



STATE OF WISCONSIN (DIVISION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES)

Steve Wagner, Administrator
Mark Rather, Deputy Administrator

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To: County Human Service Department Directors
Tribal Human Service Department Directors
Project Directors – County and Tribal Treatment Court Programs
Project Directors – County and Tribal Diversion Programs

From: Lara Kenny, Director, Bureau of Justice Programs, Wisconsin Department of Justice

Pre-Application Form Guidelines for 2025 TAD Grant Awards

Document Summary

The Department of Justice (DOJ), Division of Law Enforcement Services (DLES), has received \$10,688,900 in Treatment Alternatives and Diversion (TAD) grant funds to award for CY 2025. This is a \$1 million increase over the amount of TAD funds awarded for 2024. Given this increase and various types of programmatic needs that counties and tribes have recently identified, the 2025 TAD grant application process provides applicants the option of applying under one or more of five Priority Categories. This memo provides details on the five Priority Categories.

Furthermore, this memo describes the Pre-Application stage for interested TAD grant applicants to complete. Attached along with this memo is the [TAD Pre-Application Form](#), which interested applicants must complete to identify which Priority Categories they plan to apply under when submitting their final TAD Grant Application materials later this year. Note that the information being requested in the Pre-Application Form does not constitute the final, full application. Instead, this information will guide DOJ staff in determining the number of TAD grant applications and amount of grant funds that counties and tribes will seek under each Priority Category.

Priority Categories

Current 2024 TAD grantees seeking to apply for 2025 TAD grant awards will have the option of choosing to apply under Priority #1 and up to a maximum of one additional Priority Category. Applicants under Priority Category #1 will generally receive the same “baseline” amount of TAD funds received for 2024, provided they demonstrate that their current programs are providing services and activities consistent with their 2024 TAD grant application and are taking effective steps to meet their primary goals and objectives, including numbers of participants served. Final applications subsequently submitted under Priority #1 will



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focus primarily on project activities, accomplishments, and challenges and barriers during 2024 and on proposed project changes and refinements to occur during 2025.

Similarly, final applications submitted under Priority Category #2 and #5 will focus primarily on the topics noted above; however, those applications may be reviewed and scored competitively, depending on the cumulative amount of TAD funds being requested. Final applications submitted under Priority Category #3 and #4 are expected to be more comprehensive and to be reviewed and scored competitively, as DOJ anticipates it may receive more in cumulative grant requests under those categories than amounts of TAD funds that are available.

Please note: (1) Agencies applying under Priority #1 have the option to also apply under Priority Categories 2-5, up to a maximum of one additional category. However, a reminder that all agencies seeking a 2025 TAD grant under Priority Category #2, #4 OR #5 **MUST ALSO APPLY UNDER PRIORITY #1.**

(2) Agencies that do not have a current 2024 TAD grant award must apply under Priority #3 only; they may not apply under Priority #1 or any additional priority categories. Conversely, agencies with a current 2024 TAD grant award that wish to also fund a new treatment court or diversion program must apply under both Priority #1 and #3.

Each of the five Priority Categories are further described below:

Priority Category #1 - Baseline Funding for 2024 TAD Grantees – Last year, DOJ awarded grants to 56 counties and 3 tribes for the CY 2024 period. These grant awards cover many various types of treatment court programs and diversion programs. One TAD program consideration over the years has been to continue supporting existing treatment court and diversion programs in order to promote capacity building and sustainability. As such, applications under Priority Category #1 will draw from the “baseline amount” to **continue supporting currently funded treatment court and diversion programs at their current levels of TAD funding and capacities**. Under this priority, agencies must demonstrate that their treatment court and/or diversion program services and activities are consistent with their 2024 application project designs and methodologies, describe program accomplishments, and show that they have met or are on track to achieve their program goals and objectives. For example, agencies may demonstrate program fidelity and success by referencing their quarterly program and fiscal reports, summarizing performance indicators and outcomes from their CORE data, or sharing findings from evaluations or studies of their treatment court or diversion programs.

Priority Category #2 - Staff Training - All programs can apply for additional grant funds under this category to provide program staff with unique staff training opportunities that fall within one or more of the following topics and training content areas: *Risk Assessment or Needs Assessment tools; Team Role Specific Training offered by All Rise or other similar organizations; NAPSA annual conference;*



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Treatment Court or Diversion Program best practices (i.e., motivational interviewing; incentives and sanctions; MRT or other treatment modes; risk, needs and responsivity). These funds will be competitively awarded and constitute one-time awards. DOJ tentatively projects allocating up to \$100,000 in TAD funds to support staff training.

Priority Category #3 - New Treatment Court & Diversion Programs - Several counties and tribes have expressed interest in implementing a new treatment court or diversion programs. For some, this would be their first TAD-funded program. Given this level of interest, Priority Category #3 is created to support the planning and initial operation of new diversion and treatment court programs.

Agencies that are ready to immediately implement and operate their program as of January 2025 will be eligible to receive up to \$125,000 for a new diversion program and up to \$150,000 for a new treatment court program. Award amounts will be lower for agencies seeking funds to initially complete program planning before commencing program operation later during 2025. DOJ staff will contact leaders of agencies applying under Priority #3 to consult and discuss the nature of their new programs (i.e., whether the agency should consider including planning activities during 2025) and help determine a feasible amount that the agency should apply for. DOJ tentatively projects allocating up to \$300,000 in TAD funds to support new treatment court and diversion programs.

