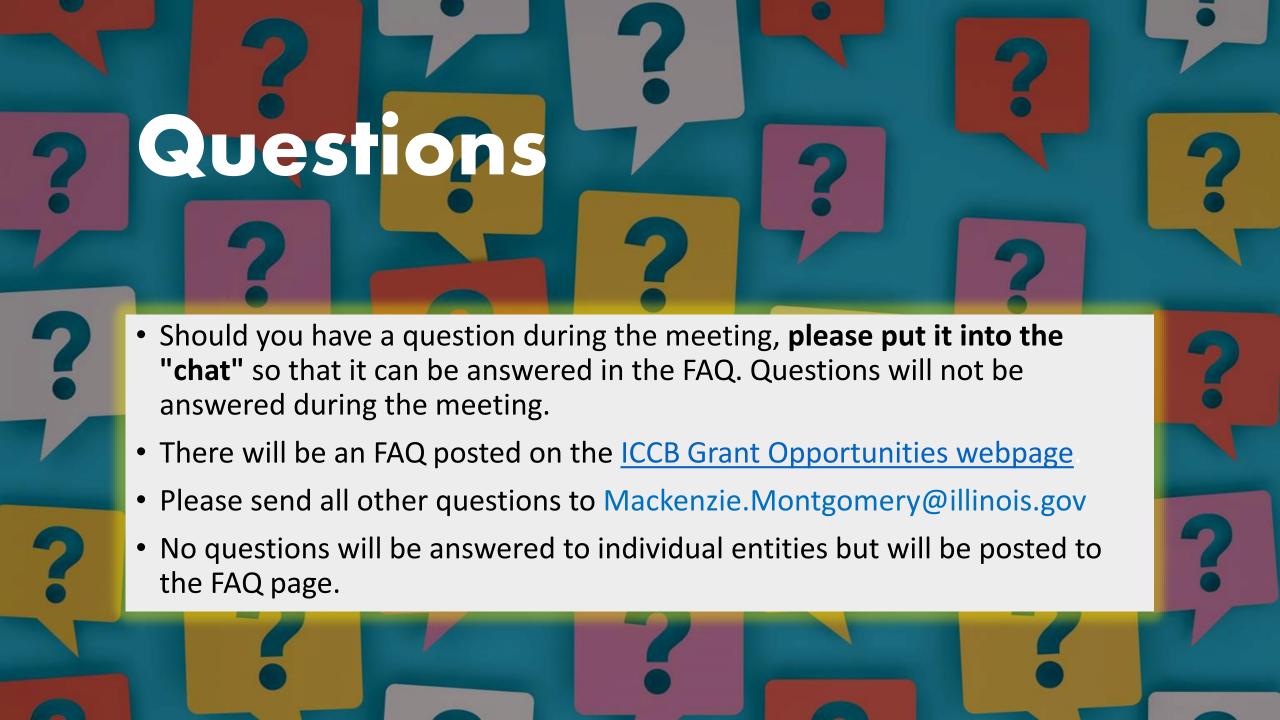


October 1, 2025

Bidder's Conference

Mackenzie Montgomery, ICCB Director for Student Success



Purpose of the Grant

This project is designed to assist and support colleges in scaling equitable, evidence-based mental health supports based on MHEAC requirements

Eligible Applicants

Community colleges in the State of Illinois are invited to submit proposals under this Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO).



Funding Overview

- Only one grant application per college.
- Award scale is up to \$150,000.
- Grant period: January 1, 2025 December 31, 2025



Let's Break it Down...

For the purpose of this grant, the "underserved"

is defined as students who have not had **equitable** access to services or have not **received** mental health supports at your institution.

This will be determined regionally based on **data** from your institution to identify demographics of students who do not seek or receive services.

Grant Objectives

- The objectives of this grant are to support new, expanded, and enhanced services to meet the mental health needs of students. The requirements align with the requirements of the Mental Health Early Action on Campus Act including screening and improved access to services.
- Applicants must select from at least one of the four objectives and are additionally able to select more than one of the four objectives based on campus needs and capacity. All activities should align with at least one of the goals

Objective 1: Develop and expand Peer Support Programs

Institutions will focus on efforts to <u>develop</u>, <u>implement</u>, <u>enhance</u>, <u>and/or expand peer support programs</u>.

 Peer support programs may be housed within resident assistant programs, counseling centers, or wellness centers on campus. Appropriate supervision by trained professional of peer programming and students should be provided. (Virtual options may be used with appropriate vetting to ensure virtual services are utilizing best practices).

Objective 2: Continued development to expand the number of students served through local partnerships to meet the statutorily established 1:1250 counselor to student ratio

- Institutions will focus on expanding services to students by implementing, enhancing, and/or expanding local partnerships both with public health organizations and private mental health practices.
- This expansion can be achieved by full-time, part-time, or contractual partnerships.
- Campuses should be able to document the current status of counselor to student ratio and explain how the ratio was determined and address the impact of expanded services to both lower the ratio and serve students through campus operations.

Objective 3: Mental health services targeting gaps in services, with an emphasis on underserved students

• Based on individual campus data, institutions will identify students not currently being fully served and work to expand services to these groups through full-time staff, part-time staff, contractual, or virtual services or other targeted services. The focus should go beyond those students currently being fully served toward those who fall within the gaps of services. Both underserved and fully served students should be defined for this objective.

Objective 4:
Development of
Medicaid and other
reimbursement
procedures for
mental health
services.

• Institutions will work with stakeholders to develop and implement policies, procedures and processes related to Medicaid for mental health services to create a sustainable path to continued expansion of services.

