

# OAG OPIOID ABATEMENT WEBINAR

Friday, February 9, 2024

1:00 p.m.



# Overview

- Background/Board
- Application
  - Contents
  - Scoring Rubric
  - Tiers
  - Appeals
- Questions and answers



# The Opioid Crisis

- The opioid crisis has occurred in waves:
  - The first wave was driven by the oversupply of prescription opioids. Regulatory controls stemmed overprescribing.
  - Heroin-related overdose deaths started rising around 2010, marking the start of the second wave.
  - By 2014, synthetic opioids — mainly fentanyl and fentanyl analogs — accounted for most overdose deaths, marking the third wave.
  - We are currently experiencing the fourth wave of the opioid crisis. In Oklahoma, the stimulant fueling this fourth wave is methamphetamine. The co-use of methamphetamine and opioids (namely fentanyl) has caused a significant increase in overdose deaths involving both substances.

Source: Ciccarone, D. (2021). "The rise of illicit fentanyls, stimulants and the fourth wave of the opioid overdose crisis." *Current opinion in psychiatry*, 34(4), 344-350.  
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC8154745/>



# The Opioid Crisis

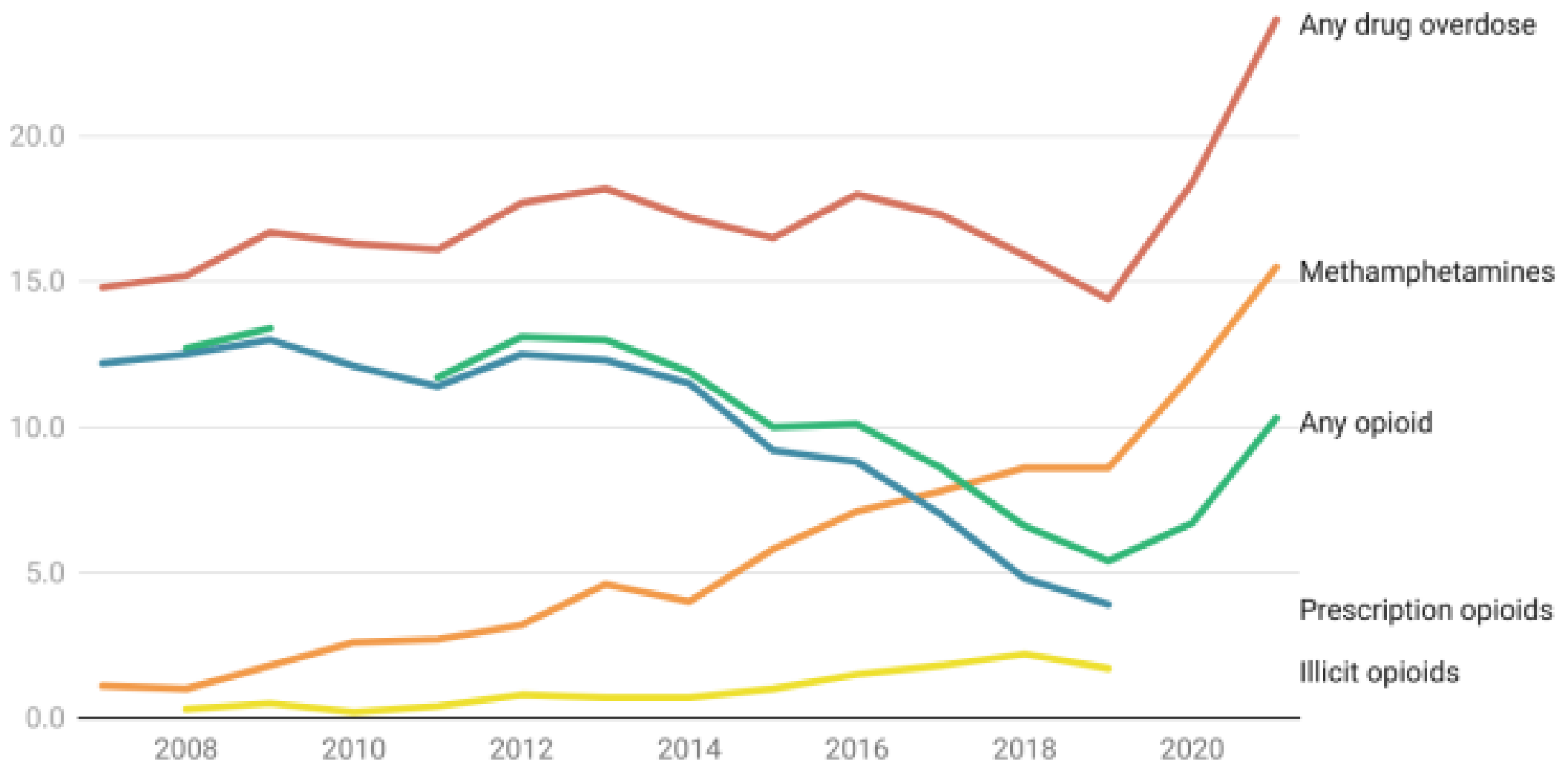
- Since 1999, more than a million people in the U.S. died from a drug overdose, the majority involved an opioid.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2023). Drug Overdose Deaths. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control.  
<https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/deaths/index.htm>

