

# Building Substance Use Disorder Treatment Capacity in Rural and Frontier Colorado

GRANT APPLICATION PROCESS

Round 3 - July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2024

## **Building Substance Use Disorder Treatment Capacity in Rural and Frontier Colorado – Grant Program Application (House Bill 19-1287)**

# **1. Overview and Timeline**

## **1.1 About House Bill 19-1287**

This document will provide guidance to the Managed Service Organizations (MSO) on the grant application and contracting process supported by funds appropriated through House Bill 19-1287. These funds are intended to increase substance use disorder capacity and services in rural and frontier communities and may include capital investment.

Eligible applicants include local governments (including Indian tribal reservation), municipalities, counties, schools, law enforcement agencies, and primary care or substance use disorder treatment providers) within or outside of the managed service organization's network of providers, may be eligible to apply for this grant program to increase substance use disorder treatment services and capacity in rural or frontier counties.

## **1.2 Background and Goals**

Overdose deaths in Colorado have nearly tripled since 1999, led by a fivefold increase in opioid related deaths, surpassing other causes such as traffic accidents and guns (Colorado Health Institute, Feb. 2018). Access to treatment, particularly medication assisted treatment (MAT), saves lives; yet barriers to access remain. According to the 2017 Colorado Health Access Survey, more than 67,000 Coloradans needed treatment for drug or alcohol use but did not receive it.

Colorado has expanded the substance use disorder treatment benefit under the State Medicaid plan, but gaps in services still exist, particularly in rural and frontier communities. Even though a service is covered, it does not mean there is adequate capacity, nor does it mean that all communities have the services that are needed.

In May 2019, Governor Jared Polis signed House Bill 19-1287 which created a grant program that appropriated funds to the Office of Behavioral Health (OBH) to increase substance use disorder capacity and services in rural and frontier communities through the MSO. Each MSO area that consists of at least fifty percent rural or frontier counties shall receive an equal proportion of the annual grant program funds to be disbursed through local grants. The grants may be used to support building a continuum of services, including, but not limited to, medical or clinical detoxification, residential treatment, intensive outpatient treatment, and capital investment.

Signal seeks to contract with local governments, municipalities, counties, schools, law enforcement agencies, and primary care or substance use disorder treatment providers within or outside of the managed service organization's network of providers to receive grant funds to increase substance use disorder treatment services and capacity.

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) are focus areas for current and future funding opportunities and are weaved throughout expansion efforts in Colorado.

### 1.3 Timeline

The third round (Round 3) of the grant funding cycle consists of two state fiscal years beginning July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024.

Total available funds for each MSO Region are subject to change based on unallocated funds from the previous grant cycle. Signal has a total of \$950,000 available for SSPA1 and \$950,000 available for SSPA4.

	FY19 - 20	FY20 - 21	FY 21 - 22	FY 22 - 23	FY23 - 24	FY 24 -25	
Round 1*	\$950,000**						July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2021
Round 2*		***	\$950,000**				July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2023
Round 3*				\$950,000**			July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2024
Round 4*					\$950,000**		July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2025
* Subject to appropriated funds							
** From the \$1 Million appropriated each MSO region will receive up to 5% for an administrative fee.							
*** Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic no funding was available for this project.							

The applicant shall submit an application including a proposal and plan based on work related to the second grant cycle broken out by the following time periods:

#### Budget Year 1

- July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. Work under the grant year 1 does not necessarily mean services will be provided (or be expected to be provided) on July 1, 2023.

#### Budget Year 2

- July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

The following timeline includes more details about the application process and will be implemented in support of these activities:

Activity	Achieved by
Application published	March 21, 2022
Applications questions due	April 4, 2022
Application responses to questions posted	April 11, 2022
Application due	May 2, 2022
Projected start date	July 1, 2022

#### **1.4 Eligible Applicants and Locations of Service Provision**

Signal will manage the contracts for regions 1 and 4. Signal seeks applications from local governments (including Indian tribal reservations), municipalities, counties, schools, law enforcement agencies, and primary care or substance use disorder treatment providers within or outside of the managed service organization's network of providers to provide services.

