



Promoting wellness and recovery

John R. Kasich, Governor • Tracy J. Plouck, Director • 30 E. Broad St. • Columbus, OH 43215 • (614) 466-2596 • mha.ohio.gov

November 8, 2013

Memorandum To: SAPT Block Grant Recipients
From: Tracy J. Plouck, Director
Subject: Estimated Allocation Schedule for State Fiscal Years 2014 & 2015

This transmittal contains detailed information related to the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant for the balance of this biennium. First of all, I want to thank everyone who worked with us to develop this plan; this cash alignment strategy will help us to establish greater predictability in the availability of prevention and treatment resources throughout each fiscal quarter in the future.

As you are aware, in recent years SAPT recipients have experienced significant cash flow issues, because the resources that are expected to be distributed in October do not actually arrive from the federal government until much later. In recent years, it has been February. This problem means operational difficulties for services to the community.

In order to address this, **beginning July 2014 and for a total of six consecutive quarters**, OhioMHAS will disburse SAPT Block Grant resources that would have historically been disbursed in four quarters. This “elongation” of the disbursement schedule will enable us to align the expected availability of federal cash with the time frame in which it is expected by grant recipients. In the quarter beginning January 2016, we will return to the current estimated levels or whatever is available in light of federal actions at that time (e.g., amounts may vary in the future due to sequester or other federal funding level changes).

You may be aware that OhioMHAS planned to begin this cash alignment process in January 2014; however, in light of feedback from the field, we will be implementing the change in July 2014 in order to allow sufficient planning to occur in advance of the temporary change.

Please note: Formerly, ODADAS was able to periodically float some money to the field while awaiting the block grant disbursement from the federal government. Effective immediately, this practice will no longer continue. In other words, we will disburse the federal money when it is available but have no “reserves” on hand to address emergency cash flow situations that may occur due to a lack of federal or other resources.

In an effort to be as detailed and transparent as possible, the attached documents include the following information:

Attachment #	Information*
1	Federal FY 2014 SAPT award distribution by major category
2	Total award by fiscal quarter, State Fiscal Years 2014-2017
3	Total award by subject category by fiscal quarter, SFYs 2014-2017
4	Board allocations and pass-through awards by fiscal quarter, SFYs 2014-2015
5	Pass through details by program, by board area, SFYs 2014-2015
6	Direct grant awards by recipient and by program, SFYs 2014-2015

***Please note that all financial estimates included in this packet are subject to availability of federal funds.**

For the past year we have discussed with the field the possibility of working with stakeholders to design significant block grant changes in SFY 15 (example: employ a competitive approach to fund specific types of objectives, etc.) However, in light of the fact that the cash alignment process will begin in July 2014 and be in place throughout the year, we will focus discussion on any potential process changes to SFY 2016 so that there is sufficient time for dialogue and planning in advance of a change. The discussion with the field related to SFY 2016 is anticipated to include both SAPT and the Mental Health Block Grants; information related to these planning discussions will be shared with the field prior to planning initiation.

Board budget for SFY 2014 will be due to OhioMHAS on December 2, 2013. Please contact Holly.Jones@mha.ohio.gov with any questions related to these plans. The completed board budgets should be sent to: MH-SOT-Brdreports@mha.ohio.gov.

Once again, I thank you for your attention to this information and, moreover, for your collaboration as we worked through these issues.

Attachments