Priority Activities

Detailed reporting, including institutional data on students served and services provided, is to be provided by all funded institutions. Institutions must choose at least <u>one of the four</u> objectives listed above.

Examples of Allowable Grant Activities

- >Training and professional development for staff supervising peer programs
- ➤ Payment for peers engaged as peer supports
- ➤ Subscription costs for online peer support programs
- Creating a space for peer groups to meet
- ➤ Contractual agreements with mental health providers for services not provided on campus
- ➤ Outreach and events to introduce students to available resources
- Establish services at college locations other than the main college campus
- ➤ Outreach and events for targeted students
- > Training, professional development, or enrollment to submit Medicaid or other reimbursement requests
- >Collaboration with technical assistance providers or other stakeholders
- ➤ Subscriptions/payment for services to facilitate means to submit reimbursement to Medicaid or other reimbursement requests

Application Package

The Fine Print

- All parts of the application package must be completed by the deadline in order to be considered.
- Applicants...
 - should ensure that all elements are clearly addressed
 - are strongly encouraged to use headers to address all elements or some consistent form of response delineation
 - will receive a receipt of application
 - will not be notified if there are items that are missing from their application
 - funded or not funded, will be notified by December 1, 2024
- Applications are due, no exceptions, by October 31, 2024, 5:00 p.m. to iccb.studentservices@illinois.gov

Application Format

The application must be organized as listed and applicants must use the templates provided on the ICCB Grant **Opportunities** webpage when provided.

1. GATA-Exempt Grant Application (template provided)

2. Cover Page

3. Abstract

- 4. Project Narrative
- 5. Letters of Commitment from External Partners
- 6. Uniform Budget



Application Narrative Deep-Dive

The Project Narrative submitted under this NOFO should be organized, clear, and understandable.

The eligible applicant must submit a narrative of **no more than ten pages** (charts and graphs are a part of the page limitation), double-spaced, 12-point font that must include the following information in the order listed below and utilizing a header for each of both bulleted Narrative Sections.

Basic Project Information:

Concise summary of the anticipated number of students to be served, populations to be served (Provide a description of the target population of students to be served, if applicable (e.g., ethnicity, gender, socio-economic status of community, specific regional consideration). Applicants should use data as evidence for their selection.)

Statement of Need:

Institutional data should be provided to clearly identify need for additional mental health services.

Program Justification: This statement should provide data on potential student impact.

Fiscal Need: The grant reviewer may not understand the specific financial needs of your institution and/or chosen program area(s) of focus. Financial need should be explicitly addressed.

Regional Context: Provide a regionally specific context for the services proposed.

Detailed description of the identified approach and measurable project goals and objectives/Overall Program Goals/Indicators of Performance:

• Identify the anticipated number of students to be served as well as other project goals and describe how the institution will determine success of the programming.

Description of any partnerships provide the number of partnerships and a brief description of the role each partner will play in the grant project. **Letters of Commitment/Support must be included for all external partners.**

- **Project Work Plan** Clearly describe the project activities and associated timeline for each activity to be carried out during the grant period and person(s) responsible for each activity to be carried out during the grant period. The activities should clearly relate to the goals of the grant. *A chart or table is encouraged*. Please note that your work plan may change during the grant as a result of technical assistance offered by ICCB, ICSPS and the Illinois Campus Cares Technical Assistance Center and other partners. Within the Work Plan, applications should address how they will carry out the following activities:
 - Building mental health services capacity.
 - All other activities carried out under the grant to support project goals.
- **Programs developed or expanded** including the anticipated number of students to be served with new or expanded programs. Should include a description of the impact the project will have on students, the community, the institution, etc.
- **Description of applicant's capacity and experience** Description of the applicant's capacity to execute the project including a description of previous experience in implementing successful grant programs of a similar nature, and related activities such as wrap-around services for the target population.

Scalability or Replicability: Description of how the project could be scaled or replicated by others in the State. *All resources and products developed with grant funds will be provided from the grantee to the ICCB to share with the field.*

Contingency Plan: Description of plan and budget in the event that the program plan must change, and funds are not able to be spent as defined in the original narrative and budget (e.g. unsuccessful hiring of staff for peer support programming). Applicants should think critically about this section. In the event that an applicant is unable to spend grant funds as originally planned, it is helpful to have a substantial starting place when trying to determine how to change course. *No more than one page*

Grant Deliverables

- 1. Carry out deliverables of the proposed scope of work, encompassing all required activities for the selected Objective(s).
- 2. Work to meet or exceed all of the identified indicators of performance.
- 3. Submit required programmatic and fiscal reports on a quarterly basis per the schedule below to:
 - <u>ICCB.studentservices@illinois.gov</u> and <u>ICCB.grantpayments@illinois.gov</u>

Reporting Schedule for the FY2025 Mental Health Early Action on Campus Expansion Grant		
Quarter	Period	Date Due
1Q	January 1, 2025-March 31, 20255	April 30, 2025
2Q	April 1, 2025-June 30, 2025	July 30, 2025
3Q	July 1, 2025-September 30, 2025	October 30, 2025
4Q	October 1, 2025-December 31, 2025	January 30, 2026
Final	January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025	February 28, 2026

- 4. Participate in any required professional development, technical assistance, or learning workshops.
- 5. "Fixed Amount Award" means a type of grant agreement providing a specific level of support without regard to actual costs incurred under the award. While total funding will be predetermined for awards, reporting will be required. Grantee will receive the specific sum of the award regardless of the actual costs incurred.