MSO	Region	Eligible Counties (priority given to rural and frontier counties)
Signal	Region 1	Larimer, Weld, Morgan, Logan, Sedgwick, Phillips, Washington, Yuma, Elbert, Lincoln, Kit Carson, Cheyenne
Diversus Health	Region 3	El Paso, Teller, Park, Lake, Chaffee, Fremont, Custer
Signal	Region 4	Pueblo, Crowley, Kiowa, Huerfano, Las Animas, Otero, Bent, Prowers, Baca, Saguache, Mineral, Rio Grande, Alamosa, Conejos, Costilla
West Slope Casa (WSC)	Region 5	Archuleta, La Plata, Montezuma, Dolores, San Miguel, San Juan, Ouray, Hinsdale, Gunnison, Montrose, Delta
WSC	Region 6	Mesa, Garfield, Rio Blanco, Moffatt, Routt, Eagle, Pitkin, Summit, Grand, Jackson

Note: See Appendix A for the MSO Regional Maps

County rural and frontier designations were determined based on population per square mile of each county. Counties with fewer than six people per square mile based on 2020 US Census population predictions were considered frontier counties. Counties that do include Metropolitan Areas and were not counted as frontier counties were categorized as rural counties.

## 1.5 Requirements/Eligibility Rules

An applicant may receive funding consideration through this grant if it proposes to increase substance use disorder treatment services and builds capacity in rural or frontier counties. This includes building a continuum of services, including, but not limited to, medical or clinical detoxification, residential treatment, intensive outpatient treatment and capital investment.

In addition, applicants must materially meet the circumstances below:

- Other revenue sources to leverage requested grant funds for project, particularly for ongoing sustainability of services
- Local support/partnership for project
- Supports geographic areas that are unserved or underserved
- Responds to a local economic need
- Include an Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) plan to address community needs. (See section 2.2) for direction on EDI plan)

## 1.6 Submission Deadline and Instructions

The application deadline is May 2, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. Mountain Standard Time. Late proposals will not be reviewed. Applications must be submitted electronically to [Proposals@Signalbhn.org](mailto:Proposals@Signalbhn.org). Hard copies of proposals will not be accepted; proposals should not be mailed or dropped off. Signal will acknowledge receipt of each proposal via email using the email address from which the proposal was submitted.

Proposals should be submitted using Microsoft Word Open XML Format Document, produced in Word 2007 or later version (files with a file extension of .docx). Proposals must use 12-point Times New Roman font, single spacing, and one-inch margins. There is a **10-page limit** which does not include any attachments or information required in appendices of this Application. The proposed budget should use the OBH capacity budget template in Excel Open XML Format, created in Excel 2007 or later versions (files with an extension of .xlsx). See Appendix B for the OBH capacity budget template. **Do not submit proposals or budgets in a PDF format.**

Applications will be rejected if they do not meet the requirements noted above.

Applicants are invited to submit questions to [Proposals@Signalbhn.org](mailto:Proposals@Signalbhn.org), by April 4, 2022. Questions should have the Application number (see the top of this document) in the subject of the email.

Questions and answers to the Application will be posted per the schedule above <https://signalbhn.org/proposals/>. Any modifications made to this Application will be posted on Signal's website at <https://signalbhn.org/proposals/>. In the event this Application is cancelled, notice of cancellation will also be posted at <https://signalbhn.org/proposals/>.

Any requested restrictions on the use or inspection of material contained within the application must be clearly stated in the application itself. Written requests for confidentiality must be submitted by the respondent with the application. The applicant must state specifically what elements of the application are to be considered confidential/proprietary.

Confidential/proprietary information must be readily identified, marked with the solicitation number, and separated from the rest of the application. Co-mingling of confidential/proprietary and other information is NOT acceptable. Under no circumstances can an entire application, or proposal price information be considered confidential and proprietary. Any information that will be included in any resulting contract cannot be considered confidential/proprietary.

## **1.7 Term of Agreement**

Signal expects the contracted term for year one to begin July 1, 2022 and conclude June 30, 2023. Signal expects the contracted term for year two to begin July 1, 2023 and conclude June 30, 2024. Current and subsequent years will be available based on annual review, available funding, and approval.

## **1.8 Application Validity and Disposition**

Applicant's proposals will remain valid for ninety (90) calendar days from the final date proposals are due for submission. By submission of a proposal, Applicants guarantee that their offer is firm for ninety (90) calendar days from the proposal due date. If an award is not made during that period, each Applicant will automatically extend its offer for an additional ninety (90) days, unless Applicant indicates otherwise in writing to Signal at least thirty (30) days prior to the last day of the original ninety (90) calendar day validity period.

