility Requirements

Applicants **must meet all** CARA Local Drug Crisis grant Statutory Eligibility Requirements per Section 103 of the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act:

- Be able to receive federal funding individually or through a legal entity eligible to receive federal funds (e.g. fiscal agent).
- Be a former or current recipient of Drug-Free Communities (DFC) funding.
- Be able to demonstrate that the local rate of opioid and/or methamphetamine is significantly higher than the national average or rates higher than the national average sustained over a long period of time.
- Be able to report on the Core Measure Data for specified substances.

# CARA | Proof of Statutory Eligibility Requirements

To meet the statutory eligibility requirements, include the following in your application:

- Entity Eligible to Receive Federal Grants
- Disclosure of Current or Former Drug-Free Communities Support Program Funding
- Statement of Rates of Opioid and Methamphetamine Use
- CARA Program Evaluation Requirements

# Eligible to Receive Federal Funds

## **Statutory Eligibility Requirement: A coalition must be eligible to receive federal funds.**

- ❑ Eligibility Option 1: The Coalition is a 501(c)(3) organization on or before the date the application is submitted.
- ❑ Eligibility Option 2: The Coalition is **not** a 501(c)(3) organization and must use a Fiscal Agent as its Legal Applicant to apply on its behalf. The applicant must provide a **Memorandum of Understanding** describing the relationship between the Fiscal Agent and Coalition.

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is a formal, signed agreement that outlines the roles and responsibilities of both the Fiscal Agent and the Coalition, describing how they will work together to manage the grant.

# Previous DFC Funding

**Statutory Eligibility Requirement:** A coalition must indicate whether they have received prior DFC funding by completing the checklist and the table within the attachment.

- Current or former DFC recipients may apply for CARA.



# Opioid and Methamphetamine Misuse Rates

**Statutory Eligibility Requirement:** You must include a statement describing the current rates of misuse of opioids and methamphetamine within the target community or population. Demonstrate that these rates are significantly higher than the national average or the rates are higher than the national average sustained over a long period of time. This information should be based on the most recent and reliable data available and should clearly indicate the sources used.

## National Data Sources

- [Monitoring the Future Survey \(MTF\)](#)
- [National Survey on Drug Use and Health \(NSDUH\)](#)

# National Cross-Site Evaluation

**Statutory Eligibility Requirement: A coalition must participate in the CARA National Cross-Site Evaluation. This includes:**

- Providing data every 2 years on core measures for youth prescription drug use in at least three grades between 6th and 12th grade.

## CARA Core Measures

- Every **two years**
- On **Prescription Drugs**
- In at least **three grades:** 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>
- Past 30-day use
- Perception of Risk/Harm of Use

**You will collect data for the following measure(s):**

- Past 30-day use: The percentage of survey respondents who reported misusing prescription drugs at least once within the past 30 days.
- Perception of risk: The percentage of survey respondents who perceived that their use of a given substance has moderate or great risk.

# Are You Eligible to Apply?

## Did you meet all the CARA statutory eligibility requirements?

- If yes: Congratulations! Your coalition is eligible to apply for CARA funding.



## **Part III**

# **Preparing your Application**

Review the components you will need to submit to complete your application.

# Before you begin...

Secure your SAM.gov and Grants.gov registrations now. If you are already registered, make sure your registrations are active and up-to-date.

## **SAM.gov registration (this can take several weeks)**

- You must have an active account with SAM.gov. This includes having a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI).

## **Grants.gov registration (this can take several days)**

- You must have an active Grants.gov registration. Doing so requires a Login.gov registration.

# NOFO Outline



# Understand Key Details

**The purpose of the NOFO is to support community coalitions that work to address youth misuse of opioids, methamphetamine, and prescription drugs.**

- Funding Details
  - A coalition **may only** request up to \$75,000 per year
  - \$75,000 per year for a five-year period
- Statutory Eligibility Requirements
  - Meet **all** statutory requirements as part of the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act
  - Failure to meet even one statutory requirement will deem the applicant ineligible
- Program Description
  - Background, Purpose, Approach
  - Data, monitoring, and evaluation
  - Organizational Capacity
  - Funding Policies and Limitations

# Eligible Applicants

The community coalition must be a 501(c)(3) organization. Or the coalition can partner with an outside organization that is eligible to receive federal funds to serve as the fiscal agent on behalf of the coalition.

