



eocco

**EASTERN OREGON
COORDINATED CARE
ORGANIZATION**

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS (RFA)

For

Community Benefit Initiative Reinvestments (CBIR)

New Ideas Projects

January – December 2027 funding cycle

Part 1

BRIEF INITIAL SCREENING FORMS DUE BY:

September 4, 2026, by 5 pm PT

Part 2

FULL APPLICATION FROM INVITED APPLICANTS DUE BY:

October 16, 2026, by 5 pm PT

Table of Contents

Application Information.....	3
1.1 Deadline	3
1.2 Background.....	3
1.3 Innovation Focus and Project Areas.....	3
1.4 Eligibility and Application Requirements.....	4
1.5 Application Process and Timeline.....	4
1.6 Technical Assistance and Support	5
Appendix A: 2027 New Ideas Screening Form Questions.....	6
Appendix B: 2027 New Ideas Screening Form Checklist	7
Appendix C: 2027 New Ideas Full Application Details.....	8
Appendix D: 2027 New Ideas Grant Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)	9

Application Information

1.1 Deadline

Brief Initial Screening form due: September 4, 2026 by 5pm PT

Full Applications from invited applicants due: October 16, 2026 by 5pm PT

All screening forms must be submitted through Smartsheet, a HIPAA-compliant platform, at <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/019f23cbfde374d594270a048595e276> or via the QR code.



EOCCO will not accept or review screening forms submitted via email.

1.2 Background

EOCCO is pleased to announce the availability of funds to support proposals that test **novel and innovative approaches and delivery models** to improve the health and health care of EOCCO members. This funding opportunity is designed to support innovative projects that **have not been implemented in Eastern Oregon before, or are uniquely tailored to a specific service area or population served**. While proposals may draw from existing evidence-based practices, research, or frameworks, they must include a meaningfully novel or untested component and demonstrate a clear focus on innovation. The New Ideas Grant is intended to support projects that generate learning and insight and that, if successful, may be adapted or replicated in other communities.

Project	Funding Amount Available Per Grantee
New Ideas	Up to \$50,000

1.3 Innovation Focus and Project Areas

Innovation Focus

For the purposes of this grant, innovation refers to more than expanding services or continuing existing programs. Examples of innovative initiatives may include, but are not limited to:

- A new or untested intervention, delivery model, or workflow
- A novel partnership, collaboration, or integration across sectors
- A unique adaptation of an evidence-based model or program for a new population or context
- An innovative approach to engaging members, delivering services, building workforce capacity, or addressing barriers to care

Projects that focus primarily on sustaining, expanding, or scaling existing services without a clearly articulated innovative component are generally **not a good fit** for this grant.

Project Areas

Projects should be ones that **primarily benefit EOCCO (Medicaid/OHP) members** and could be applied in other EOCCO service area regions should they prove to be successful.

Areas of focus include but are not limited to:

- **Collaborations:** Projects to create new collaborations across organizations, such as public health, primary care, pharmacy, dental, behavioral health, and community-based organizations to increase access to care.

- **Telehealth and Broadband Capacity:** Projects to expand access to care through telemedicine, new care modalities or other approaches.
- **Workforce Strategies:** Projects focused on workforce development and capacity building, including innovative projects focused on workforce training, recruitment, retention, and efficiency strategies.
- **Assessing and Addressing Health Disparities:** Projects focused on increasing access to care to populations facing disparate health outcomes, e.g., LGBTQIA2S+, Latino/a/x, and immigrant and refugee communities.
- **EMT and SUD Collaborations:** Projects to create new collaborations between EMT and SUD treatment services, (e.g., supporting members accessing NEMT services for transport to SUD treatment).
- **Coordination of Care for Pregnant Women:** Projects to expand collaborations and support for non-covered services for pregnant women, (e.g., temporary housing near medical facilities, NEMT, referrals to doula hubs or teams within a hospital/clinic). Note services cannot be a billable/covered service.

1.4 Eligibility and Application Requirements

Applicants: Eligible applicants include any interested Eastern Oregon organization demonstrating the ability to successfully complete their proposed project within the grant period specified.

Population: Preference will be given to projects that primarily benefit EOCCO members. If the proposal aims to target a specific age group, members in a certain geographic area, or other characteristics, those should be clearly defined.

Budget Restrictions - Budgets cannot include these items:

- Medicaid-covered services;
- Expenses reported separately, such as health-related services (HRS) or in lieu of services (ILOS);
- Items or activities fully funded from another source;
- Any covered services or benefits in Oregon's [Substance Use Disorder \(SUD\) waiver](#) (housing or employment supports for eligible members) or [1115 Medicaid waiver](#), including Health-Related Social Needs (HRSN) covered services and [Community Capacity-Building Funds \(CCBF\)](#) for eligible members;
- Indirect administrative costs cannot be requested for equipment or supply costs and are capped at 10%.
- Staff positions funded should not be primarily administrative. However, grant funds can be used to establish new roles that are substantially devoted to improving the health of EOCCO members.
- Generally, funds will not be provided for individual provider, Community Health Worker (CHW), or Traditional Health Worker (THW) trainings. Please contact THW@eoocco.com if interested in learning about EOCCO sponsored training opportunities. Proposals requesting training intended to assist communities achieve CHIP plan priorities, health equity, healthcare interpreter, and incentive measure targets may be considered.
- Proposals cannot include requests for capital construction, building renovations, or major non-medical equipment like vehicles. Proposals cannot include expanding SDOH services like food, housing, and transportation. If your organization would like to apply for funding to cover these items, please apply through the Supporting Health for All through Reinvestments (SHARE) application found here: <https://www.eoocco.com/providers/grants>.
- Current grantees will be required to request decreasing amounts of funds over time and will not be awarded beyond three grant cycles.