## **2. Business Proposal**

Applicant should use the following template to complete the business proposal and compose a response to this application.

### **Executive Summary**

- Provide an executive summary of the proposed project. Include the name of the entity submitting the proposal, the primary contact name, amount requested and three to four sentences about the project and how it will increase capacity.

## 2.1 Service Area (10 Points)

1. List the Region(s) (listed in section 1.4) and associated counties or municipalities where you will increase access to a continuum of substance use disorder treatment services, including but not limited to: medical or clinical detoxification, residential treatment, recovery support services, intensive outpatient treatment, and other outpatient services. Describe the priority population to be served, including any subpopulations and your organization’s experience working with them.
  
2. Identify the organizations in the region that currently provide Substance Use Treatment similar in scope to your proposal, the type of services provided, hours and current challenges and gaps.

<u>County</u>	<u>Contractor/Entity/type of service</u>	<u>Hours/Day of Availability</u>	<u>Identified challenges/Gaps in Services (e.g. wait times, distance to nearest service)</u>

## 2.2 Approach (40 Points)

1. Describe the problem or problems your plan will address including how you have engaged your local partners and the data you have used to identify the problems.
  - a. Describe how you have approached mapping current assets and resources in the community? What qualitative or quantitative data have you used to develop the strategy?
  - b. List the counties you have identified as most in need of enhancements in priority

order.

- c. **Equity Diversity and Inclusion Approach:** How will this project address EDI? Please address how it will identify and be culturally responsive to communities of color (Latin@/x, African American etc), Refugees/Asylees, and other marginalized groups such as LGBTQ+, youth, displaced individuals, cross-disability community that live in your community.

- 2. Describe your identified priorities and capacity enhancement plan. Identify the high priority communities that will be targeted in these efforts and an intended strategy to enhance or expand capacity including the following priorities:

a) <b>Proposed Capacity Enhancements:</b> Priorities are to increase access to a continuum of substance use disorder treatment services, including medical or clinical detoxification, residential treatment, recovery support services, and intensive outpatient treatment.		
County	Plan to enhance or expand capacity	Rationale
b) <b>Staffing Plan:</b> Describe your staffing plan to include anticipated staffing levels that will increase the access to substance use disorder treatment, including medical or clinical detoxification, residential treatment, recovery support services, and intensive outpatient treatment.		
County	Plan to enhance or expand Staffing	Rationale

c) <b>Services:</b> Describe any NEW services that will be available to the communities that are going to be served.		
<b>County</b>	<b>Plan to enhance or expand Services</b>	<b>Rationale</b>

3. Describe how you will implement the proposed capacity enhancements and provide a timeline for the implementation of all activities; indicate the start and end dates, milestones and deliverables for each grant year. Please provide an anticipated weekly schedule of travel for the region(s).
4. Provide endorsement of local partners and any letters of support or partnership. Please make sure if you reference support from an Agency or a Partner that you include a letter of support/partnership. Letters of partnership should include the specific role that the organization will play in the proposal and what resources will be dedicated to the project/proposal. Reference any revenue offsets from partnerships in the budget. Limit the number of letters of support to three and there is no limit to letters of partnership. Please provide letters of support or endorsements from community based organizations or partners that serve communities of color and marginalized populations referenced in section 2.2(1a).

a) Documentation of participation of key stakeholders				
County	Agency/Partner	Senior Official Title	Senior Official Signature	Date

5. Please describe any additional assistance (other than grant funds) that you may require from OBH or the MSO to implement these plans.
6. Provide any other comments or information that should be taken under consideration for the project and funding need.

### 2.3 Quality Assurance (10 Points)

1. Describe how your organization will identify and establish deliverables (client count, quality of service).
  - a. Please include the number of current clients your organization serves and what the projected number of clients that will be served if your project is funded.
2. Describe your organization’s quality assurance plan to monitor project performance, improvement, timelines, and quality of services.
  - a. If this is a capital project please include a clear timeline of major milestones.