- State governments or their bona fide agents (includes the District of Columbia).
- Territorial governments or their bona fide agents
- County governments or their bona fide agents.
- City or township governments or their bona fide agents.
- Special district governments or their bona fide agents.
- Independent school districts.
- Public and state-controlled institutions of higher education.
- Native American tribal governments (federally-recognized)
- American Indian, or Alaska native tribally-designated organizations.
- Public housing authorities and Indian housing authorities.
- Native American tribal organizations, other than federally-recognized tribal governments.
- Nonprofits with a 501(c)(3) status, other than institutions of higher education.
- Private institutions of higher education.
- State-controlled institutions of higher education.
- For-profit organizations other than small businesses.
- Small businesses.

# Program Description

## Background, Purpose, Approach

- Strategies and Activities, Outcomes
  - Comprehensive approach using the *seven strategies for community-level change*.
- Communities Served
  - Clearly defined community using various geographic boundaries (i.e., Neighborhoods, Census Tracts, Zip codes, School districts, Townships, Counties, Parish lines, and Other defining properties)
- Work Plan (12-month action plan)
  - A detailed plan aligned with the period of performance.
  - Outlines specific objectives, strategies, and activities that align with the two CARA goals, including who is responsible and the anticipated timeframe.

## Seven Strategies

- **Provide information** about youth substance use.
- **Build skills** so youth, adults, and community members can build positive social skills and decision-making abilities.
- **Provide support** to increase opportunities that reduce risk factors or enhance protective factors for youth and young adults.
- **Increase access, reduce barriers, and improve connections** between systems and services that help prevent youth substance use.
- **Change consequences** to incentivize positive practices and disincentivize negative practices.
- **Change the physical design** of the community to reduce the risk for and enhance protection against youth substance use.
- **Educate and inform** about policies that reduce access and availability to substances among youth.

# Program Description

## Data, monitoring, and evaluation

- Responsible for adhering to the CARA National Cross-Site Evaluation, including collecting and reporting the CARA Program's required measures
- Required to submit annual progress reports that outline the community profile, sector and youth engagement, coalition capacity, risk, and protective factors, and implementation of youth substance use prevention strategies

### CARA Core Measures

- Every **two years**
- On **Prescription Drugs**
- In at least **three grades:** 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>
- Past 30-day use
- Perception of Risk/Harm of Use

Applicants are not required to be in compliance with the CARA National Cross-Site Evaluation Requirements at the time of application

Step 1:  
Review the  
Opportunity

# Program Description (contd.)

## Organizational Capacity

- Demonstrate your organizational capacity to manage and implement the grant.  
This capacity includes:
  - Organizational structure
  - Key Personnel
  - Community Coalition
  - Collaborations

# Organizational structure

You must describe the organizational structure and how it will support your implementation of the grant. You must have the capacity to:

- Oversee operations of activities and programs.
- Provide fiscal oversight.
- Complete and submit required reports on time.
- Provide adequate communication.
- Formulate coalition goals and objectives.
- Develop and carry out the 12-month action plan.
- Retain and recruit members.
- Demonstrate substantial involvement from volunteers.

**If you are partnering with a fiscal agent, please note:** fiscal agents must be in the same geographic state as the coalition to ensure that one of the purposes of the statute is for the coalition to represent a community.

# Key Personnel

## Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) :

- The AOR is the representative of the applicant/recipient organization with **authority to act on the organization's behalf** in matters related to the award and administration of grants and demonstrates organization capacity to **manage the programmatic and fiscal requirements** of the grant.
- The AOR must be an employee of the applicant/recipient organization and must be identified in the 'Personnel' budget category as either federal or non-federal.

# Key Personnel (cont'd)

## Program Director/Principal Investigator (PD/PI):

- The PD/PI is the person who provides programmatic oversight of the grant and is accountable to officials of the recipient organization. **The PD/PI cannot be the same person as the AOR.** The PD/PI must be identified in the 'Personnel' budget category as either federal or non-federal.