1.5 Application Process and Timeline

This round of CBIR applications will involve a **two-part application process**. Interested applicants will first complete a brief screening form. Proposals that meet grant criteria will then be invited by email to submit a full grant application.

Application Process

Step 1: Brief Initial Screening form

- Interested organizations must complete a brief screening form in Smartsheet by **September 4, 2026 by 5pm PT**. The screening form should take approximately 15-20 minutes to complete. See **Appendix A: 2027 New Ideas Screening Form Questions** for more information.

Step 2: Invitation to Apply

- EOCCO will review screening forms on a rolling basis. Organizations whose project proposals align with the grant criteria will be invited to submit a full application, which will be due by **October 16, 2026 by 5pm PT**. See **Appendix C: 2027 New Ideas Full Application Details** for more information.
- Applicants may be contacted for a brief technical assistance call to further discuss their idea before receiving an invitation. Organizations that are not invited to apply will be notified and, when possible, offered guidance on other funding opportunities that may be a better fit.

Timeline

- July 31, 2026:** Request for Applications (RFA) released and initial brief screening form opens.
- September 4, 2026:** Brief screening forms due (no later than 5:00 PM PT).
 - Screening forms reviewed and invitations to apply sent on a rolling basis through September 24.
- October 16, 2026:** Full grant applications due (no later than 5:00 PM PT)
- November/December 2026:** Award notifications
- January 1- December 31, 2027:** Grant period

Brief Screening forms must be submitted by September 4 for projects to be considered for this funding opportunity.

1.6 Technical Assistance and Support

If you have questions about this application, please contact EOCCOGrants@eocco.com.

The EOCCO Grants team will be hosting several informational technical assistance (TA) webinars for interested applicants to learn more about this RFA and answer general questions. **All applicants must receive TA before applying, either by attending one of the Phase 1 webinars or by scheduling a 1:1 TA call with the EOCCO Grants Team.**

- Phase 1 TA Webinar (Brief Screening)**
 - August 12 @ 12-1pm PT | Register here: <https://shorturl.at/VbYpa>
 - August 26 @ 12-1pm PT | Register here: <https://shorturl.at/DC0AQ>
- Phase 2 TA Webinar (Full Application):** October 5 @ 12-1pm PT | Invite only

Appendix A: 2027 New Ideas Screening Form Questions

All screening forms must be submitted through Smartsheet, a HIPAA-compliant platform, at <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/019f23cbfde374d594270a048595e276> via the QR code.



EOCCO will not accept or review screening forms submitted via email.

Please complete the screening form in its entirety. Incomplete screening forms will not be accepted. The screening form should take between 15-20 minutes to complete. It's highly recommended to review the **2027 New Ideas Screening Form Checklist (Appendix B)** and **2027 New Ideas FAQs (Appendix D)** before completing the screening form.

If you have questions about this screening form, please email the EOCCO Grants team at EOCCOGrants@eocco.com.

Applicant Information

- Organization Name
- Primary Contact Name, Title, Email
- Proposed Project Title
- Estimated funding request (up to \$50,000)

Project Information

1. Provide a brief summary of your project, project area of focus, and the target population(s) your project will serve. (3-8 sentences)
2. Describe the community need for your proposed project. When possible, include data showing this need. (2-5 sentences)
3. How many EOCCO members do you estimate will benefit from your proposed project? How will you collect data on both EOCCO and non-EOCCO members who will benefit from the program? (2-5 sentences)
4. Is there anything else you'd like grant reviewers to know about your project? (Optional)

New Ideas Project Questions

5. Has this project, initiative, or approach been implemented in our service area before?
☐ No, this approach has not been implemented in Eastern Oregon before
☐ Yes, but this approach includes a new or distinct innovative element
6. What makes this project innovative? How is it a new idea? (3-8 sentences)
Consider:
 - What new or innovative element(s) are central to the project?
 - What novel idea or approach is being tested or piloted?
 - What do you hope to learn through this project?
7. If successful, how could this idea be adapted or replicated in other settings or communities? How could this project be sustained after the funding period ends? (2-5 sentences)

Appendix B: 2027 New Ideas Screening Form Checklist

Before you submit a brief initial screening form, we recommend reviewing the checklist below to determine whether this funding opportunity is a good fit.