- In 2017 alone, opioid use disorder and fatal opioid overdoses cost Oklahoma more than \$10 billion, according to an estimate by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- State and local governments sued opioid manufacturers, distributors and retailers for their role in the opioid crisis. The Oklahoma Opioid Abatement Board, made up of nine members appointed by state elected officials, oversees the distribution of opioid settlement funds.



**Figure 1: Overdose deaths by drug in Oklahoma, rate per 100,000 population**



Source: Oklahoma State Department of Health, Injury Prevention Service, Fatal Unintentional Poisoning System

# Opioid Abatement Board

<https://www.oag.ok.gov/opioid-abatement-board>

Disburse opioid grant awards to eligible participants

Appeals process

Oversight and enforcement

# Total funding available

The Abatement Fund consists of certain funds obtained through settlements or judgments entered on behalf of the State of Oklahoma relating to opioid litigation that involves pharmaceutical supply chain participants.

- \$23,000,000 in available grant award funding
- \$1,250,000 in reserve for appeals from grant awards

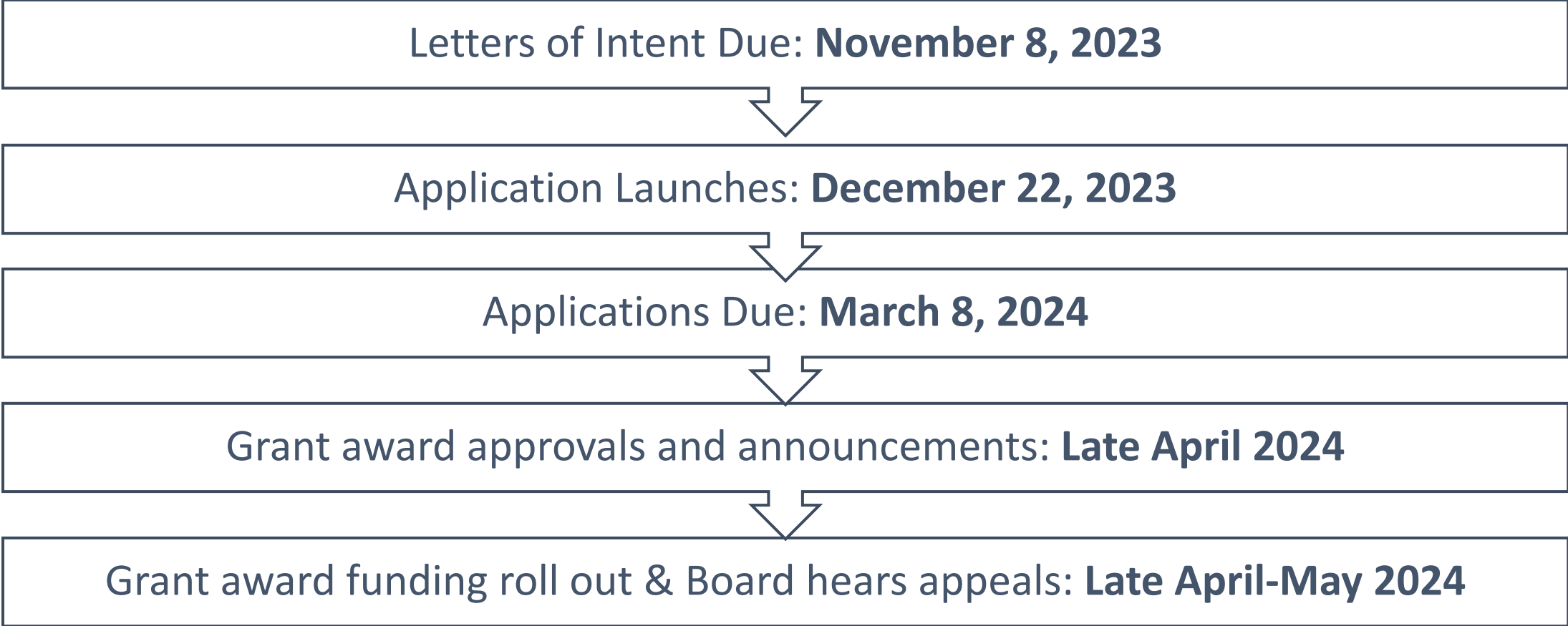
Purdue: \$12,666,761.70

Mallinckrodt: \$2,043,919.73

Legislative appropriation: \$10,220,000



# Timeline





# Authorized Purposes

## Prevention

- Evidence-based strategies
- Education
- Training relative to an approved purpose
- Connect those who are at-risk
- Criminal justice prevention
- Overprescribing
- Overdose deaths or other related harms

# Authorized Purposes

## Treatment

- Recovery support
- Early intervention, counseling and support
- Needs of mothers with opioid use, abuse or disorder in the family
- Needs of caregivers of babies with neonatal abstinence syndrome

## Abatement / Response

- Decrease the oversupply
- Reimburse or fund responders relating to costs incurred
- Leadership, planning and coordination to abate the epidemic (intergovernmental or nonprofit)
- Monitor, surveillance and evaluation

# Application, Scoring Rubric, Tiers and other considerations



- Application