### 2.4 Organizational Capacity (20 Points)

1. Describe your organizational structure and management.
2. Describe your organization’s experience with working in underserved communities that need substance use treatment.
3. Identify any partnering agencies and their roles in the implementation of this project.
4. Describe your organization’s experience with developing and maintaining community partnerships. Specifically include partners you may have that serve marginalized communities.
5. Provide a list of staff and a short (2 paragraph maximum) biography of required and other staff assigned to this project. If staff are to be hired, describe your organization’s recruitment and hiring process, staff retention efforts and expected timeline for new hires.

6. If you intend to subcontract any services please describe the organization(s) and their services and how these subcontracts will be monitored.
7. If you will be providing treatment services, please describe how you will become licensed by OBH and then credentialed by the MSO. It is recognized that some proposals may be for services that are not yet operational and licensed to practice.
8. If you will be providing recovery residency services, please describe how you will become Colorado Association of Recovery Residences-certified or Oxford chartered (House Bill 19-1009).

### **2.5 Sustainability Plan (10 Points)**

1. Describe how your organization will continue services after the funding has ended. What will be your sustainability plan to continue services including revenue offsets (as noted in the attached budget)?

## **3. Budget and Budget Description (10 Points)**

Total funding available for each region that will be spent over the two year grant cycle is \$950,000 plus any unallocated funds from the previous grant cycle. These grants funds are intended to increase access to a continuum of substance use disorder treatment services, including, but not limited to, medical or clinical detoxification, residential treatment, recovery support services, intensive outpatient treatment, and capital investment. This funding will be divided amongst all selected vendors in the region. Applicants should apply for the funding amount that best addresses the service access needs of its community, with consideration given to financial efficiency, sustainability, and impact in its community. Small and large dollar amount proposals will be considered. The proposed budget should use the OBH capacity budget template in Excel Open XML Format, created in Excel 2007 or later versions (files with an extension of .xlsx). See Appendix B for the OBH capacity budget template.

Budgets should show a clear understanding of costs associated with the program operation. The Budget should adhere to timelines (year 1 – July 1, 2022- June 30, 2023, and year 2 July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024). The budget should include revenue offsets (private grant funds, private support or donations, in kind donations and local hospital funds, Medicaid, etc.) and a description of work in all budget line items.

### **3.1 Format**

Applicant shall submit a budget in accordance with the Office of Behavioral Health’s Capacity Budget. The budget, along with the budget documentation and guidelines can be found in Appendix B.

Applicant must follow the Behavioral Health Accounting and Auditing Guidelines published

collectively by Colorado Healthcare Policy and Finance and the Office of Behavioral Health. A link to this document can be found in Appendix B.

An important requirement of the capacity budget format is that the Applicant should project and include other revenue sources (for example, Medicaid) that can be obtained to support the operation of the service.

Applicants must indicate insurance coverage in amounts equal to or exceeding those listed in Appendix D, as required by OBH.

Applicants must indicate in the proposal their ongoing sustainability plan for when the grant cycle has ended.

### **3.2 Funding Allocation**

Applicant should submit a budget for year one of the grant (start-up and initial operation) and year two (full year of operation) as well as their ongoing sustainability plan for when the grant cycle has ended. Please complete all three tabs in the Office of Behavioral Health's Capacity Budget (Yr 1, Yr2, and Budget Summary).

## **4. Submission Checklist**

- Business Proposal (10-page limit) in Microsoft Word
  - Fully responds to the following sections:
    - Executive Summary
    - Service Area
    - Approach
    - Organizational capacity
    - Quality Assurance
    - Sustainability Plan
- Budget
  - Submit a budget in excel (using the OBH capacity budget template that was provided)
    - Submit a budget following the requirements in Section 3. Applicant should provide a grant year 1 budget and year 2 budget. The budget does not count against the page limit of the proposal. All items in the proposed budgets are subject to negotiation.
    - Budget includes description of work narrative.

## **5. Evaluation and Decision**

Signal and the Grant Selection committee will conduct a comprehensive, fair, and impartial evaluation of all proposals. The Grant Committee will be comprised of two members appointed

by the county commissioners in the relevant managed service organization service area, two representatives appointed by the MSO, and two members representing the department (Colorado Department of Human Services) appointed by the executive director of the department. The award of a local grant must be approved by a majority of the members of the grant committee. In awarding a local grant, the grant committee shall prioritize geographic areas that are unserved or underserved. The grant award decision is a business judgement based on the merits of all proposals and their alignment with the required activities. Failure to provide a complete set of information requested in this document may result in exclusion from consideration. Signal may seek clarifying information as necessary to make an informed decision either from the Applicant or from other sources. Oral presentations will not be offered or required. After selection of a provider agency or provider agencies for these services, Signal will notify remaining Applicants of the decision.

