



State of Vermont
Department of Health
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Agency of Human Services

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Dear Interested Parties:

Thank you for your interest in school-based substance abuse services. As you know, Vermont Act 63, E.313 required some changes to the Student Assistance Professionals Program for Fiscal Year 2013 (FY13). Consistent with these changes, local education agencies (LEA's) will be eligible to apply for a grant to support school-based prevention and early intervention services through the Vermont Department of Health Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs (ADAP).

Grant awards of up to \$40,000 will be made based on a competitive process. We anticipate that these will be three-year continuation grants contingent on satisfactory performance and availability of funds. Awards will be made based on need, readiness, strength of the proposed plan, budget and number of students to be served. A 10% match in funds or in-kind services will be required. Based on level funding levels from the FY12 appropriation, it is anticipated that we will be able to fund approximately 20 LEA's.

These services must be available to all students in a school and support prevention efforts in the school and community that are aimed at changing community norms to discourage substance use. The focus for the FY13-FY15 grant will be to deliver selected substance abuse prevention and early intervention services based on school need. The LEA will chose from a menu of allowable activities and base the selection on school need demonstrated by Vermont Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) data and other sources. All schools receiving grant funds will be expected to provide ongoing substance abuse screening and referral services, and to demonstrate how they are working within their comprehensive school-based health framework. Awardees will be required to participate in the 2013 Vermont YRBS.

We encourage LEAs and ADAP preferred treatment providers to work together to develop an application for these funds. However, only LEA's are eligible to apply for this program.

Please find attached a summary outlining the intent of the program, now referred to as the School-Based Substance Abuse Services grant. This is intended to inform school and community planners about the direction of the program. It is anticipated that a request for proposals (RFP) will be issued to LEA's in March. A provision for submission of questions will be made as part of the RFP.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Jackie Corbally
Treatment Chief

Marcia N. LaPlante
Prevention Services Chief

