



**COLORADO**  
Office of Behavioral Health  
Department of Human Services

**Gambling Addiction Program Grants  
Request for Applications (RFA)**

**Eligibility:**

Entities, programs, or individuals providing gambling counseling services with nationally accredited counselors or behavioral health professionals seeking national accreditation are eligible to apply

**State Fiscal Year 2018 (July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018)**

**Administered by**

The Colorado Department of Human Services  
Office of Behavioral Health, Community Programs

**Application due: continuous posting – no due date**  
**Funding begins: upon award**

**Background:**

Funds awarded through this effort, as directed by House Bill 08-1314, (HB 08-1314) provide for the Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS) to use the monies in the Account for Gambling Addiction Program grants to award grants for the purpose of providing gambling addiction education and counseling services to Colorado residents. Pursuant to C.R.S. § 12-47.1-1601, the directives in HB 08-1314 are being administered by the Office of Behavioral Health, hereinafter referred to as the Office, within the Colorado Department of Human Services. The funds available statewide to be used for screening, assessment and counseling services in this program for FY 2017-2018 are \$85,000. Gambling disorder screens may be accessed and downloaded on the National Council on Problem Gambling website: <http://www.ncpgambling.org/help-treatment/screening-tools/>

**Definitions:**

**Gambling Counseling:** Counseling services to those individuals who are screened and assessed to have a gambling problem as well as others who have been affected by the gambling problem,

**Gambling Disorder (DSM 5):** Persistent and recurrent problematic gambling behavior leading to clinically significant impairment or distress, as indicated by the individual exhibiting four (or more) of the following in a 12 month period:

- Needs to gamble with increasing amounts of money in order to achieve the desired excitement.
- Is restless or irritable when attempting to cut down or stop gambling.
- Has made repeated unsuccessful efforts to control, cut back, or stop gambling.
- Is often preoccupied with gambling (e.g., having persistent thoughts of reliving past gambling experiences, handicapping or planning the next venue, thinking of ways to get money with which to gamble).
- Often gambles when feeling distressed (e.g., helpless, guilty, anxious, depressed).
- After losing money gambling, often returns another day to get even (“chasing” one’s losses).
- Lies to conceal the extent of involvement with gambling.
- Has jeopardized or lost a significant relationship, job, or educational or career opportunity because of gambling.
- Relies on others to provide money to relieve desperate financial situations caused by gambling.

*American Psychiatric Association. (2013). Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders: DSM-5. Washington, D.C*

**Requirements:**

Pursuant to C.R.S. § 12-47.1-1601, the Office shall select a number of organizations, programs, or individuals to provide problem gambling counseling services in Colorado. The number of awards is contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds, as well as the number of applications received. The funds shall be awarded as grants to organizations, programs, or individuals for counseling services conducted by nationally accredited counselors or counselors eligible to pursue national accreditation. In order to assure that qualified and competent professionals will provide counseling services to those individuals who are assessed to have a gambling problem as well as others who have been affected by the gambling problem, agencies and applicants shall provide proof of national accreditation or that he or she has completed at least half of the counseling hours required for national accreditation. Grants are available for counselors interested in pursuing International Gambling Counselor Certification

(IGCC) or International Co-occurring Gambling Specialist Certification (ICOGSC) through the Gambling Addiction National Certification Grant Program from the Office.

If the applicant agency or individual is not nationally accredited, the application shall document that the applicant's counselor(s) is actively pursuing IGCC or ICOGSC certification and is eligible to receive the certification. The applicant must:

- Submit a certification plan that outlines a timeline for completion of the following:
  - Clinical case consultation- Submit name of clinician that will be providing International Gambling Counselor Board (IGCCB) Approved Clinical Consultation. Clinical consultant must be registered as a Board Approved Clinical Consultant (BACC).
  - For IGCC level I or ICOGSC a minimum of 4 hours of clinical case consultation is required for certification. IGCC level II requires a minimum of 24 hours of clinical case consultation for certification. Submit a training plan that outlines a timeline for completion of required training courses for certification. (30 hours for IGCC level I or ICOGSC, 60 hours for IGCC level II)
- Be certified and/or licensed in good standing with the Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA); and
- Hold a Bachelor's degree or higher in a behavioral health field.