# Community Coalition

Applicants should demonstrate that their coalition is well-established, actively engaged, and capable of leading a comprehensive, community-wide prevention initiative that reflects the unique needs and strengths of the population served.



Step 1:  
Review the  
Opportunity

# Program Description (cont.)

## Funding Policies and Limitations

- Changes in HHS Regulation
- Unallowable costs

*As of October 1, 2025, HHS adopted [2 CFR 200](#), with some exceptions included in 2 CFR 300. These regulations replace those in 45 CFR 75. You can find details in HHS Summary of Regulatory Changes, which is posted in the Grants.gov Related Documents tab for this opportunity.*

*Pursuant to 2 CFR 200.340, the recipient agrees that, by accepting this award, continued funding for the award is contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds, recipient satisfactory performance, compliance with the terms and conditions of the award, and a determination by the agency that the award continues to effectuate program goals or agency priorities.*

# Application Contents – What you need to submit

<b>Narratives</b>	Project Abstract Project Narrative Budget Narrative Justification
<b>Attachments</b>	Insert each in the Other Attachments Form
<b>Other Required Forms</b>	Upload using each required form

# Narratives

# Project Abstract - Overview

Provide a self-contained summary of your proposed project, including the purpose and outcomes.

- Paints a picture of the community, providing an opportunity to educate reviewers about the community.
- Applicants must enter the summary in the Project Abstract Summary form in [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov).

**Page Limit:** 1

**Name the file:** Project Abstract Summary

**Scoring:** Required element, however, section is not scored

# Project Narrative – Headings & Subheadings

## 1. Background and Approach

- Background
- Approach
- Communities served
- Work plan

## 2. Evaluation & Performance Measurement

- Evaluation and performance measurement plan

## 3. Organizational Capacity

- Organizational structure
- Community coalition

*Your project narrative must use the exact headings, subheadings, and order.*

# Project Narrative – Overview

- Project Narrative must be succinct, self-explanatory, and read like a story of your community. Pay attention to the **Project Description** section.
- Applicants must enter the project narrative in the Project Narrative Attachment form.

**Page Limit:** 20

**Name the file:** Project Narrative

**Scoring:** 100 Total Points Possible

# Project Narrative – Scoring

Section	Evaluation Criterion	Total Number of Points
<b>Background and approach</b> <i>50 points</i>	Background	5 points
	Approach	20 points
	Communities served	5 points
	Work plan	20 points
<b>Evaluation and performance measurement</b> <i>25 points</i>	Evaluation and performance measurement plan	25 points
<b>Organizational capacity</b> <i>25 points</i>	Organizational structure	15 points
	Community coalition	10 points

**Maximum Score: 100 points**

# Project Narrative Scoring - Background

**Background (5 points):** Describe the problem you plan to address. Be specific to your population and geographic area.

Reviewers will evaluate the extent to which the applicant provides:

A clear description of the local drug crisis. This description should include evidence of any sudden increase in youth misuse of opioids, methamphetamine, and/or prescription drugs; any sudden increase in demand for treatment; and/or any lack of resources to address these emerging issues. Applicants should use recent, reliable data to demonstrate these conditions and clearly articulate the local circumstances driving the crisis.

# Project Narrative Scoring - Approach

**Approach (20 points):** Describe how you will carry out the proposed *strategies and activities* to achieve expected performance outcomes.

Reviewers will evaluate the extent to which the applicant provides:

- Goals that are aligned with the CARA logic model and consistent with the period of performance outcomes in the program's logic model. Strategies and activities that are achievable and appropriate to meet the project outcomes. **(10 points)**
- How the application builds upon the DFC foundation and structure to enhance and expand the coalition's ability to address prescription drug(s), opioid, and methamphetamine use. **(10 points)**

# Project Narrative Scoring - Communities Served

***Communities Served (5 points):*** Describe the community you plan to address under this award. Explain how you will include them and meet their needs in your project.

Reviewers will evaluate the extent to which the applicant provides:

- A clear description of the community, including geographic areas served.

