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State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
California Department of Public Health



GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor

DATE: January 17, 2023

TO: ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS (RFA) PRE-EXPOSURE
PROPHYLAXIS (PrEP) AND POST-EXPOSURE PROPHYLAXIS (PEP)
INITIATION AND RETENTION (PPIR) INITIATIVE

The Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) and Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) Initiation and Retention (PPIR) Initiative is established through [Health and Safety Code \(HSC\) 120972.1](#), which allows for the use of AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) Rebate Funds to be allocated to local health departments and community based organizations to support PrEP and PEP navigation and retention coordinators and related services. The Office of AIDS (OA) will fund up to \$21,700,000 in awards over a four-year period. Awarded entities will be selected through a competitive RFA process. Selected awardees will use this funding to support PrEP and PEP navigation and retention coordinators and related services utilizing evidence informed approaches to increase organizational capacity and to center individuals at risk of new HIV infection that are hardly reached. Applicants must provide evidence of a well-established ability to engage priority populations or to demonstrate evidence-informed innovative approaches for engaging priority populations and navigating them to PrEP and PEP. OA defines "innovative" as the application of new ideas or promising practices that use the required approaches within this RFA to address the needs of the priority population(s). At the end of the project duration, eligible entities (EEs) should have effectively integrated low-barrier access to PrEP and PEP into their existing structures by providing navigation services and benefits enrollment.

Applicants are encouraged to develop proposals that are appropriate to their regions, based on strong local partnerships and ability to reach specific priority populations. All California local health departments and community-based organizations that meet RFA eligibility criteria may apply. Applicants will define the priority populations for their entity from those authorized in statute. [HSC 120972.1](#) establishes that priority populations



include communities that have a perceived risk of new HIV infection, including but not limited to:

- Black, Latinx, indigenous, and people of color
- Lesbian, gay, bisexual, queer, and questioning individuals
- Non-English-speaking individuals
- Other populations that are difficult to reach, including those with transportation or technology challenges
- People experiencing homelessness
- People involved in the carceral system
- People who use drugs
- People engaged in sex work
- Transgender and gender-nonconforming individuals
- Undocumented individuals
- Women
- Youth

Applicants will be asked to define their specific priority population(s) for this Initiative and clearly justify the inclusion of these populations based on need, using available local and regional data and community-based evidence. OA looks forward to receiving applications from all EEs to support, establish, or expand PrEP navigator services programs and increase access to PEP with goals to improve health outcomes, reduce HIV-related health disparities, reduce new HIV infections, and achieve maximal results in addressing the HIV epidemic in California.

Access [the PrEP and PEP Initiation and Retention Initiative RFA \(PDF\)](#).

Please note the following important dates:

- PPIR Initiative Kick-off Zoom Webinar will be held on **January 23, 2023 from 2:30 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. PST**. [Zoom link](#): <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83633460020?pwd=MFBIU1NXcFdIbHZIMVdZa1pZclZYUT09> **Meeting ID: 836 3346 0020 Passcode: 338248**
- Questions about the PPIR Initiative RFA must be submitted in writing by email to PPIRInitiative@cdph.ca.gov by **January 25, 2023 by 5:00 P.M. PST**.
- Questions and responses will be posted on this webpage by **January 30, 2023 by 5:00 P.M. PDT**.
- Mandatory electronic Letter of Intent (LOI) is due on **January 27, 2023 by 5:00 P.M. PST**. Send to PPIRInitiative@cdph.ca.gov. RFA Attachments will be sent to those who submit a LOI.

- Electronic application submission of RFA Attachments is due on **February 21, 2023 by 5:00 P.M. PDT**. Send to PPIRInitiative@cdph.ca.gov.
- Please refer to the RFA linked above or below for LOI and application submission information.

If you have any questions about the information on this page, please send an email to PPIRInitiative@cdph.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Marisa Ramos, Ph.D.
Office of AIDS Division Chief
Center for Infectious Diseases
California Department of Public Health

Cc: Sharisse Kemp
ADAP Branch Chief

Becca Parks
ADAP Program Integrity and Operations Section Chief

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