

Reponses to RSAT RFP questions

Question:

Would the items in the list below be eligible for funding through the RSAT grant?

- **A Full-time nurse for the MAT program. (This would be a brand new position and not an already existing position)**
- **MAT medical clinics**
- **MAT medications (We currently are using Suboxone)**

Response:

I have not seen anything that implies that “nurse” in general is unallowable. Administrating MAT by a Nurse is allowable. All federally approved MAT medications are allowable. Just can’t be supplanting funds you have already budgeted for the medication.

List given to use by the Federal grants management Jail-based program design should be based on effective scientific practices that:

- *Engage inmates for at least 3 months.*
- *Focus on inmates’ substance use diagnosis and addiction-related needs.*
- *Develop inmates’ cognitive, behavioral, social, vocational, and other skills to solve substance abuse and related problems.*
- *Require urinalysis and/or other proven reliable forms of drug and alcohol testing for program participants, including both periodic and random testing, and for former participants while they remain in the custody of the state or local government.*
- *Prepare offenders for successful community reintegration, which may include post-release referral to appropriate evidence-based aftercare treatment and/or service providers, including those that support the use of medication-assisted treatment.*

“Jail-based programs are required to separate the treatment population from the general correctional population.

Description of existing treatment service(s)/practice(s), including medication-assisted treatment (MAT) available for residential substance use treatment participants, and how those services are currently monitored for quality and effectiveness. Discuss the evidence that shows that the treatment service(s) and/or practice(s) is/are effective with the target population. If the evidence is limited or nonexistent for the target population, provide other information to support the intervention selected, including validated screening and assessment tools used to support the intervention. Provide local data and any evaluation findings that demonstrate the program’s impact on both individuals and the community.”

Questions:

Does the RSAT grant only fund services/programs for those inmates who are in our program (our substance abuse treatment program), or would the RSAT grant also cover and include those inmates not in the program? I’m just unclear if in order to receive funding through the RSAT grant if all the inmates receiving services must be engaged in the 3- month educational/therapeutic program (which our program inmates are), or if the grant will also fund services for those inmates who aren’t in our program and will not be engaged in our 3-month educational program? For example would the RSAT grant only cover MAT for those inmates in our program or would it also cover MAT for the general population as well?

Response:

Using RSAT funds for MAT is allowable without giving you too much direction in how you should design your proposals. The most I should say because this is a competitive grant, is that you design your program based on the needs your jail has identified. The link provided in the RFP to evidence based practice will be the tool scorers will use to make judgement on your proposal.

Questions:

#1 on page 3 under Program-Specific Requirements states: "Jail-based Programs must engage participants for at least three months".

- **Is it taken into consideration that 3-months of "Jail-based Programs" might not be possible for MAT pre-trial inmates because they may not be at County DOC for 3-months? They could be court-ordered released or bailed-out after only 1-2 months and therefore wouldn't be able to participate in 3-months of Jail-based Programs.**

On page 7 under Program Narrative it states: that "Providing supervised aftercare is a requirement of RSAT funding." And in the Aftercare paragraph of the Program Narrative, it states: "Supervised release that includes aftercare is mandatory for RSAT-funded programs."

- **Supervised release for our inmates won't be a problem as they have probation and aftercare as part of the program, however I'm wondering how this would work for a pre-trial inmate.**

- **For example we could have several pre-trial MAT inmates who are released without probation and without pre-trial services.**

- **How would we be expected to manage these folks with aftercare and drug testing if they aren't supervised through probation and/or pre-trial services? Would one of our case managers be expected to follow them to make sure they are engaging in after-care? And who would be responsible to provide drug-testing if they aren't on probation or pre-trial services? Would that be considered the responsibility of the jail?**

Response:

In regards to funds being used for people not engaged in the 3 month program may be considered as a factor but not the only factor.

Description of existing treatment service(s)/practice(s), including medication-assisted treatment (MAT) available for residential substance use treatment participants, and how those services are currently monitored for quality and effectiveness. Discuss the evidence that shows that the treatment service(s) and/or practice(s) is/are effective with the target population. If the evidence is limited or nonexistent for the target population, provide other information to support the intervention selected, including validated screening and assessment tools used to support the intervention. Provide local data and any evaluation findings that demonstrate the program's impact on both individuals and the community.

There is nothing in the language that disqualifies pre-trial inmates from receiving RSAT funds. I think the best you can do is refer you to the statute and language provided by RSAT.

"Per 34 U.S.C. 10422(c), in order to be eligible for funding under the RSAT Program, a state shall ensure that individuals who participate in the substance abuse treatment program with assistance provided under this program be provided with aftercare services. These services must involve coordination between the correctional treatment program and other social service and rehabilitation programs, such as education and job training, parole supervision, halfway houses, self-help, and peer group programs. To qualify as an aftercare program, the head of the substance use treatment program must work in

conjunction with state and local authorities and organizations involved in substance use treatment to assist in the placement of program participants into community substance use treatment facilities on release. In addition, states should coordinate these activities with any Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)-funded state and/or local programs that address the needs of this target population. A state may use amounts received for community reintegration if the chief executive officer of the state certifies that the state is providing, and will continue to provide, an adequate level of residential treatment services."

Question:

On page 7 under Program Narrative it states: "The application should include the schedule of random drug testing."

- **I wouldn't be able to provide a schedule with exact dates as to when the random drug testing would occur. Would it be acceptable to provide a schedule as to how many times every month the RSAT participants would be drug tested?**

Response:

You can only provide what you can provide.

Questions:

#2 on page 8 under Match it states: "Cash match (hard) includes cash spent for project-related costs." Does this mean that what we have spent so far in Suboxone for MAT inmates could be used as a hard cash match? Or, am I not reading correctly or understanding what a hard cash match is?

Response:

Hard match or cash match can be literally money used to support RSAT related programming on top of federal funds(purchasing academic or MRT workbooks to support in RSAT evidence based classes) , . or it can be time from your staff dedicated towards RSAT related program, for example buying and tracking RSAT funding, collecting data for the RSAT PMT and entering the data into the PMT system, time used to keep track of rsat funds being used for drug testing and the administration of those drug tests. everything must be audible in the end.

Questions:

On page 9 in the paragraph under "IMPORTANT", it states: "The BJA and DOJ requires that Inmates participating in the RSAT program are placed in a separate facility or dedicated housing unit in the facility exclusively for the use by RSAT participants from the general correctional population. It also states that "A Letter of Certification must be submitted with this application signed by an authorized personal that this requirement is currently being followed or will be followed prior to the start of the grant period".

So does this mean that the RSAT grant would require those programs participants who aren't on MAT to be housed separately from those program participants who are on MAT?

How has RSAT handled situations like this in the past? Would we still be expected to provide a certified letter seeing as how we can't guarantee that the RSAT participants will be housed in a unit exclusively for RSAT participants?

Response:

We have to refer to the federal language on this matter.

“Provide residential treatment facilities set apart—in a separate facility or dedicated housing unit in a facility exclusively for use by RSAT participants—from the general correctional population.”

Questions dated 2/11/2019:

Will this grant possibly cover some of the MAT costs in the jail – I am thinking of just the county inmates so we can have continuity of care.

What is the total amount I can submit for the grant? Last year, we requested \$27,000 – MAT is significantly more than that.

Also, will the grant cover our continuation of the classes we received a grant for last year?

Response:

In regards to your questions for the RSAT grant RFP, we have to follow the timeline in the RFP and as much as I want answer your questions I am prohibited at this point of the process. The final day of Applicant Inquiry Period ended on Jan 24th. I can only refer you to the RFP at this time.