



Massachusetts Department of Public Health

150 YEARS
OF ADVANCING
PUBLIC
HEALTH

STATEWIDE OPIOID SETTLEMENTS

AGO/BSAS VIRTUAL FORUM
FRIDAY, JUNE 24, 2022



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Agenda

- The AG's Statewide Opioid Settlements
- The MA State-Subdivision Agreement
- The Opioid Recovery and Remediation Fund Advisory Council
- Municipal Abatement Funds
- Municipal opioid abatement strategies and reporting
- DPH support for municipalities
- Additional information and feedback

Statewide Opioid Settlements

- AG settlements under which Massachusetts municipalities are eligible to receive direct payments in exchange for signing releases.
 - McKesson, Cardinal, AmerisourceBergen, and Johnson & Johnson.
- Nearly all Massachusetts cities and towns are [participating](#).

State-Subdivision Agreement

- Directs abatement funds from statewide opioid settlements:
 - 40% to the state's municipalities to expend on [approved programs and strategies](#)
 - 60% to the state's [Opioid Recovery and Remediation Fund](#)
- Requires all funds to be used to supplement and strengthen resources for prevention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery.
- Requires annual reporting to EOHHS by municipalities that receive annual payments of \$35,000 or more.
- Municipalities are encouraged to pool resources and collaborate.

The Opioid Recovery and Remediation Fund Advisory Council

- Established in January 2020 with Governor Baker's signing into law of Chapter 309 of the Acts of 2020.
- Chaired by the Secretary of Health and Human Services and comprised of a diverse panel of policymakers, public health professionals, legal experts, and clinicians appointed by the Governor and Attorney General.
- Charged with developing recommendations for the expenditure of the Opioid Recovery and Remediation Trust Fund to mitigate the impacts of the opioid epidemic in the Commonwealth.

The Opioid Recovery and Remediation Fund Advisory Council

To date, the council has:

- Developed initial proposal for Statewide ORRF funding included four key strategies:
 - 1) Expansion of harm reduction services,
 - 2) Increased access to methadone,
 - 3) Expansion of supportive housing programs including low-threshold housing, and
 - 4) Community outreach and engagement
- In process of identifying vendor to support development of 3-year strategic plan to guide remainder of statewide ORRF spending
- For questions about the funding, please contact:
OpioidRecoveryandRemediationFund@mass.gov

Municipal Abatement Funds

- On June 7 and 8, [participating municipalities](#) should have received an email from the Settlement Administrator Brown Greer with instructions about how to:
 - 1) Set up an account in the National Opioid Settlements Portal;
and
 - 2) Submit through the Portal a Payment Election Form and W-9.
- Once completed, payments can begin to flow.

Payments to Participating Municipalities

	Date	Distributors	J&J
Summer/Fall	2022	Payments 1-2	Payments 1-5*
July 15	2023	Payment 3	
July 15	2024	Payment 4	
July 15	2025	Payment 5	
July 15	2026	Payment 6	Payment 6
July 15	2027	Payment 7	Payment 7
July 15	2028	Payment 8	Payment 8
July 15	2029	Payment 9	Payment 9
July 15	2030	Payment 10	Payment 10
July 15	2031	Payment 11	Payment 11
July 15	2032	Payment 12	
July 15	2033	Payment 13	
July 15	2034	Payment 14	
July 15	2035	Payment 15	
July 15	2036	Payment 16	
July 15	2037	Payment 17	
July 15	2038	Payment 18	

***We expect J&J Payments 3-5 to be accelerated to 2022 because certain settlement-related contingences were satisfied.**

Municipal Abatement Strategies

- Abatement funds allocated to municipalities must be used to implement strategies set forth in the [State-Subdivision Agreement](#), *including reasonable workforce costs necessary to support the enumerated programs and strategies.*
- The agreement lays out various programs and strategies designed to support and promote:
 - Opioid use disorder treatment access
 - Support for people in treatment and recovery
 - Connections to care
 - Harm Reduction
 - Meeting the needs of justice-involved individuals
 - Support for Pregnant and Parenting Individuals and their Children
 - Prevention

*See here for full list of [approved programs and strategies](#)

Annual Reporting

- Starting in July 2023, municipalities that receive \$35,000+, whether independently or pooled, in the prior FY will need to report on their:
 - expenditures on [approved programs and strategies](#)
 - efforts to pool resources
 - efforts to incorporate input from experts and people with lived experience
 - effort to address disparities, and improve health equity, and measure the impact
 - leverage existing programs and services
 - successes, lessons learned, areas for further progress and barriers
- DPH will be releasing a Reporting Template so municipalities can prepare to complete annual reporting requirements
 - First report will be on FY23 spending
- DPH will also be collecting information from all municipalities on plans for spending the funds and technical assistance and training needs.

State Support and Technical Assistance

- DPH/ BSAS and the Office of Local & Regional Health (OLRH) will be offering technical assistance on strategy implementation building on existing resources.
- Municipalities are encouraged to coordinate abatement funds with other funding to address Substance Use and Opioid Use
 - BSAS Prevention funding
 - BSAS CDC Overdose Data to Action (OD2A) municipal funding
- DPH website coming soon.

Department of Public Health Shared Services

- DPH established the Public Health Excellence for Shared Services Program (PHE) in 2021
 - [43 regional collaboratives](#) (269 municipalities)
 - New round of procurement in progress to bring the total to ~310 municipalities
 - FY22 annualized funding: ~\$12M (more projected in FY23)
 - Training and technical assistance provided
- Benefits of Shared Services Model
 - Leverages resources and expertise
 - Creates sustainable infrastructure for partnership and collaboration
 - Municipalities opt in and choose their partner municipalities when forming the PHE collaboratives
 - Increases efficiency and equity
 - More municipalities able to meet public health statutory and regulatory requirements, as well as, over time, address the social determinants of health
 - Standardizes public health protections for residents
 - Retains statutory authority of each municipality's Board of Health
 - Maximizes investments made by taxpayers

Department of Public Health Shared Services

- Examples of opioid remediation implemented in a regional model include:
 - Regional mobile harm reduction/opioid treatment program services
 - Stigma reduction campaigns
 - Broadening availability of peer recovery support services

Additional Questions

For answers to settlement-related FAQs, charts reflecting estimated payments, and other information, visit the [AGO's website](#) or email MAOpioidSettlements@mass.gov.

For answers to local finance law questions relating to the settlement funds, local officials should email their question and phone number to Department of Revenue's [Division of Local Services](#) at DLSlaw@dor.state.ma.us.

For procurement-related guidance and technical assistance, contact the Office of the Inspector General's [Chapter 30B procurement team](#), at 617-722-8838 or 30BHotline@mass.gov.



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Thank You