# Project Narrative Scoring - Workplan

## ***Workplan (20 points): Describe your 12-month action plan from 2026-2027***

Reviewers will evaluate the extent to which the applicant provides a detailed 12-month action plan that:

- Provides a comprehensive approach to address the identified local drug crisis and prevent youth prescription drug, opioid, and/or methamphetamine use using the seven strategies for community level change.
- Includes SMART objectives – *Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-bound*.
- Addresses risk and protective factors.

**Maximum Score for Background and Approach Section: 50 points**

# Project Narrative Scoring - Evaluation & Performance Measurement Plan

***Evaluation and performance measurement plan (25 points):*** Describe how you will fulfill the requirements in the data, monitoring, and evaluation section of the program description.

Reviewers will evaluate the extent to which the applicant provides:

- How the coalition will **participate in the CARA National Cross-Site Evaluation** & collect data on prescription drug, opioid, and/or methamphetamine use. **(10 points)**
- How the coalition will monitor and evaluate the success of the goals and objectives of the workplan (i.e., 12-Month Action Plan) **(10 points)**
- How the coalition will share findings with all segments of the community, including a description of the data that will be produced using these NOFO funds. **(5 points)**

**Maximum Score: 25 points**

# Project Narrative Scoring - Organizational Capacity

**Organizational Capacity (25 points):** Describe how you will address the requirements in the organizational capacity section of the program description.

Reviewers will evaluate the extent to which the applicant provides:

- The capacity of the organization to manage programmatic and fiscal requirements of the grant, including the **roles and responsibilities of key personnel** and recruitment and retention of coalition members, especially youth. **(15 points)**
- The roles and responsibilities of the community coalition and fiscal agent (if applicable), including how the sector representatives will be involved in achieving the coalition's goals, and how the coalition will collaborate with other organizations. **(10 points)**

**Maximum Score: 25 points**

# Budget Narrative - Overview

The Budget Narrative explains and justifies the costs in your budget (Form 424-A)

- Must be itemized
- Proposed budget is reasonable and consistent with the project narrative
- A copy of the indirect cost-rate agreement is required only for those requesting indirect costs in the budget
- CDC's budget preparation guidelines can be found at:  
[www.cdc.gov/grants/documents/Budget-Preparation-Guidance.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/grants/documents/Budget-Preparation-Guidance.pdf)
- Use the budget narrative attachment form in [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov)

**Page Limit:** N/A

**Name the file:** Budget Narrative

**Scoring:** Required element, however, section is not scored

# Attachments

All attachments should be uploaded into a single Other Attachments form on [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov)

# Attachments 1

## ☐ File Name: **Table of contents**

Provide a detailed table of contents for your entire submission that includes all the documents in the application and all the headings in the project narrative section.

# Attachments 2

## ❑ File Name: **Meeting Minutes**

- One set of coalition minutes from one meeting that took place between January 2025 and the deadline for submission of this application.
- Include the following:
  - Meeting month, date, and year
  - Demonstrate coalition membership involvement
  - A listing of attendees, noting the sector that each attendee represents
- Must be the coalition's minutes, not those of an outside agent applying on behalf of the coalition.

Meeting minutes are required to demonstrate that applicant coalitions are active. They provide evidence of regular partner engagement and shared decision-making.

# Attachments 3

## ❑ File Name: **General applicant information**

This provides critical contact information and demographic information about your coalition and community. You must provide responses for all the requested information including:

- ❑ Key personnel
- ❑ The coalition's mission statement
- ❑ Substances addressed
- ❑ The date the coalition was established
- ❑ Zip code served
- ❑ Other community information