<https://www.oag.ok.gov/opioid-abatement-board>

Submit to the Office of the Attorney General

Contents (non-exhaustive)

- Demonstrated need
- Abatement plan
- Financials and Budget
- Key staff
- Evidence-based and evidence-informed documentation
- Community support
- Assurances

Criteria	Total Points Available	Point Values			
Use of Funds (Question 11)	20 points	0 Narrative shows no use of funds for abatement	10 Weak use of funds for abatement	15 Good use of funds for abatement	20 Strong use of funds for abatement
Demonstrated Need for Funds (Question 12)	25 points	0 No justification	10 Limited justification	25 Adequate justification	40 Strong justification
Capacity for Implementation (Question 13)	15 points	0 No capacity for project management	5 Weak capacity for project management	10 Good capacity for project management	15 Strong capacity for project management
Evidence Base for Proposed Projects (Question 14)	25 points	0 No evidence of future success	5 Weak evidence of future success	10 Good evidence of future success (evidence-informed)	15 Strong evidence of future success (evidence-based)
Community Partnership and Support (Question 15)	15 points	0 No alignment with existing community efforts	5 Weak alignment with community efforts	10 Strong alignment with community efforts	
Subtotal Points	100 Points				

# Scoring Rubric



Bonus Points Criteria	Total Points Available		
Applicant has received \$0 in opioid settlements or opioid-related litigation (checked “No” on questions 7- 10)	5 points	0	5
Applicant proposes a new project (checked first box on question 11b)	15 points	0	15
Applicant has secured 50% or more of maximum available funding in matching funds from other sources	10 points	0	10
<b>Total Points</b>	130 Points		

# Scoring Rubric



# Grant Awards - County Tiers

Tier Number	Maximum available funding
Tier 1 (up to 25,000 in population)	\$75,000
Tier 2 (25,001-75000)	\$150,000
Tier 3 (75,000 or more)	\$300,000



# Grant Awards - Municipality Tiers

Tier Number	Maximum available funding
Tier 1 (up to 15,000 in population)	\$60,000
Tier 2 (15001-100,000)	\$125,000
Tier 3 (100,001 or more)	\$250,000