This form does not need to be submitted to EOCCO, rather, this is an optional tool that you are welcome to use to help determine how closely a project idea aligns with the intent of the New Ideas grant. Although applications do not necessarily need to meet all criteria, the more criteria are met the more likely a project is to be funded.

Select all that apply:

- ☐ Our proposed project seeks to implement or test a new or innovative approach in Eastern Oregon
- ☐ If a similar approach has been implemented in Eastern Oregon, there is a distinct innovative element that makes our project meaningfully different from similar initiatives
- ☐ The project is designed to test, pilot, or learn something new
- ☐ If successful, the project could potentially be adapted or replicated elsewhere
- ☐ Our project will primarily serve EOCCO members, and we are confident we can collect data on both EOCCO and non-EOCCO members who will be directly served or benefit from the program
- ☐ We can describe the community need for this project, and how our project aligns with the community priorities identified in [EOCCO's Regional Community Health Improvement Plan](#)
- ☐ The project does not conflict with any of the budget restrictions listed in the RFA
- ☐ We have reviewed the **2026 New Ideas Full Application Details** in Appendix C and can provide the required information and meet the application requirements (e.g., provide letters of good financial standing, letters of commitment from any relevant project partners)
- ☐ Our organization has attended one of the required technical assistance (TA) webinars, or alternatively reached out to the EOCCO Grants Team for a 1:1 TA call before applying.

If you are unsure whether your project meets these criteria, we encourage you to review the **2027 New Ideas FAQ (Appendix D)** and reach out to EOCCOGrants@eocco.com with questions before the deadline.

Appendix C: 2027 New Ideas Full Application Details

Organizations that submit a brief initial screening form and are invited to submit a full application will be notified via email and provided with additional instructions for submission. Please note that an invitation to submit a full application does not guarantee funding.

A summary of the information that applicants will be asked to provide in the full application is included below.

Full Application: Additional instructions will be included in the full Request for Applications (RFA).

Full applications will ask for the following:

- Application Coversheet
- Project Narrative
 - Project Description
 - Need for Project
 - Innovation Focus
 - Population Served
 - Project Plan and Timeline
 - Project Personnel
 - Barriers and Risks
 - Sustainability
- Outcomes Data and Budget Tables
- Financial Information
- Letters of Commitment (if applicable)

Submission: Full applications will be submitted through Smartsheet no later than **5pm PT on October 16, 2026**.

Funding Decision: A committee appointed by the EOCCO Board will make final funding decisions, subject to approval by the EOCCO Board. Decisions will be shared in November/December 2026.

Appendix D: 2027 New Ideas Grant Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

What qualifies as a “new idea”?

A new idea introduces a new or distinct approach to improving EOCCO member health or well-being that has not previously been implemented in our service area. Innovation may include a new intervention, delivery model, partnership structure, or engagement strategy, and must go beyond routine service delivery or program expansion.

How can we tell if our idea is new or has already been tested in Eastern Oregon?

Applicants are not expected to be familiar with current or past projects in EOCCO’s service area. The interest form is designed to help address this gap and allow EOCCO to review proposed ideas in the context of prior and ongoing efforts. Applicants should focus on clearly describing what they believe is new, distinct, or meaningfully different about their proposed project.

Summaries of [previously funded CBIR projects](#) are available on our website for reference; however, reviewing them is optional and not required.

Can projects be based on established evidence-based models, approaches, or practices?

Yes. Evidence-based models are welcome if the proposal includes a new or untested element central to the project. For example, an innovative idea for adapting a proven model for a new population, setting, or delivery approach.

Are ongoing or existing programs eligible?

Generally, no. This grant is not intended to fund the continuation or expansion of existing programs unless the proposal includes a significant new or innovative component that fundamentally changes how the program operates.

Is expanding services to a new location considered a new idea?

No, expansion alone does not qualify as a new idea. Projects focused primarily on scaling existing services without a new approach, innovative component, or learning objective are unlikely to be a strong fit for this grant opportunity.

Are technology-based or AI-enabled projects eligible?

Technology-based approaches, including those using AI, are not discouraged. However, proposals should clearly state what is new or untested about the approach, rather than relying on the use of technology alone to demonstrate innovation. Examples of AI projects EOCCO has funded include the use of AI for scribing and population health management. Applicants are also encouraged to review the Health Information Technology and Risk Adjustment Opt-in RFA to evaluate whether that funding opportunity may be a better fit for their project.

How are the screening forms reviewed?

Screening forms are reviewed by the EOCCO grants team using defined criteria based on the grant program requirements and criteria. Submissions are reviewed on a rolling basis through the September 24 deadline.

Will we receive feedback on our screening form if we are not invited to submit a full application?

Organizations not invited to submit a full application will be notified on a rolling basis. While detailed feedback may not always be available, we will share general guidance as much as possible and may suggest alternative funding opportunities.

Does submitting a screening form guarantee an invitation to submit a full application?

No. Submitting a screening form does not guarantee an invitation to submit a full application. Only proposals that align closely with the New Ideas Grant criteria will be invited to submit a full application.

Who should we contact with questions?

For any additional questions, please contact the EOCCO Grants Team at EOCCOGrants@eoocco.com.