

Drug & Alcohol Treatment Program & Drug & Alcohol Treatment Services (SEWB Model) for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander people Expression of Interest (EOI) Frequently Asked Questions

Why is it an Expression of Interest (EOI)?

This EOI is an invitation for potential and current providers to indicate their interest in delivering services/maintaining services in the 2024/25 and 2025/26 financial years under the Drug & Alcohol Program funding and Drug and Alcohol Services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people delivered through a Social and Emotional Wellbeing (SEWB) funding streams which are provide to PHNs from the Commonwealth Department of Health & Aged Care (DoHAC).

Why are we asking for Expression of Interest (EOI)?

The DoHAC provides funding through PHNs for Drug and Alcohol related activities to work with communities and the health sector with the aim to achieve improved health and social outcomes for individuals, families and communities at risk of, or currently affected by, substance misuse in the NT. Many current providers have been delivering services under this funding for a considerable number of years and we want a chance to review these models, submit new revised proposals and go to market to identify new providers and activities.

NT PHN is asking for EOIs as this gives an opportunity for providers to propose new innovative models that better support the needs of the local community and of people affected, or at risk of being affected, by substance misuse now and into the future.

NT PHN is committed to prioritising the principles of Closing the Gap by ensuring that they are kept at the forefront of our minds throughout our commissioning processes. We acknowledge and accept our responsibilities to contribute to Closing the Gap through:

- Shared decision making
- Building the Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services
- Transforming the way we do things that work better for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
- Improve and share access to data

Priority will be given to local Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCOs) to deliver Drug & Alcohol Service for services in their local region.

How much funding is available?

The existing funding agreement between NT PHN and the Commonwealth expires in June 2024, the Commonwealth has indicated that a further two years funding agreement will be issued during the first half of 2024.

How will this funding be divided?

Our aim is to equitably distribute these funds strategically across various service providers throughout the Northern Territory prioritising NT PHNs priority areas as stipulated in the EOI Guidelines document. We will work with other commissioning agencies to determine areas of greatest need that take into consideration current Drug and Alcohol investment from other government agencies in the regions.

We are looking for innovative, evidence-informed, and outcome-based activities that have the potential for lasting impact.

Funding will be allocated based on Closing the Gap principals and the strength of each application, with each application being assessed against the criteria outlined in the EOI Guidelines.

Submissions we cannot fund in this round will be filed for future consideration if/when additional funding becomes available.

Do NT PHN Drug and Alcohol priority areas align with National strategies?

Yes, NT PHN Drug and Alcohol priority areas align with the national priority areas, and are further informed by NT PHNs Needs Assessment and the recent Joint Regional Planning consultations.

Is there an option for infrastructure or assets with this funding to facilitate the activities?

Infrastructure and assets are outside of the scope, this funding is prioritised for service delivery models of care and treatments.

Who can apply?

NT PHN is committed to prioritising Closing the Gap. Priority will be given to local Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCOs) to deliver Drug and Alcohol Treatment services Social & Emotional Wellbeing (SEWB) services in their local region.

Accredited AOD providers locally based in the NT can.

Can we apply for a region(s) or communities we don't currently service?

Yes, you may apply for a region or community that you don't currently service. However, the application will be weighted higher where providers can demonstrate strong-established relationships with the local community and stakeholders in the region(s) or communities.

Can we apply to deliver more than one activity?

Providers can apply to deliver multiple activities that align with the EOI Guidelines.

Providers can also submit more than one submission demonstrating new, innovative models of care or an enhancement of an existing activity or a pilot project. All activities proposed must meet the EOI Guidelines requirements and each submission must be accompanied by an indicative budget proposal for each activity.

How is NT PHN supporting the Closing the Gap?

NT PHN is committed to Closing the Gap. With a focus on increasing the amount of government funding for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander programs and services going through Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-controlled organisations.

NT PHN encourages Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCOs) to submit applications through a range of methods including discussions and recorded content for the assessment panel. Please let us know what will support you in your application by reaching out to us via email at procurement@ntphn.org.au.

Further information will be provided at the information briefing to be held on the **22 January 2024**.

Will NT PHN decommission any providers?

NT PHN is committed to continuing to fund effective outcomes-based services, any impacts on current programs will be notified early and support provided to exit clients where necessary.

NT PHN will hold an information session at **2.30pm** on **22 January 2024** at **23 Albatross Street, Winnellie NT** and online via MS Teams to give new information regarding the EOI opportunity.

Please register to attend the information session by completing the EOI **Registration Form**.

A calendar invite with an MS Teams link will be provided after registration and 2 days prior to the briefing.

When is the closing date to submit EOIs?

NT PHN has extended the closing date to **5.00pm Sunday 25 February 2024**.