

Overview Overview

The Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant (SAPT) is a federal formula grant awarded to the single state agency in each state. The amount of the grant awarded to each State is determined by a statutory formula prescribed in Title 42, United States Code, Section 300x-33. The SAPT Block Grant is the primary source of funding for substance abuse prevention and treatment in California.

Pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 11754, the Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs (ADP) is the single state agency to receive SAPT Block Grant funds.

To receive SAPT Block Grant funds, ADP must submit an annual application and report that demonstrates compliance with SAPT Block Grant requirements and maintenance of state expenditures at a specified level. The application is submitted by September 1 of each year. (If ADP misses the statutory date for submitting the application, it will not receive any federal SAPT Block Grant funds for that federal fiscal year.) ADP distributes SAPT Block Grant funds through agreements with the counties.

Authorized Activities

Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 300x-21(b), SAPT Block Grant funds are to be used only for the purpose of planning, carrying out, and evaluating activities to prevent and treat substance abuse and for related activities authorized in Section 42 U.S.C. 300x-24, which provides specific requirements regarding tuberculosis and human immunodeficiency virus.

Set-Aside Requirements

Title 42 U.S.C. sections 300x-22 and 300x-24(b) require States to expend amounts from each SAPT Block Grant award for certain set-asides. The specific set-asides are:

- Primary Prevention—At least 20% must be set-aside for programs for individuals who do not require treatment for substance abuse, as defined in Title 45 Code of Federal Regulations 96.125.
- HIV Early Intervention Services – A minimum and maximum of 5 percent must be set-aside and expended for HIV early intervention services (EIS) , as specified in 45 CFR 96.128.
- Services to Pregnant Women and Women with Dependent Children – At least \$15.5 million in SAPT Block Grant funds must be set aside and expended for programs for such women, as specified in 45 CFR 96.124.

To ensure set-aside requirements are met, ADP allocates SAPT Block Grant funds to counties for each set-aside by individual grant award. In order to meet HIV EIS expenditure requirements, counties may not expend more or less than their respective SAPT Block Grant annual allocations for such services.

For Primary Prevention Services and Services to Pregnant women and Women with Dependent Children, counties may expend more but may not expend less than their respective allocation for such services.

If a county fails to expend its allocated amount from each SAPT Block Grant award a set-aside, the unexpended SAPT Block Grant funds must be returned to the State; the State then returns the funds to the Federal government.

Other Requirements

In addition to the above set-asides, other requirements include:

- Development of a capacity management and waiting list system for intravenous drug users and pregnant women
- Specific services for HIV and tuberculosis for persons already receiving treatment for alcohol and drug abuse

- Admission preference for treatment services for:

1. Pregnant injecting drug users
2. Pregnant substance abusers
3. Injecting drug users, and
4. All others.

The SAPT Block Grant funds may NOT be expended for:

- Inpatient hospital substance abuse programs, except when such treatment is a medical necessity and the individual cannot be treated in a community-based, non-hospital, residential treatment program.
- To make cash payments to intended recipients of services.
- To purchase or improve land; purchase, construct, or permanently improve (other than minor remodeling) any building or other facility; or purchase major medical equipment.
- To provide financial assistance to any entity other than a public or non-profit private entity.
- To provide financial assistance to any entity other than a public or non-profit private entity, or
- To provide individuals with hypodermic needles or syringes.