The MSO and the evaluation committee reserves the right to vary from this application process as necessary and appropriate, and delay any decision due to budgetary constraints.

At the time of contracting, Signal reserves the right to negotiate with the Applicant additional terms or reporting requirements. Technical support may be offered by Signal to all contracted parties.

Technical support will be determined by the needs of the Applicants but may include community collaboration, meeting facilitation, training around financial management (invoicing and budgeting), GPRA, DACODS, and upcoming OBH data collection system submission (as applicable), and operational process support.

## **6. Resources**

### **Colorado Grant Writing Assistance for Prevention, Intervention, Treatment, and Recovery of Substance Use Disorders**

The Opioid and Other Substance Use Disorders Interim Study Committee proposed funding from the Colorado General Assembly for a grant writing assistance program. This was approved as part of Senate Bill 2019-228, which allocated funds for the program and designated the University of Colorado, Center for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention (the Center) as the program administrator. Additional funds were allocated to the Center through House Bill HB20-1411 (CARES/COVID Relief) to continue the program through December 30, 2020. The Colorado General Assembly then approved continued use of unspent funds through December 31, 2021. Federal funds from the American Rescue Plan Act in July 2021 designated funds to continue the program.

Per statute, the funds are intended to “aid local communities in need of assistance in applying for grants to access state and federal money to address opioid and other substance use

disorders in their communities.”

Program web page <https://corxconsortium.org/grant-assistance/>

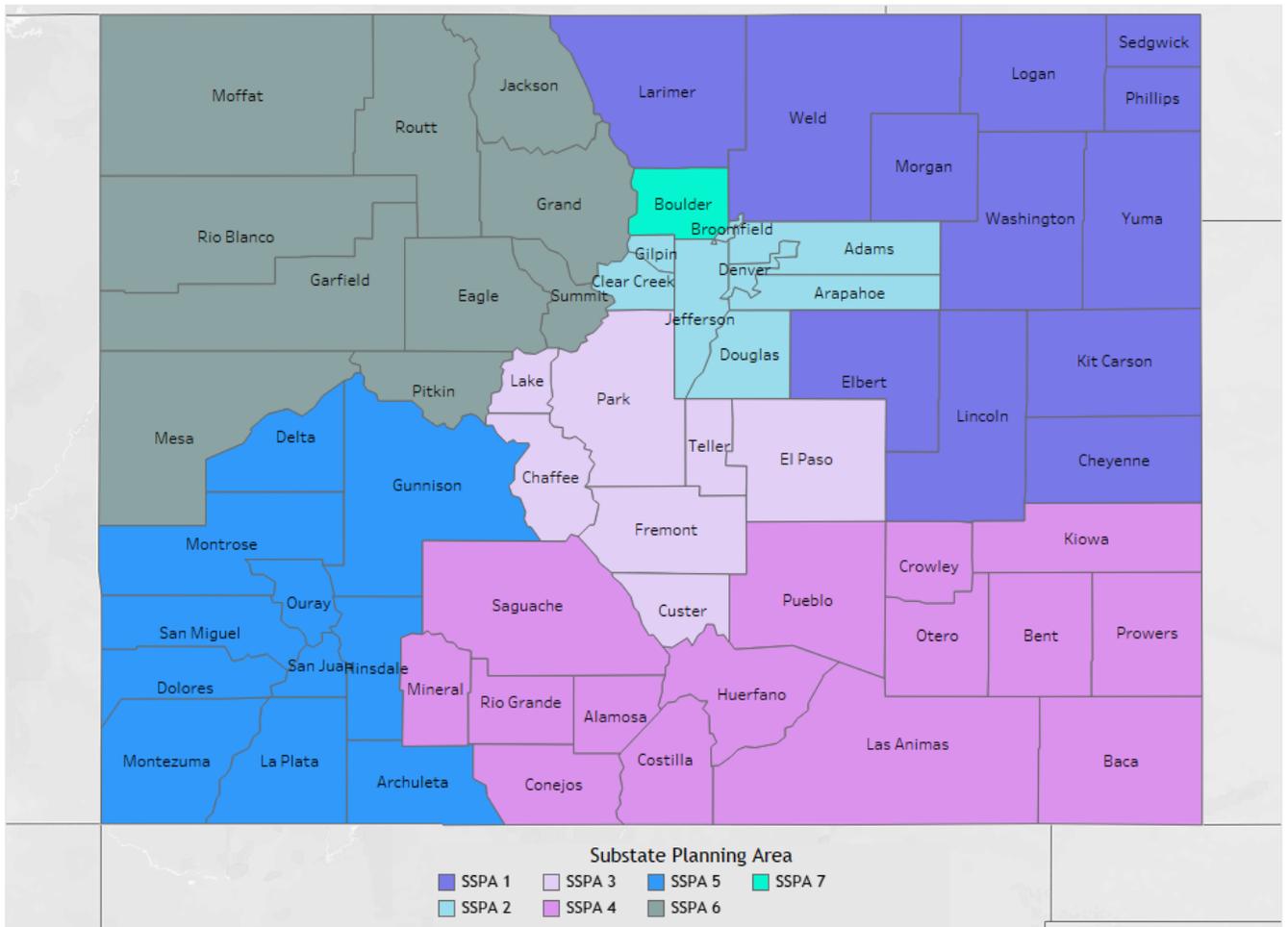
Program guide <https://corxconsortium.org/wp-content/uploads/Grant-Writing-Assistance-Guide-1.5.22.pdf>

