



CABINET FOR HEALTH
AND FAMILY SERVICES

Kentucky Department for Medicaid Services

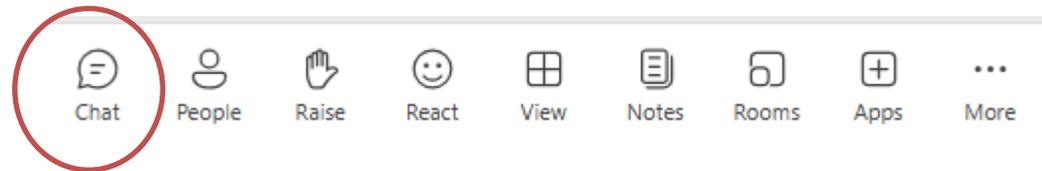
Strengthening Health Integration in Education for
Kentucky Students (SHINE KY)

Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Webinar

February 23, 2026

Please Note the Following:

- All participants will remain muted. The webinar will be posted at <https://www.chfs.ky.gov/agencies/os/oas/Pages/grants.aspx>.
- Please submit questions in the chat function (found in top banner).



- Answers to all questions received during the webinar will be posted under the DMS header by March 2, 2026, at: <https://www.chfs.ky.gov/agencies/os/oas/Pages/grants.aspx>.
- Verbal discussions at the webinar shall not be considered part of the NOFO, unless incorporated into the NOFO by amendment.

SHINE Grant



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Background and Program Goals

Kentucky's School-Based Behavioral Health Needs and SHINE Program

CMS School-Based Services (SBS) Grant



\$2.5 million awarded to Department for Medicaid Services (DMS).

- School-based services enhancement cooperative agreement, the “SBS Grant”.
- Grant period of 36 months with three 12-month payment increments.



DMS was one of only 3 awardees.

- Awarded in the “Enhancement” category, for states that have expanded the coverage and billing of Medicaid services in schools.
- Other awardees are Massachusetts and Minnesota.



Successful proposal was created through a collaborative partnership.

- Lieutenant Governor’s Office, DMS, Kentucky Department of Education (KDE), and Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities (DBHDID).



Preliminary Needs Assessments were conducted.

- Programmatic Needs Assessment and Infrastructure Needs Assessment were required as a part of the proposal.
- DMS and its partners conducted interviews and qualitative survey with stakeholders, and reviewed previous assessments.

Kentucky's School-Based Services Needs



Challenges building and retaining workforce capacity to address behavioral health diagnosis and treatment needs.



Limited understanding of what services can be billed to Medicaid and how to be a compliant biller.

Conducted a broad needs assessment and targeted interviews with Local Education Agencies and Educational Cooperatives. Here is what we heard...



Informational and logistical barriers to obtaining parental consent for treatment and Medicaid enrollment.



Difficulty with streamlined and compliant service documentation and billing due to technology limitations.

SHINE Local Grant Goals

Aim to Enhance School-Based Behavioral Health Services Access and Utilization

| | | |
|---|---------------|---|
| Support local communities in enhancing behavioral health services in school settings. | GOAL 1 |  |
| Generate best practices that will be scaled within school districts or replicated across school districts and educational cooperatives. | GOAL 2 |  |
| Empower local education agencies to leverage resources that will best address challenges in behavioral health enhancement. | GOAL 3 |  |
| Sustain behavioral health services with Medicaid reimbursement to ensure consistent access. | GOAL 4 |  |

Grant Award Information

Grantees to Receive Award Funding to Create and Implement their SHINE Project

SHINE Program Grant Award Information



- **Awarding Agency:** Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS), Kentucky Department for Medicaid Services (DMS).
- **Notice of Intent to Apply Due Date:** February 27, 2026, at 5:00 PM ET.
- **Total Amount Available:** \$700,000.
 - DMS anticipates distributing between \$50,000 and \$250,000 per successful applicant. Applicants are encouraged to apply for funds appropriate to their size and project scope.
- **Estimated Number of Awardees:** 5-7
- **Grant Period of Performance:**
 - July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027.

SHINE Program Grant Award Information *(cont.)*

Summary of Key Information and Deadlines

| <u>Item</u> | <u>Description</u> |
|---|--|
| Deadline for Notice of Intent to Apply: | 02/27/2026 at 5:00 pm ET |
| Responses to Questions Posted by DMS: | 03/02/2026 |
| Deadline to Apply: | 03/13/2026 at 5:00 pm Eastern Time (ET) |
| Anticipated Award Notification: | 5/1/2026 |
| Submit Questions, Notice of Intent to Apply, and Final Application to: | SHINEKY@mslc.com . |

Grant Applicant Eligibility

Terms of Eligibility, Key Applicant Requirements, & Considerations

Applicant Eligibility

- Eligible applicants include Local Education Agencies and collaborations among LEAs.
- Community providers are not eligible to apply.
- Applicants should already be an Expanded Access provider.

Note:

- *Grant funding is available to eligible applicants statewide.*
- *A Local Education Agency is a public local board of education or other legally constituted public authority that has either administrative control or direction of public elementary or secondary schools in a district or other political subdivision in the Commonwealth.*

Applicant Considerations

- Applicants demonstrating great need for behavioral health service expansion, including rural applicants and those with limited capacity, are encouraged to apply.
- DMS encourages applications that include effective partnerships to share costs of technology, systems, trainings, and referral networks.

