

## **Ageing and Disability Resource Center Program Funding Opportunity Frequently Asked Questions**

### **Are there two grant opportunities and what is the appropriation for this funding?**

There are two funding opportunities in one announcement that States can apply for through the Administration for Community Living in Partnership with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services and the Veterans Health Administration. This funding has been made available through Section 2405 of the Affordable Care Act for Ageing and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs). In addition, this opportunity supports the efforts of the Veterans Health Administration to provide Veterans Directed Home and Community Based Services to Veterans of all ages.

- *Part A: The Enhanced ADRC Options Counseling Program* grant is a three-year competitive opportunity for all States and territories to develop and implement financially sustainable models that embed ADRCs Options Counseling into their Long Term Services and Supports (LTSS) for all populations and all payers. Funding will be awarded to up to eight States.
- *Part B: ADRC Sustainability Program Expansion Supplemental Opportunity* grant is a one year competitive opportunity targeted to the 48 existing ADRCs in States and territories to implement sustainability plans through partnerships involving multiple agencies and programs, including State Medicaid Agencies, the State Unit on Ageing, State Disability Agencies, and the Veterans Directed Home and Community Based Services.

### **What is the total funding for Parts A and B?**

#### Part A: The Enhanced ADRC Options Counseling Program:

Three-year competitive grant for up to eight States.

Total Amount:	\$18.5 million
Average Amount per state:	\$2.3 million
Eligibility:	All States and Territories
Length of grant:	Three years
Number funded:	Up to eight

#### Part B: ADRC Sustainability Program Expansion Supplemental Opportunity:

One-year competitive supplemental grants for up to 40 States. We are assuming at least 8 of these existing grantees will apply for and receive Part A Grants.

Total Amount:	\$6.9 million
Average Amount per state:	\$160k-180k
Eligibility:	Current State and Territory ADRC grantees (48), excluding those awarded grants under Part A.
Length of grant:	One year
Number funded:	Up to 40

**Who is eligible to apply for these Grants?**

Part A: All States, the District of Columbia, and U.S. Territories may submit applications.

Part B: Current ADRC Grantees are eligible to apply.

**Can a State apply for both grants? Can a State be awarded for both grants?**

While we encourage States to apply for both funding opportunities, States can only receive funding either for Part A: 2012 Enhanced ADRC Options Counseling Program Funding Opportunity or Part B: 2012 ADRC Sustainability Supplemental.

Please keep in mind that:

- All States and territories are eligible to apply for the Part A Funding Opportunity that can meet the responsive criteria; and,
- Only existing 2009 ADRC grantees are eligible for funding under the Part B Funding Opportunity.

**Are matching funds required for either opportunity?**

No.

**What role does the Veterans Health Administration play in the ADRC Options Counseling Program?**

Veterans Health Administration will make available up to \$9 million each year over the next three years (a total of \$27 million) to the States awarded Enhanced ADRC Options Counseling Program grants. These funds will be allocated to the Veterans Administration Health Systems to work with ADRC Programs in the awarded states to help Veterans and their family caregivers access VHA-funded Home and Community Based Services.

**We believe our state has laid the groundwork for LTSS transformation and has already submitted a Balancing Incentive Program grant application. Does this disqualify us from pursuing the ADRC Options Counseling Grant?**

No.

**Is there going to be a teleconference providing more information?**

Yes. An open information teleconference for applicants of the funding opportunities under this announcement will be held as follows:

- **June 12, 2012** at 1:00PM EDT. The toll-free teleconference phone number will be 1-800-369-3160, pass code: 1683139

### **Are Letters of Intent required to apply?**

Yes. Letters of intent must be emailed by **June 22, 2012**. In the letter of intent, applicants should indicate if:

- Applicant is applying for both Part A & B;
- Applicant is applying for just Part A; or
- Applicant is applying for just Part B.

Letters of intents should be submitted via email to: **Joseph Lugo**. Email: [joseph.lugo@aoa.hhs.gov](mailto:joseph.lugo@aoa.hhs.gov).

### **When are applications due?**

Part A. July 25, 2012, 11:59pm ET.

Part B. July 11, 2012, 11:59 pm ET.

### **Can States use these grant dollars to supplant funding levels for current activities?**

No. States cannot use initiative funding to supplant funding levels for activities that are already provided by States or other payers. However, they can use funding to supplement existing efforts to enhance the broader transformation of the delivery system of LTSS.

### **When will the funds be awarded?**

Funds will be awarded no later than September 30, 2012.

### **If a state has multiple ADRC grants, which grantees would be eligible for Part A and Part B?**

For Part A, all States, the District of Columbia, and U.S. Territories may submit applications. Applicant would be designated by the Office of the Governor.

For Part B, only the current 2009 ADRC Grantee from ACL would be eligible to apply.