Link to form [https://ucdenverdata.formstack.com/forms/grant\\_writing\\_assistance\\_copy\\_2](https://ucdenverdata.formstack.com/forms/grant_writing_assistance_copy_2)

# Appendix A

# Sub-State Planning Area Maps

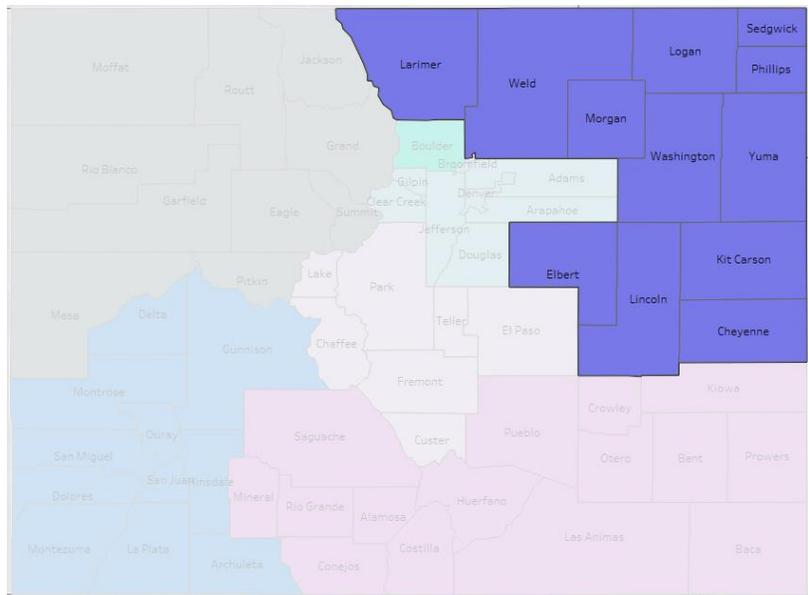
Substate planning area (SSPA)



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## SSPA 1: NORTHEASTERN COLORADO