Specifically, proof is to include (for each person providing counseling):

- A copy of the applicant's behavioral health professional's Bachelor's degree diploma; and,
- Gambling addiction specific training and education certificates;
- Signed attestation form, confirming direct gambling addiction counseling, including hours;
- A signed attestation form, with dates of supervision, and name and contact information for applicant's international gambling counselor Board Approved Clinical Consultant (BACC);
- A copy of the BACC certification with the IGCCB; and
- Copy of DORA certification and/or license.

The applicant agency must:

- Be a State or local public or private entity;
- Be in good standing with its licensing agency;
- Provide direct gambling addiction counseling services to Colorado residents; and
- Provide gambling addiction counseling services using behavioral health professionals who have completed or completed at least half of the gambling counseling training required for national certification for gambling addiction counselors as identified above.

The total amount of funds available statewide is **\$85,000**. Each applicant may apply for funds up to **\$20,000**. If the applicant is a law-specified vendor such as a community mental health center, proposals may exceed the \$20,000 cap. Award amounts will be determined based upon the availability of funds and the number of applications received. CDHS retains the right to grant awards in excess of the \$85,000 cap, based upon the availability of funding.

The application process is competitive. A Review Committee made up of behavioral health professionals and experts in prevention, substance use disorders (including gambling addiction), and mental health services will review and score each application. If an application is not awarded, the

applicant agency can request a summary of the review, but may not appeal the decision of the committee.

#### Priority Applicants

- Priority will be given to applicants in an area where there are currently no IGCC or ICGSC counselors.
- Priority will be given to applicants who agree to implement universal screening for gambling addiction.
- Priority will be given to applicants that have a tracking plan for the following:
  - Monthly number of gambling use disorder screens completed.
  - Monthly total of individuals screened to be at risk for gambling use disorder.
  - Monthly total of referrals made for gambling use disorder counseling, or co-occurring gambling use disorder counseling.
  - Monthly total of individuals engaged in gambling use disorder counseling, or co-occurring gambling use disorder counseling.
- Priority will be given to applicants who agree to expand their service area to include areas where there is an unmet need for gambling addiction counseling.
- Supporting documentation must be submitted for all of the above priority areas.

#### **Funding Period**

Funding for the State Fiscal Year begins on July 1st, 2017 and ends June 30, 2018. This grant maintains a continuous posting during the State Fiscal Year, and grants may be awarded anytime during the year based upon availability of funds. Reapplication is required to receive funding for additional years.

#### **Payment for counseling services:**

The resulting contract or purchase order will be a cost reimbursement award, in which the Office will reimburse the contractor for actual costs incurred. Reimbursement will not be made for expenses incurred prior to the contract or purchase order start date.

The Office will be a payer of last resort and successful applicants must clearly document any coverage and revenues from Medicaid, private insurance and/or self-pay for gambling addiction counseling. Invoices submitted to OBH shall clearly demonstrate that OBH is the payer of last resort for the gambling addiction counseling services being invoiced.

The grant award funding will be accessed by providing an invoice for reimbursement for provided gambling addiction counseling services to the OBH. Invoices must include:

1. Client Identification Number(s); and
2. Date(s) of counseling session(s); and,
3. Length(s) of counseling session(s); and,
4. Cost per session; and,
5. Total amount of money requested.
6. NOTE: Services already covered by other public funds or third party payers are not eligible for reimbursement through these funds.

The Office will allow reimbursement for indirect costs in an amount up to 10% of all direct costs that may include services, marketing, advertising, billing and other direct costs traceable to this cost center. The Office will allow reimbursement for marketing expenses, which shall not exceed 5% of all direct costs.