### **If a state is not currently involved with the Balance Incentive Program, would this disqualify us from applying?**

No.

**If ADRCs do not currently have an arrangement with VAMCs/receive VD-HCBS funds, would they still be eligible for VHA funding?**

Yes. Successful state applicants under Part A will have access to VHA funds to develop local VD-HCBS sites. For Part A, all States, the District of Columbia, and U.S. Territories may submit applications. Applicant would be designated by the Office of the Governor.

**If States apply for both the BIP and Part A of the ADRC FOA, will this count as duplication of effort?**

No. States are encouraged to apply for both opportunities. While states are required to adopt a statewide NWD system as a structural change under the Balancing Incentive Program, States do not receive funding to support infrastructure development to make structural changes. Additionally, CMS and ACL will work closely to develop and monitor program reporting for States participating in both programs.

**Are people with mental illness to be included in the populations served?**

In the announcement, we attempted to align this funding opportunity with the three primary audiences which are now being served under ACL. These audiences include older adults, persons with disabilities and persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities. States are encouraged and supported to also serve persons with mental illness but it is not required as part of this announcement.

**Do we do separate LOI's for A and B?**

No. States are not required to submit separate letters of intent.

**Do we need to include a letter from the governor indicating the agency designated to be the lead on the Part A grant?**

The Office of the Governor must designate the lead agency to help manage and operate this grant. However, states have the option to communicate this designation in a number of ways. For example, this designation could be included with the cover letter of the application, or within the body of the narrative of the application or as an attached support letter from the Governor. Regardless of the option selected, the entity must be clearly designated by the Office of the Governor to lead this statewide effort.

**Is a workplan expected/required for the Part B application?**

No.

**Is there a page limit/expectation if we submit the VA option addendum with the Part A application?**

No. There is no page limit or expectation regarding the VA addendum.

**Are US Territories included in the definition as states for the FOA for the ADRCs?**

Yes, territories are included in this definition.

**Will there be an expectation to participate in-person at any National Conferences?**

Yes. For participants receiving an award under Part A they should budget travel to attend two learning collaborative meetings in Washington, DC for up to 2 people each year.

**Under Part A are we allowed to fund more positions within the ADRC as well?**

Yes, under Part A you would be allowed to fund more positions within the ADRC assuming those positions would be used to carry out the activities outlined in the ADRC Funding Opportunity and would align with the ADRC vision within your state.

**My understanding is if we partner with our state Medicaid agency, not just Medicaid clients will get info and services. They will also be required to assist all ages, income, insurance, etc. Is this correct?**

Partnership with your Medicaid agency with support from aging and disability agencies is a requirement within this funding opportunity. That is correct. In addition, through this announcement, the ADRC system would be required to serve seniors, persons with disabilities, and persons with intellectual and development disabilities regardless of their incomes. However, this requirement would not directly result in having Medicaid agency staff serving all ages, income, insurance, etc. Depending on the structure within your state, each applicant would need to describe within their application how individuals not eligible for Medicaid would be served within the overall ADRC framework.

**Please describe in a bit more detail exactly what you are calling the "Coordinated Care Delivery" model.**

*Coordinated Care Delivery* is specifically referencing some of the activities outlined in *Attachment M: Other Federal Opportunities that May Align with ADRCs* such as Managed Care, PACE, Multi-payer Advanced Primary Care Practices, Pioneer ACO Model and Medicare Shared Savings Program, etc. Attachment M also provides a table which lists federal resources with links to additional information.

**As a local ADRC and subgrantee, are we eligible to apply for these funds.**

No.

**Will the teleconference be taped and available?**

Yes. Currently on AoA website next to ADRC FOA and FAQ list.

**Can we include funding in our budget for a partner that would be selected through a competitive process if/when funded?**

Yes.

**Historically within our state, functions such as functional and financial eligibility are not currently part of our ADRC program. Will states have the opportunity to reconfigure its ADRC to align with the ADRC FOA?**

Yes. States have complete autonomy and flexibility to reconfigure their ADRC system to include other partners. If needed, states are strongly encouraged to broaden their current definition of ADRC program to include these additional functions. In your respective applications, states should describe their entire LTSS system (as described on page 18 of the ADRC FOA) as serving as potential assets within an ADRC system even if historically some of these partners or functions have not initially been considered part of the ADRC (e.g., functional or financial eligibility functions). As described in the ADRC FOA, states may consider delegating some of the ADRC Options Counseling Program functional components (e.g., ADRC Access Points, One-on-One Options Counseling, and Streamlined Access to Public Programs) to a broad array of partnering agencies and organizations. Even if historically your state has not viewed some of these functions as part of its ADRC it is very likely these functions are being performed within your state and you could use this FOA to "re-map" or "re-design" your ADRC to include such functions.