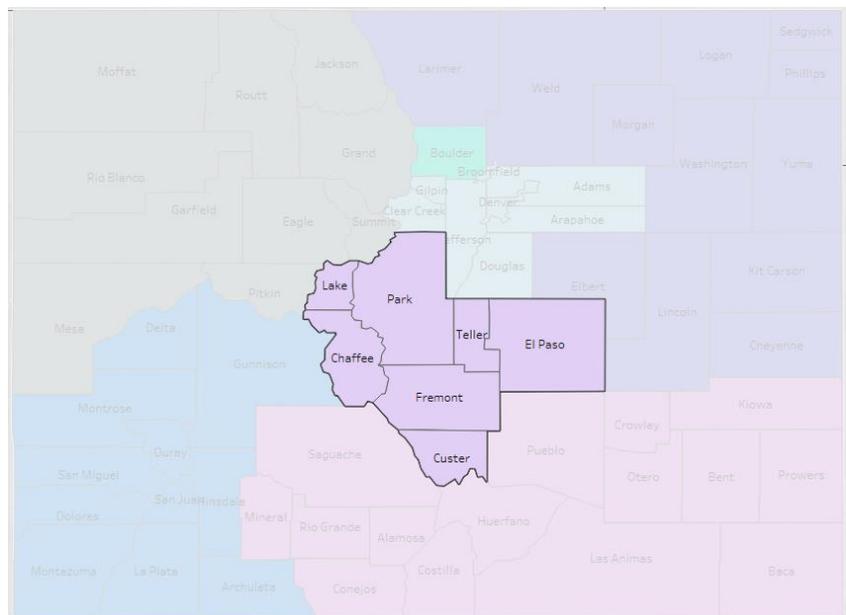
- Cheyenne
- Kit Carson
- Larimer
- Lincoln
- Logan
- Morgan
- Phillips
- Sedgwick
- Washington
- Weld
- Yuma



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## SSPA 3: COLORADO SPRINGS METRO AND SURROUNDING COUNTIES

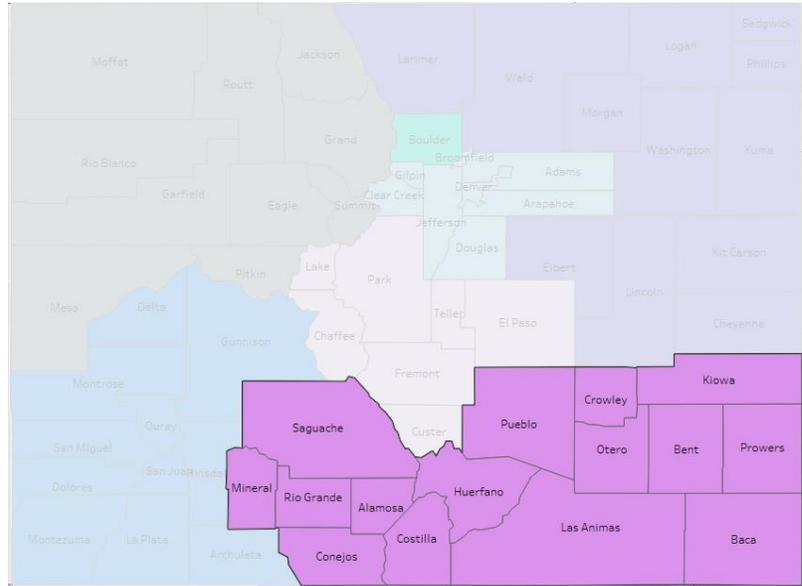
- Chaffee
- Custer
- El Paso
- Fremont
- Lake
- Park
- Teller



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## SSPA 4: SOUTHEASTERN COLORADO & SAN LUIS VALLEY

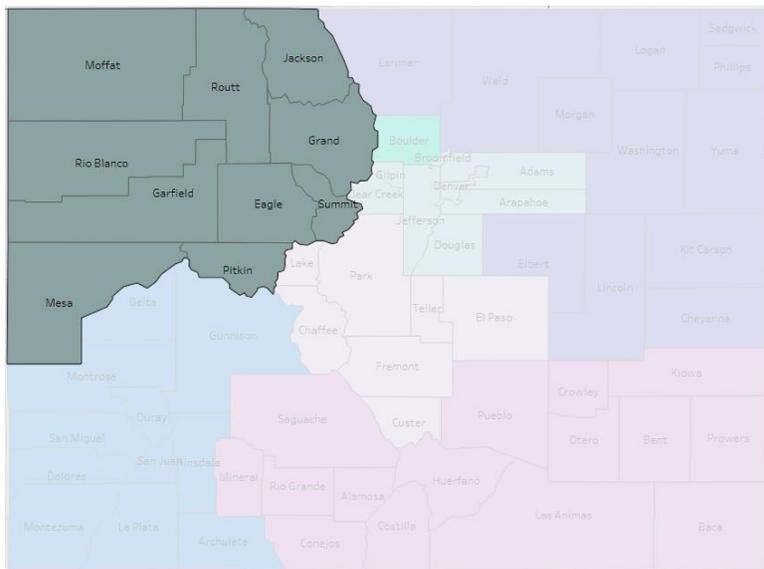
- Alamosa
- Baca
- Bent
- Conejos
- Costilla
- Crowley
- Huerfano
- Kiowa
- Las Animas
- Mineral
- Otero
- Prowers
- Pueblo
- Rio Grande
- Saguache