Funded & Unallowable Activities

What Funds May and May Not be Used For

Funded Activities

- Grantees may request grant funds for a variety of activities that meet one or more of the following programmatic areas:
- **Workforce Capacity and Training**
 - Use funds to hire coordinator or build capacity and training for existing staff to successfully expand and sustain behavioral health service enhancements.
- **Technology Adoption and Enhancement**
 - Use funds to adopt or enhance existing documentation, billing, and/or telehealth capacity.
- **Program Expansion Partnerships and Education**
 - Use funds to establish or strengthen partnerships, such as with co-ops, to expand behavioral health service offerings or increase enrollment and service utilization.

Unallowable Activities and Expenses

- Funds may not be used for any of the following:
 - Supporting salaries or contract funding for billable health professionals who would seek Medicaid reimbursement during the grant period.
 - Construction projects.
 - Unrelated technologies and technology services.
 - Furniture.
 - Travel.
 - Food/refreshments/alcohol unless specifically approved.
- Consult the NOFO for the full list of unallowable activities.

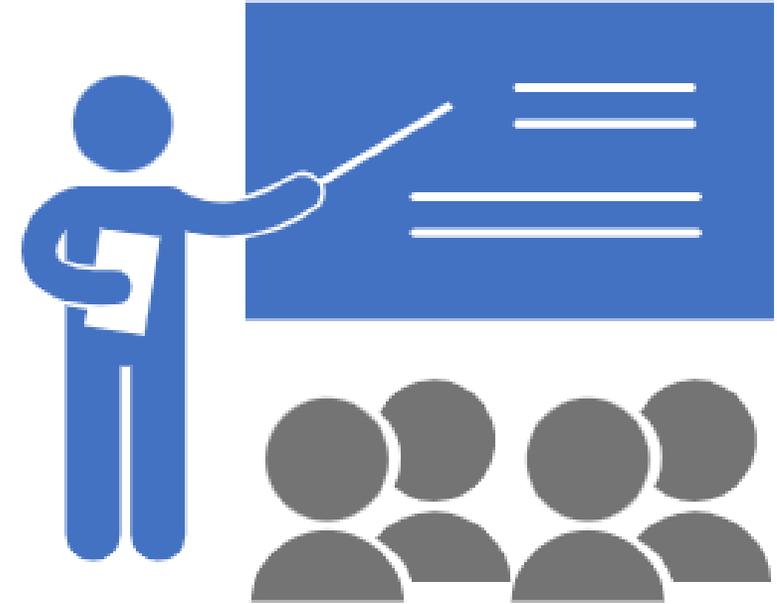
Grantee Reporting Requirements, Program Monitoring, and Supports

Expectations for Grantees and Supports Available

Grantee Supports and Technical Assistance

Grantee Meetings and Technical Assistance

- DMS, or one of its agents, will be available to provide planning, implementation, and go-live support to grantees via ongoing grantee meetings and technical support.
- Attendance is required for monthly virtual-based grantee one-on-one and cohort meetings to share progress and challenges and identify any technical assistance needs.
- These meetings may also be used to connect grantees with experts and facilitate discussion of lessons learned and best practices.



Reporting Requirements and Program Monitoring

Monthly Status Reports

- All awardees will be required to provide brief monthly status reports, including progress against goals and spending data.

Final Report

- Within 90 days of the conclusion of the grant period of performance, all grantees will be required to submit a final report providing insight into the overall impact of activities and sustainability.
- Templates for the monthly and final report will be provided.



Grant Application Requirements

Requirements to be Considered for the Grant Funding Opportunity

Notice of Intent to Apply

- Notice of Intent to Apply is **due by February 27, 2026 at 5:00 PM ET** to SHINEKY@mslc.com.
 - Required of all applicants, but non-binding.
- The Notice of Intent to Apply **must** include the following:
 - **Applicant information.**
 - **Attestation of representation.**
 - **Statement of intent.**

Application Requirements

- Applications are **due by March 13, 2026 at 5:00 PM ET.**
- The applications **must** include the following:
 - Project Abstract (1 page maximum).
 - Project Narrative (8 pages maximum).
 - Workplan (1 page maximum).
 - Budget Narrative (no page limit, template provided).
 - Attachments (no page limit):
 - If relevant, include a Letter of Commitment from all partnering organizations included in the project description.
- Project abstract and narrative should be double-spaced using Arial, Calibri, or Times New Roman with a 11-point font.

Components of a Successful Application

See the NOFO for all requirements.

- Clearly define the problem your organization or partnership hopes to address relevant to the SHINE local grant goals.
- Describe the overall project goal and major tasks and demonstrate how the organization or partnership will be able to achieve the goals.
- Include a description of anticipated impact of the project on community need.
- Explain your anticipated program's path to sustainability.



The NOFO can be accessed [here](#).

Q&A Session

Questions

1) Would this opportunity be eligible for those who are community based and provide services in the schools?

Eligible applicants are Local Education Agencies.

2) Is this a one-time grant, or if this is a yearly funding opportunity, would our school be eligible to apply again in future years?

This is a one-time grant. The grant award is a one-time disbursement of funds at the onset of the grant period. Funding for future years is not available.

Questions, continued

3) Could funding be used to provide a second school-counselor position to help with the mental health load and need for student interventions?

Funding can be used to hire additional staff in support of managing, coordinating and billing services for Expanded Access services, focusing on behavioral health. However, this staff can't be a Medicaid-enrolled provider who would bill Medicaid for the school-based services during the grant period.