KEY PERSONNEL	
Information Required	Response
1. Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) Name/Title Address (No P.O. Boxes) City/State/ZIP Phone Number E-mail Address	
2. Program Director/Principal Investigator (PD/PI) Name/Title Address (No P.O. Boxes) City/State/ZIP Phone Number E-mail Address	
COALITION AND COMMUNITY INFORMATION	
3. Coalition Mission Statement	
4. Substances addressed	
5. What is the date that the Coalition was established? <i>Provide month, day, and year.</i>	
6. List all ZIP codes served by the coalition. ( <a href="#">Look up a ZIP code at USPS.com.</a> )	
7. What is the population size of the community served by the coalition?	
8. What is the median income in the community the coalition intends to serve?	
9. Does the coalition serve a federally recognized tribal area?	
10. Does the coalition have representation from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Indian Health Service, or a tribal government agency with expertise in the field of substance use?	
11. Enter your SAM registration date. <b>Failure to have an active registration will make your application ineligible.</b>	

# Attachments 4

## **File Name: Statement of Legal Eligibility\***

You must indicate that you are able to receive federal funds.

- If you (the coalition) are applying on your own behalf, you must have obtained 501(c)(3) status before you submit your application. You will sign and date the form.
- If you are partnering with a legal entity eligible to receive federal grants, they must sign and date the form.

### Statement of Legal Eligibility

By statute, the Legal Applicant must demonstrate that the coalition is a nonprofit organization or has made arrangements with a legal entity that is eligible to receive federal grants. To meet this Statutory Eligibility Requirement, applicants **must** select either Option 1 or Option 2 and submit the signed **Statement of Legal Eligibility**.

Use the following format to provide your statement of legal eligibility

### Statement of Legal Eligibility

**OPTION 1. The Coalition is a 501(c)(3) organization.**

To apply on their own behalf, coalitions must have obtained 501(c)(3) status on or before the date their application is submitted. The Coalition's name is listed on the SF-424 in Box #8a with the **Coalition's Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN)**.

**OPTION 2. The Coalition is not a 501(c)(3) organization.**

The Coalition **must** use a Fiscal Agent as their Legal Applicant to apply on its behalf. The Fiscal Agent's name is listed on the SF-424 in Box #8a with the **Fiscal Agent's Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN)**. The applicant must provide a Memorandum of Understanding describing the relationship between the Fiscal Agent and Coalition.

I hereby certify that the organization applying for this grant is legally eligible to receive federal funding in accordance with the requirements listed above.

Step 3:  
Build Your  
Application

# Attachments 5

## File Name: **Statement of rates of misuse of opioids and methamphetamines\***

- You must provide local data describing the current rates of misuse of opioids and methamphetamine within the target community or population.
- The rates need to be higher than the national average.
- Provide the rates of use, the source of the data, and the year.

### Statement of Local Rates of Opioid or Methamphetamine Use

Applicants must be able to demonstrate that the local rate of opioid and/or methamphetamine is significantly higher than the national average, or rates higher than the national average sustained over a long period of time\*.

Complete the table below to document that your local rate of misuse of opioid or methamphetamine use is higher than the national average. National averages are provided across two data sources.

Here are two data sources to document the national average rate of use in addition to your local data sources.

- Monitoring the Future Survey (MTF)  
[National Survey Results on Drug Use, 1975-2023: Overview and Detailed Results for Secondary School Students | Monitoring the Future](#)
- National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH)  
[Key Substance Use and Mental Health Indicators in the United States: Results from the 2024 National Survey on Drug Use and Health](#)

Opioids		Rates of Use	Source of Data	Year
	National Rates			
Local Rates				

OR

Meth-amphetamines		Rates of Use	Source of Data	Year
	National Rates			
Local Rates				

\*For the purposes of this NOFO, applicants may demonstrate eligibility for this statutory requirement by showing that local rates of opioid and methamphetamine use are significantly higher than the most recent national estimates. Considering the results and methodological changes in the Monitoring the Future Survey and the National Survey on Drug Use and Health applicants will not be able to demonstrate rates of abuse of opioids or methamphetamines at levels that are higher than the national average over a sustained period of time. Given this, applicants are not required to demonstrate trends over a sustained period of time.

Step 3:  
Build Your  
Application

# Attachments 6

## File Name: **Statement of rates of misuse of opioids and methamphetamines\***

- For national rates of opioids or methamphetamines, you can use Monitoring the Future or the National Survey on Drug Use and Health.
- For local data, this information should be based on the most recent and reliable data available and should clearly indicate the sources used.

