



# The Community Reinvestment Program

## OVERVIEW

The Community Reinvestment Program issues grants to communities disproportionately affected by prior federal and state drug policies in order to redress a wide range of community needs—from housing to childcare to job skills training and many areas in between. **The grants are not limited to activities related to cannabis.**

**Taxes from legal adult-use cannabis sales in New York State go into the Cannabis Revenue Fund.** Per the Cannabis Law (§ 99-ii), 40% of Cannabis Tax Revenue goes back to the communities most disproportionately affected by prior drug policies in the form of grants overseen by the Cannabis Advisory Board (CAB) via the Community Grants Reinvestment Fund. Through these grants, it is the goal of OCM and the CAB to distribute impactful funding to areas of the state that have been historically under-resourced, underserved, and over-policed. The future programmatic focus of the Community Reinvestment Program can change according to the guidance provided by the Cannabis Advisory Board. This fact sheet explains what you need to know about the Community Reinvestment Program, including who can apply, what is required, and how to apply.

## WHO CAN APPLY?

In this first 2024 grant cycle, only 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations who provide services for young people (individuals ages 0-24 years) in designated geographies of New York State are eligible to apply. **Organizations do NOT have to be affiliated with any cannabis-related businesses or activities to apply.**

## WHAT ACTIVITIES WILL BE FUNDED?

In this first 2024 grant cycle, grant funds can be used to support a broad array of services for young people, ages 0-24, focusing on at least one of three program areas: **Mental Health, Workforce Development, or Housing.**

## WHEN WILL THE GRANT FUNDING OPPORTUNITY BE ANNOUNCED?

A Request for Applications (RFA) will be released on the OCM website this Fall. To make sure you don't miss it, please sign-up for updates at [bit.ly/ocmnewsletter](https://bit.ly/ocmnewsletter).

## WHAT CAN I DO NOW BEFORE THE RFA IS RELEASED TO GET READY TO APPLY?

All applicants will be required to submit prequalification applications that can be started now in the Statewide Financial System (SFS) at [sfs.ny.gov](https://sfs.ny.gov).

Due to the length of time it can take to complete this process (typically 5-10 business days, but sometimes longer), **it is advised that interested nonprofits prequalify as soon as possible.**

For support, access SFS Coach by logging in to SFS at [sfs.ny.gov](https://sfs.ny.gov) and clicking the SFS Coach tile on "My Homepage." There, Applicants will find a Grantee Handbook with screenshots of SFS and step-by-step guidance on how to use SFS.

Questions about working in SFS can also be sent any time to the SFS Help Desk at [helpdesk@sfs.ny.gov](mailto:helpdesk@sfs.ny.gov) or by phone at (518) 457-7717 or (855) 233-8363 (toll free).



Scan the QR Code  
to view the **SFS Grants  
Management** webpage.  
**The Community  
Reinvestment Program  
is Coming Soon!  
Get Started Now!**

### HOW WILL APPLICATIONS BE SUBMITTED?

Once the RFA is posted, applications may be submitted online in the OCM's eGrants system before the posted deadline. Instructions for submission will be included in the RFA.

### HOW MUCH FUNDING WILL BE DISTRIBUTED?

The total available funding for this grant opportunity is \$5,000,000. Each individual grant award will total \$100,000.

### HOW MUCH TIME WILL MY ORGANIZATION HAVE TO SPEND DOWN THE GRANT FUNDS?

If awarded, organizations will enter a two-year contract with OCM, allowing the opportunity for a one-time advance payment, with the remaining funds distributed via quarterly reimbursement-based vouchering.

### HOW WILL APPLICANTS BE SELECTED FOR AWARDS?

Applications will be submitted to OCM's eGrants system and scored by a panel of qualified reviewers. Application questions cover information about the applicant's organization, the community they plan to serve, the activities they're proposing, and a budget. Organizations will be selected based on scoring of all application materials, assessing their ability to implement a successful project aligned with the goals of the Community Reinvestment Program.

To ensure limited resources are available to areas of the State where funding can have the most impact, the 2024 grant cycle aims to prioritize funding to counties identified as high-need for youth-oriented services and as historically under-resourced and overpoliced. Additionally, OCM and the Cannabis Advisory Board intend to make at least one award within each Empire State Development (ESD) Region to ensure geographic distribution of awards across the State.

Please email [info@ocm.ny.gov](mailto:info@ocm.ny.gov) if you have any further questions or call us at **1-888-OCM-5151 (1-888-626-5151)**.