**Report**

HB08-1314 requires annual reporting to the Legislature. Quarterly reports shall be submitted to the Office within thirty (30) days of the end of each quarter. These reports shall detail the unduplicated number of clients screened for gambling use disorder; unduplicated number of individuals screened to be in need of gambling use disorder counseling; number of individuals referred to gambling use disorder counseling; and unduplicated number of clients receiving gambling addiction counseling services, as well as the dollar amount of services provided by client. Reports shall also include any changes in staff IGCCB certification (i.e. completion, pending application, award, lapse, revocation, clinical consultant certification) and number of hours of clinical case consultation with an International Gambling Counselor Certification Board approved clinical consultant. If applicant is identified as a priority application, based on the 3 priority areas identified above, provide updates on implementation of universal problem gambling screening (if applicable) and expansion of service area (if applicable). Backup documentation shall be provided with each report, which will detail the client name, services received, and confirmation the contractor verified no other payer source was available. Below is a table outlining when the quarterly data shall be reported.

<b>Report Period</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
July – September	October 31
October – December	January 31
January – March	April 30
April – June	July 31

## RFA NARRATIVE, WORK PLAN, AND BUDGET

### Applicants must complete each section:

*(Abstract, section I, II & III not to exceed 8 pages, single spaced, 12 pt. Times New Roman font. 10pt font acceptable for charts and tables.)*

ABSTRACT: (5 points)

Describe the identified need, target population, and the intended outcome of the awarding of this grant for problem gambling counseling services. Include the credentials of the staff that are accredited and/or eligible to seek accreditation. Abstract may not exceed 150 words.

SECTION I. TARGET POPULATION: (40 points)

- A. The funds available through this RFA are for used for screening, assessment and counseling services in which the Office is the payer of last resort. Awardees must document that no other payer source is available, including Medicaid, private insurance, and self-pay. Any revenues from these or other sources must be documented on any invoices/requests for reimbursement.
- B. Describe your intended use of the funds, including:
  - Implementation of universal screening for problem gambling. (Please note free screening tools are available on the National Council on Problem Gambling website).
  - Tracking method for the following data:
    - Number of unduplicated individuals screened
    - Number of unduplicated individuals screening with gambling use disorder
    - Number of unduplicated individuals referred counseling
  - The number of clients assessed to need problem gambling counseling;
  - The number of counseling hours/services each client will need;
  - Other ancillary services, which are complementary to problem gambling counseling; and
  - The estimated portion of counseling services which will be covered by other payer sources such as Medicaid or private insurance.
  - Any evidence you are providing services based on priority areas listed above under priority applicants.
- C. Identify what funding and/or services already exist in the community to address problem gambling within the target population.
- D. Describe how these grant funds would help address the problem gambling issue in your community.

SECTION II. COUNSELOR QUALIFICATIONS: (40 points)

- A. Describe the applicant agency's counselor(s) and include whether the counselor(s) are nationally accredited or seeking accreditation. If the counselor(s) are seeking accreditation, then the application needs to identify how all counselors meet the prerequisites identified above and provide

an anticipated completion dates. Please attach the supporting documentation described in the Requirements section as an appendix.

- B. Indicate the number of years of problem gambling counseling experience for key staff, as well as national certification if applicable.
- C. Describe how the applicant agency is responsive to various cultures within the community and target population.

### SECTION III. BUDGET: (15 points)

- A. Itemize the amounts requested for by category, such as - but not limited to:
  - a. Personnel
  - b. Fringe
  - c. Other Program Costs (marketing, travel, materials, or other direct costs)
  - d. Indirect costs (not to exceed 10%)

### **Rating and Evaluation Criteria**

Each section identified above will be scored by the Review Committee. Maximum points for each section are listed in this RFA. Maximum points are given for an outstanding response. Points are deducted for non-response, missing information, or an inadequate response. Points are deducted for not following the page length criteria. If the application does not clearly identify qualified counselors, it will be considered non-responsive and ineligible for award.

Only one proposal from any one entity will be accepted per year.

**Questions regarding the RFA should be submitted by e-mail to: Mary McMahan, or by phone at 303-866-7826.**

### **Application Due Date**

This RFA is on a rolling deadline and can be submitted at any time throughout the year. Please submit all applications in PDF form, by email to: [mary.mcmahan@state.co.us](mailto:mary.mcmahan@state.co.us). In the subject line, state the name of the county targeted, followed by the name of the agency. Paper applications will not be accepted.