**Please note:** Although the CARA statutory language states that applicants may demonstrate higher rates compared to the national average **over a sustained period of time**, there were methodological changes in the Monitoring the Future Survey and the National Survey on Drug Use and Health over the last 5 years. Therefore, applicants only need to demonstrate rates of abuse of opioids or methamphetamines at levels that are higher than the national average for **one point in time**.

# Attachments 7

## **File Name: Memorandum of Understanding\***

If you cannot receive federal funds and choose to partner with a legal entity (i.e., fiscal agent) that can receive federal grants, you must provide an MOU that describes the relationship between the legal entity and the coalition. Your MOU should outline each party's roles and responsibilities.

Please note:

- A representative of the legal entity and a representative of the coalition must sign the document. **This MUST be two different people.**
- If the coalition exists within the legal entity that can receive federal grants, an MOU is still required.
- If the name of the legal entity does not match the name of the coalition on the SF-424, an MOU is required.

# MOU & Legal Entity (Fiscal Agent)

- **Choose your legal entity (fiscal agent) wisely**
- If the coalition exists within the legal entity (fiscal agent) that can receive federal grants, an MOU is still required.
- If the name of the legal entity (fiscal agent) does not match the name of the coalition on the SF-424, an MOU is required.
- The legal entity (fiscal agent) can only be in receipt of one DFC grant at a time and cannot apply on behalf of multiple coalitions
- The legal entity (fiscal agent) must be in the same state (geographically) as the coalition



# Attachments 8

- ❑ **File Name: Disclosure of prior DFC funding\***  
You must indicate whether you have ever received prior DFC funding by completing the checklist and the table within the attachment.

**Disclosure of Current or Former Drug-Free Communities Support Program Funding**

Please complete and sign this form and submit with your application package.

Are you applying as a:  Former DFC Grant Award Recipient  
 Current DFC Grant Award Recipient

Former or Current DFC Grant Award Number		
Legal Applicant/Grant Award Recipient Name		
Coalition Name		
Years of Funding		

By signing below, I attest that the [Name of Coalition] is either a current or former DFC grant award recipient and therefore eligible to apply for the FY 2026 CARA local Drug Crises Grant. We also attest the information provided in the table is true and correct.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Official Coalition Representative's Name (Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Applicant/Grant Recipient Representative's Name (Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Official Coalition Representative's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Applicant/Grant Recipient Representative's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Step 3:  
Build Your  
Application

# Attachments 9

## ❑ File Name: **Congressional notification**

You must provide a summary of your coalition and your proposed activities. If the application is funded, this information will be shared with members of Congress and the media and may be posted on the DFC website.

## ❑ File Name: **Indirect cost rate agreement**

If you include indirect costs in your budget using an approved rate, include a copy of your current agreement approved by your [cognizant agency for indirect costs](#). If you use the de minimis rate, you do not need to submit this attachment.

# Attachments 10

## **File Name: Resumes & job descriptions**

Attach resumes for key personnel positions that are filled. If a position isn't filled, attach the job description with qualifications and plans to hire.

Keep your resumes to two pages each

Keep your job descriptions to one page each and include:

Title of key personnel position & brief description of duties and responsibilities

One to two sentences on how you plan to fill the position, including the expected time-frame

## **File Name: Report on overlap (if applicable)**

Applicants must provide this attachment only if you have submitted a similar request for a grant, cooperative agreement, or contract to another funding source in the same fiscal year and it may result in programmatic, budgetary, or commitment overlap.

# Other Required Forms

# Other Required Forms 1

## Standard Forms

Applicants are required to submit standard forms to supplement the application. Standard Forms include:

- **Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)**
- **Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs (SF-424A)**
- **Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL) – *if applicable***

**Name the file:** Standard Forms: SF-424; SF-424A; SF-LLL

**Scoring:** Required element, however, section is not scored

The image shows a screenshot of the 'Application for Federal Assistance SF-424' form. The form is titled 'Application for Federal Assistance SF-424' and includes the OMB Number 4045-0004 and Expiration Date 12/31/2022. The form is divided into several sections: 1. Type of Submission (Preapplication, Application, Changed/Corrected Application), 2. Date of Application (New, Continuation, Revision), 3. Date Received, 4. Applicant Identifier, 5a. Federal Entity Identifier, 5b. Federal Award Identifier, 6. Date Received by State, 7. State Application Identifier, 8. APPLICANT INFORMATION (Legal Name, Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN), Organizational DUNS, Address, Organizational Unit), and 9. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application (Photo, First Name, Middle Name, Last Name, Suffix, Title, Organizational Affiliation, Telephone Number, Fax Number, Email). The form is filled out with yellowed-out text, indicating that the content is redacted.