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## SSPA 6: North Western Slope

- Eagle
- Grand
- Garfield
- Jackson
- Mesa
- Moffatt
- Pitkin
- Rio Blanco
- Routt
- Summit

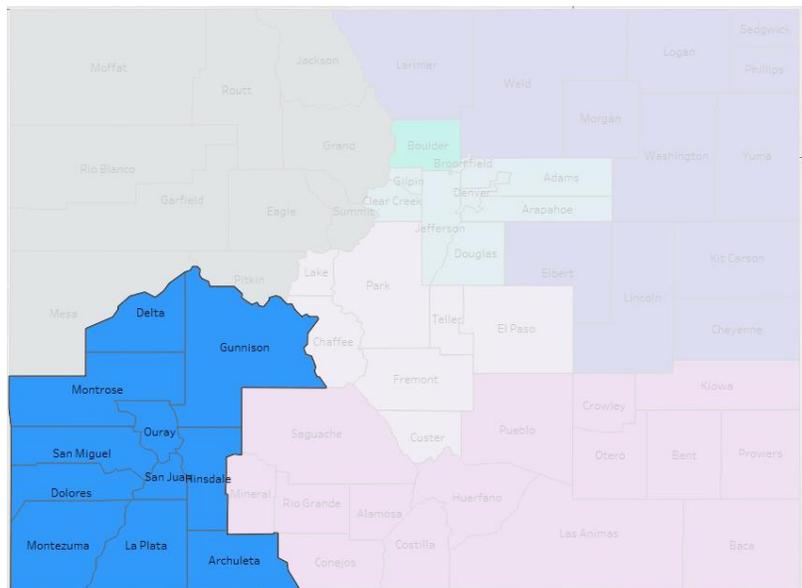


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## SSPA 5: South Western Slope

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- Archuleta
- Delta
- Dolores
- Gunnison
- Hinsdale
- La Plata
- Montezuma
- Montrose
- Ouray
- San Miguel
- San Juan



# Appendix B

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## FISCAL DOCUMENTATION

Applicants will find the **Colorado Office of Behavioral health capacity budget protocol** documentation on Signal's website as one of the resources listed with this Grant Application, or use the following link:

<https://signalbhn.org/proposals/>

Applicants will find the **Colorado Office of Behavioral health capacity budget template** on Signal's website as one of the resources listed with this Grant Application, or use the following link: <https://signalbhn.org/proposals/>

Applicants may find the **HCPF and OBH Behavioral Health Accounting and Auditing Guidelines** on Signal's website as one of the resources listed with this Grant Application, or use the following link:

<https://signalbhn.org/proposals/>

# Appendix C

# Credentialing Documentation

Below is a listing of the documentation required for application for those that are not already a credentialed provider with Signal.

- a) Completed IRS form W-9 (provided)
- b) Completed attestation form (provided)
- c) Completed contact form (provided)
- d) Copies of all current OBH licenses, if applicable
- e) Copies of any current licenses/certificates from any organization regulating any portion of the Provider's treatment services. These may include, but not limited to:
  - JCAHO/CARF/COA approvals, if applicable
  - Residential Child Care Facility license, if applicable
  - Residential Treatment Center license, if applicable
  - Drug Enforcement Administration Provider certification, if applicable
  - Drug Enforcement Administration Physician license(s), if applicable
  - Federal Drug Administration and Pharmacy Board registration, if applicable
  - CARR Certification for recovery living homes, if applicable
  - Peer certification, if applicable
- f) Certificate of general liability and professional liability insurance, professional automobile, and general office insurance. The professional liability policies shall have a minimum coverage limit of \$1,000,000 per individual occurrence and \$1,000,000 aggregate. Exceptions to these minimum coverage requirements will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- g) Certification of malpractice insurance, worker's compensation insurance, Director's and Officer's Insurance if applicable
- h) Documentation of Medicaid Billing Practices, if applicable
- i) Copy of most recent financial audit and management letter
- j) Copy of most recent agency approved budget