



**DAVE YOST**  
OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL

## Ohio Attorney General's Quick Response Team Grant Program

### PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Ohio Attorney General's Office is launching the Quick Response Team Grant Program to fund innovative solutions addressing drug addiction in Ohio communities. Modeled after a "Shark Tank" pitch format, the program invites private entities, non-profit organizations, and local government entities to propose creative, community-based drug response team initiatives. A total of \$100,000 in grant funding will be awarded to successful applicants, who will present their ideas directly to the Attorney General and a review panel.

### PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

- **Support innovative solutions:** Fund creative, evidence-based, or promising approaches to combat drug addiction through response teams.
- **Engage communities:** Encourage collaboration among private entities, non-profits, and local governments to address addiction challenges.
- **Promote accountability:** Ensure funded projects deliver measurable outcomes that benefit individuals struggling with addiction.
- **Raise awareness:** Highlight successful initiatives through a public announcement event to inspire further action.

### ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- **Eligible applicants:**
  - Private entities (e.g., businesses, community organizations, or social enterprises).
  - Non-profit organizations (501(c)(3) or equivalent status).
  - Local government entities (e.g., county or municipal governments, local health departments).
- **Ineligible applicants:**
  - State and federal government entities.
  - Individuals or unincorporated groups.
  - Individuals or entities not in compliance with any state or federal law.

*Applicants must operate within Ohio and propose projects that directly serve residents of Ohio.*

## GRANT DETAILS

- **Total funding available:** \$100,000.
- **Award structure:**
  - Multiple grants may be awarded, with individual awards ranging from \$10,000 to \$50,000, depending on project scope and impact. Funds must be used exclusively for project implementation (e.g., personnel, training, equipment, community outreach).
- **Funding restrictions:**
  - Funds cannot be used for political activities or capital construction projects.
  - Administrative costs are capped at 10% of the grant amount.
  - Grants are awarded at the sole discretion of the Attorney General
- **Grant period:** January 2026 – December 2026, with funds disbursed in January

## APPLICATION PROCESS

- **Submission deadline:**
  - Proposals are due by 11:59 p.m. EDT on Sept. 30, 2025.
  - Late or incomplete submissions will not be considered.
  - Applicants are encouraged to collaborate with local stakeholders (e.g., healthcare providers, law enforcement, recovery organizations) to strengthen proposals.
- **Submission requirements:** Applicants must submit a detailed proposal including:
  1. **Executive summary:** Overview of the proposed drug response team, including its mission and target population.
  2. **Problem statement:** Description of the addiction-related challenge in the target community, supported by data or evidence (e.g., overdose rates, treatment gaps).
  3. **Proposed Solution:**
    - Detailed description of the drug response team, including structure, services (e.g., crisis intervention, outreach, treatment referrals), and innovative elements.
    - Explanation of how the team will support individuals struggling with addiction.
  4. **Budget:**
    - Itemized budget detailing how funds will be used.
    - Any additional funding sources (e.g., matching funds, in-kind contributions).
  5. **Evaluation plan:**
    - Measurable outcomes (e.g., number of individuals served, reduction in overdoses, treatment program enrollments).
    - Methods for tracking and reporting progress.
- **Submission method:**
  - Proposals must be submitted via email to: [QRTGrants@OhioAGO.gov](mailto:QRTGrants@OhioAGO.gov).
  - Files must be in PDF or Microsoft Word format.

## SELECTION PROCESS

### Initial review

- A review committee, appointed by the Attorney General, will evaluate proposals based on:
  - **Innovation (30%):** Creativity and originality of the proposed idea
  - **Evaluation plan (25%):** Robustness of evidence-based outcome measurement and reporting strategies
  - **Impact (15%):** Potential to address addiction challenges and benefit the target community
  - **Feasibility (15%):** Clarity and practicality of the implementation plan and budget
  - **Community engagement (15%):** Strength of community involvement and partnerships
- Proposals must score at least 70/100 to advance to the pitch phase.

### Pitch phase

- **Selection notification:** Applicants selected for the pitch phase will be notified by **Oct. 31**.
- **Pitch event:** Finalists will present their proposals to the Attorney General and a panel of experts in a “Shark Tank”-style format in **November** or **December 2025**.
  - Presentations are limited to 10 minutes, followed by a 5-minute Q&A.
  - Applicants may provide a slide deck (maximum of 10 slides) summarizing their proposal.
  - Pitches will be evaluated on clarity, passion, and ability to address panel questions.
- **Location:** Pitches will take place in the Rhodes Tower in downtown Columbus. Virtual options may be available for extenuating circumstances.

### Final selection

- Winners will be selected by Dec. 31, 2025, based on combined scores from the written proposal (60%) and pitch (40%).
- The Attorney General’s Office reserves the right to negotiate project scopes or budgets with finalists before final awards.

## ANNOUNCEMENT & AWARDS

- **Announcement event:** Winners will be announced at a public event in **January 2026** (date and location TBD).
- **Award disbursement:** Funds will be disbursed in January 2026, contingent on signed grant agreements.
- **Reporting requirements:**
  - Grantees must submit three progress reports in 2026 (due April 15, July 15, and Oct. 15).
  - A final report summarizing outcomes and expenditures is due by **Jan. 31, 2027**.
- **Audit and oversight:**
  - Grantees must maintain accurate financial records and allow audits by the Attorney General’s Office.
  - Misuse of funds may result in repayment and exclusion from future programs.
- **Non-transferability:** Grants are non-transferable and must be used by the awarded entity for the approved project.

## KEY DATES

- Application period opening date: Aug. 25
- Submission deadline: Sept. 30
- Pitch-selection notification: Oct. 31
- Pitch event: November or December 2025 (exact date TBD)
- Winner selection: Dec. 31
- Announcement event: January 2026
- Grant period: January 2026 – December 2026

## GRANT PROGRAM CONTACT

If you have questions, contact Director of Business Relations Pat Melton at the Ohio Attorney General's Office at [Patrick.Melton@OhioAGO.gov](mailto:Patrick.Melton@OhioAGO.gov) or (614) 466-4320.