Review them and their instructions at [Grants.gov Forms](https://www.grants.gov/forms).

Step 3:  
Build Your  
Application

# Tips for Submission

- Utilize the **Application Checklist** to review all components of the application.
- Refer to the Supporting Materials for a **Statutory Eligibility Requirements checklist**.
- Please note who is required to sign forms and what needs to be submitted with the application
- Pay attention to dates

## Application checklist

This checklist includes every component you will need to submit a complete application:

### Narratives

Item	Grants.gov form	Page limit
• <a href="#">Project abstract</a>	Project Abstract Summary form	1 page
• <a href="#">Project narrative</a>	Project Narrative Attachment form	20 pages
• <a href="#">Budget narrative justification</a>	Budget Narrative Attachment form	None

### Attachments

Put all of your attachments into a single Other Attachments form.

Attachments (12 total)	Page Limit
• Table of contents	None
• Meeting minutes	None
• General applicant information	None
• Statement of legal eligibility	None
• Statement of rates of misuse of opioids and methamphetamines	None
• Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), if needed	None
• Disclosure of prior DFC funding	None
• Congressional notification	None
• Indirect cost agreement	None
• Proof of nonprofit status	None
• Resumes and job descriptions	None

Step 3:  
Build Your  
Application

# Formatting Requirements

**When completing the following sections, the following formatting must be used:**

<b>Font</b>	Calibri
<b>File format</b>	PDF
<b>Size</b>	12-point font Tables, footnotes, and text in graphics may be 10-point font
<b>Ink color</b>	Black
<b>Spacing</b>	Single-spaced
<b>Margins</b>	1-inch; Include page numbers

# Understand Review & Selection

Applications will undergo an **initial review** to ensure that applicants meet the following:

- Responsiveness criteria
- CARA statutory eligibility requirements
- Alignment with administration priorities

All applications that pass the initial review will proceed to **merit review**. Trained reviewers will assess all applications.

Prior to making an award, all applicants will undergo a **risk review** regarding sound business practices.



# Post-award Requirements

- CDC Terms and Conditions, including 2 CFR 200
- HHS Grants Policy Statement & HHS Administration and National Policy Requirements
- Anti-discrimination laws
- CARA Statutory Requirements
- Relevant Executive Orders
  - Protecting the American People Against Invasion (Jan. 20, 2025)
  - Ending Radical and Wasteful Government DEI Programs and Preferencing (Jan. 20, 2025)
  - Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government (Jan. 20, 2025)
  - Enforcing the Hyde Amendment (Jan. 24, 2025)
  - Ending Crime and Disorder on America's Streets (July 24, 2025)

# Post-award Requirements 1

- Reporting
  - Financial and performance reports
- CDC award monitoring
- Required Training

# Reminders

- Pay attention to the application deadline. Submit your application early (at least 48 hours in advance) to avoid last-minute technical issues and save/print your Grants.gov submission confirmation.
- Retain copies of all submitted materials and confirmation emails for your records.

# Resources & Help

**If you have additional questions about the CARA NOFO, please contact:**

**[CARA\\_NOFO@cdc.gov](mailto:CARA_NOFO@cdc.gov)**

**For grants Management, fiscal, and budgetary questions, please contact:**

**[DFC\\_OGS@cdc.gov](mailto:DFC_OGS@cdc.gov)**

**Or visit our webpage:**

**<https://www.cdc.gov/overdose-prevention/php/drug-free-communities/index.html>**

**The deadline for applications is  
11:59 PM ET on June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026**