Note: Counties and tribes with existing TAD grant awards interested in applying under Priority #3 must also apply under Priority #1.

Priority Category #4 - Enhancement and Expansion of Existing Programs

Throughout the history of the TAD program, one of the primary objectives has been to support the enhancement and expansion of current drug treatment court and diversion programs in order to provide additional types of services or increase program capacities that highlights the latest in evidence-based practice research. DOJ has sought to promote specific best practices and services that are shown to increase program effectiveness and improve participant outcomes including increasing sobriety rates and lowering criminal recidivism rates. DOJ was unable to support the enhancement and expansion of existing programs for 2024 due to lack of TAD grant funds. However, additional grant funds are available for 2025. Consequently, DOJ has created Priority Category #4 to support the enhancement and expansion of existing programs. DOJ tentatively projects allocating up to \$500,000 under this category, sufficient to support multiple enhancement/expansion projects. The maximum amount to be awarded under this category is \$100,000 per applicant. Examples of research-based enhancements and expansions include the use of medical or behavioral health staff to provide gap services, provision of recovery capital tools and services, sober living or transitional housing, and the use of staff to provide or connect participants to complementary services.



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Priority Category #5 – Evaluation of Program - Funds will support projects to evaluate the operation, implementation, and/or outcomes generated from current treatment court or diversion programs. Funds will be competitively awarded and constitute one-time awards. Only agencies with diversion or treatment court programs that have been in operation for a minimum of three years or more can apply for funds to conduct program evaluations. Furthermore, the program evaluation must result in a completed report or work product by no later than the end of the CY 2025 grant period. Note: Agencies that received 2023 and 2024 TAD funding under this priority are not eligible to apply. DOJ tentatively projects allocating up to \$100,000 under this category. DOJ further tentatively projects that this amount would support evaluation projects for 3-4 programs, with a maximum award of \$30,000 per applicant. In issuing awards under this Priority, DOJ will work with recipient counties or tribes to utilize one common methodology so that the separate evaluations are all analyzing similar program features and outcomes.

Eligibility for Funding and Pre-Application Process

All counties and tribes across Wisconsin, including those who did not receive a 2024 TAD grant award, are eligible to apply for TAD grant awards covering the period January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025. (See *2024 TAD Grant Awards and Programs Table*, accompanying this memo, for a list of 2024 TAD grant award recipient counties and tribes, and the treatment court and diversion programs that the current 2024 TAD awards cover.) TAD grant funds are available to support treatment court and diversion programs that meet the requirements listed under § 165.95, Wis. Stats., including (but not limited to) the following:

- TAD award funds will be used to supplement, not supplant, planned or allocated funds.
- All TAD-funded programs must comply with evolving state and national standards pertaining to the operation of treatment courts or diversion programs as those standards are finalized and released statewide or nationally.
- TAD grantees must comply with all reporting, data collection, evaluation requirements, and necessary CORE and data training, as determined by BJP and the Bureau of Justice Information Analysis (BJIA).
- All counties and tribes receiving a TAD grant shall create an oversight committee or council to advise their agency in administering and evaluating its treatment court or diversion programs.
- TAD-funded programs cannot prohibit a participant from beginning or continuing using medication assisted treatment that is approved by the federal food and drug administration for the treatment of their substance use disorder.



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Pre-Application Process: To apply for funding, an authorized county or tribal representative must communicate its agency's intentions as to which Priority Categories the agency will apply under to receive 2025 TAD grant funds, as requested in the TAD Pre-Application Form. All completed Pre-Application Forms must be submitted to the Wisconsin Department of Justice by **no later than July 15, 2024**. All counties and tribes wishing to receive 2025 TAD grant awards must submit the Pre-Application Form within the deadline.

Please note: It is extremely important that all counties and tribes submit their Pre-Application Form, as the submitted information will help DOJ staff to better project the number of programs and amount of grant funding being applied for under each category. Final allocation decisions regarding the amount of TAD grant funds allocated within each Priority Category will be based on the levels of interest expressed by counties and tribes in applying under each specific category.

Once we have received your Pre-Application Form, your county or tribal agency is eligible to apply for 2025 TAD funding by completing the final application form, tables and providing the other requested information as requested in the 2025 TAD Grant Announcement. We will inform you of the Grant Announcement and post the information and application materials on our DOJ website in September.

Please Note: With the 2025 TAD Grant final application, agencies will be required to obtain signatures from all members of the oversight committee/council on the letter of support or include a copy of meeting minutes verifying the oversight committee's approval of the application for 2025 TAD Grant funding. This will be required at the time of application submission on October 21, 2024. If the letter of support verification is not included, the final application will not be approved and could delay the funding award start date.

Virtual Webinar: DOJ will conduct a virtual webinar on Tuesday, June 18th from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., to highlight this Pre-Application Memo, the five TAD Priority Categories, and to describe the steps for completing and submitting the requested Pre-Application Form. Additionally, staff will describe and highlight expenses and items which are allowable TAD costs and items that are allowable as match. For further information, review the separate [Budget Policy Memo](#).