# Grant Awards - School District Tiers

Tier Number	Maximum available funding
Tier 1 (up to 2,000 in enrolled students)	\$35,000
Tier 2 (2,001-15,000)	\$75,000
Tier 3 (15,001 or more)	\$150,000



# Grant Awards - Technology School District Tiers

Tier Number	Maximum available funding
Tier 1 (up to 5,000 in enrolled students)	\$35,000
Tier 2 (5,001-15,000)	\$75,000
Tier 3 (15,001 or more)	\$150,000



# Collaborative Multi-Applicant Tiers

Tier Number (Population or Enrollment Range)	Maximum available funding
Tier 1 (up to 100,000)	\$175,000
Tier 2 (100,001-500,000)	\$350,000
Tier 3 (500,000 or more)	\$750,000



# Appeals

The Board will hear appeals regarding the following:

- Denials of funding for projects,
- Denials of specific fund use requests, and
- Denials of an application.

Partial funding of projects will not be construed as denials.



# Questions?

How will the funds be distributed?

- Quarterly Distributions.

Are funds awarded on a reimbursement basis or on a forward funding basis?

- Funds will be awarded on a forward funding basis.

Are matching funds required?

- No

Can a third-party submit the grant?

- Yes. The designated representative must provide a resolution (or the equivalent) from the political subdivision's governing body and must swear and affirm that the representative is authorized to submit the application.



# Questions?

Are subgrants allowable?

- No. However, a grantee may contract for goods and/or services. The Grantee remains responsible.

What is the term of Grant?

- The Board will determine the term of the contract.

What are the reporting requirements?

- At a minimum, quarterly.

Are there record retention requirements?

- Yes, seven years.



# Questions?

What drugs are considered opioids?

- Please refer to the Johns Hopkins Medicine information on opioids.

Can Applicants pay for costs incurred prior to the date of the Application?

- Yes, but only for abatement strategies, programming and services that started on or after January 1, 2015.

Can a political subdivision submit multiple applications?

- No, but may propose multiple projects in one application.

Can subdivisions pool grant funds in support of a regional project?

- Yes. Partnerships are encouraged to maximize the impact of grant awards.



# Questions?

Is this a recurring yearly grant or is it a one-time grant?

- This is a one-time award, but the applicant may submit a multiple year proposal.

Can grant funds be used for salaries?

- Abatement funds for salaries must be directly tied to abatement efforts (treatment, education/prevention, criminal justice involved, recovery, harm reduction) and not for interdiction (patrol, investigation, and arrest activities)

Is purchase of distribution of Xylazine Test Strips an allowable use of funds?

- Yes.





# Questions?

Can we hire a school nurse to service our students and community with grant funds?

- Possibly. Use of abatement funds for staff salaries would have to be directly tied to abatement efforts (treatment, education/prevention, criminal justice involved, recovery, harm reduction). Further, a political subdivision using abatement funds for staff may only do so by creating new positions or funding additional hours for existing staff that are directly related to opioid abatement services or programs created after January 1, 2015.

What is the percent of indirect costs can be budgeted into the grant?

- Indirect costs are permitted but may not exceed 5% of the total grant award.



# Questions?

Is website development for purposes of connecting the public to treatment providers, as well as disseminating Prevention resources and promoting other Abatement strategies an authorized purpose?

- No

Where can political subdivisions find the data required for the Application?

- Data and best practices can be found in the linked resources in the Healthy Minds Guidance document on the Board website. Data can be found on page 8 and best practices on page 10.
- For assistance with the application, please contact Healthy Minds using this link: [Substance Use & Overdose Prevention \(healthymindspolicy.org\)](https://healthymindspolicy.org)



# Questions and Answers

- Questions and answers will be posted to the Opioid Abatement Board website.
- Additional questions can be submitted to [OAB@oag.ok.gov](mailto:OAB@oag.ok.gov).
- Questions submitted by February 23, 2024 will be posted on the Q&A document posted to the website.



# Resources

- OAG website
- Health Minds Policy Initiative Guidance
- Oklahoma Prevention Needs Assessment
- Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, Data Dashboards
- Oklahoma State Department of Health, Injury Prevention Service
- National Association of Counties Planning Principles Toolkit



**Questions?**

