



# 2026 Mental Health Therapeutic Services Request for Proposal Information Session

Families, Education, Preschool and Promise Levy



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Education & Early Learning



# Before We Get Started

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- Have the RFP Overview document and the Application Questions document available in either print or electronic form as a reference
- Note your questions throughout the presentation and submit to DEELFunding@seattle.gov with subject line: “Question: Youth Mental Health Therapeutic Services RFP”



# Agenda

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Therapeutic Services RFP Overview

Service Tracks and Eligibility

Application Sections and Scoring

How to Apply



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# Therapeutic Services Overview

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## RFP Overview: Pages 1-3

- Increase access to high-quality, culturally responsive therapeutic services for Seattle secondary students or youth ages 13-24
- Provide direct clinical therapeutic services
- Reduce barriers through low-barrier access, outreach, and coordinated referral pathways
- Funded by the 2025 Families, Education, Preschool, and Promise (FEPP) Levy



# Funding Amount and Duration

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## RFP Overview: Page 1

- Total funding available: \$1M\*
- Contract term: Sept. 1, 2026 – Aug. 31, 2027
- Funding amount per provider: Based on proposals and contract negotiations
- DEEL anticipates awarding up to \$830,000 towards Universal Access Provider(s) and \$170,000 towards Specialized Services providers(s)

\*Funding awards and contract execution under this RFP are contingent upon approval of the 2025 FEPP Levy Implementation and Evaluation Plan by Seattle City Council and the availability of appropriated FEPP Levy funds.

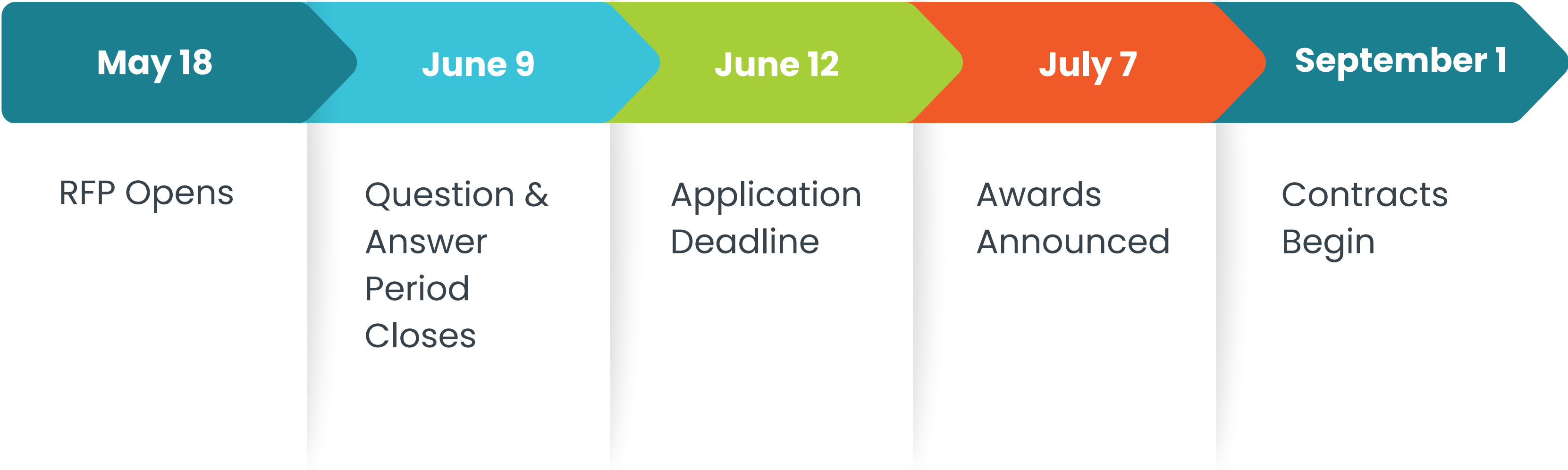


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# RFP Timeline and Key Dates

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# Eligibility and Partnership Requirements

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## RFP Overview: Page 2

- Community-based organizations, health agencies, and/or private companies with expertise in therapeutic and behavioral health services
- Licensed clinicians authorized in Washington State
- Compliance with privacy, insurance, and regulatory requirements
- Both current DEEL providers and new applicants may apply



# Services and Priority Populations

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RFP Overview: Pages 3-4

- Goal: Expand access for youth underserved by current systems
- Therapeutic services include: Intake, assessment, treatment planning, and ongoing therapy (individual and/or group)
- Priority populations based on Needs Assessment: Immigrant /refugee youth, Foster youth, BIPOC youth
- Focus on culturally responsive and linguistically appropriate care



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# Two Service Tracks

RFP Overview: Pages 4–6

1

## Universal Access

- Virtual-only, rapid access (24–48 hrs), low-barrier enrollment, high-capacity citywide model
- Functions as the universal entry point for youth seeking support

2

## Specialized Services

- In-person, virtual, or hybrid services tailored to youth preference/need
- Prioritizes trust-building, cultural alignment, and sustained high-touch engagement for priority populations



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# Contracting Requirements

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RFP Overview: Pages 6–9

- Quarterly reporting and Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI)
- Standardized service unit definitions and outcome reporting
- Performance-Based Contracting approach: Base + performance payment structures tied to targeted performance measures



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# Application Sections



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# Scoring Criteria Overview

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## RFP Overview: Pages 10–12

- Universal Track scoring emphasizes scale, rapid access, and operational capacity
- Specialized Track scoring emphasizes experience with and specific service strategies for priority populations, and cultural and linguistic fit
- All providers are expected to deliver high-quality, culturally–responsive, evidence–informed care
- Scoring reflects different service models and intended outcomes



# Scoring Criteria: Differences Across Tracks

## Universal Access

Scoring Category	Points
Experience & Model of Care	20
Capacity	40
Outreach & Engagement Approach	15
Priority Population Strategy	15
Evidence of Service Quality & Outcomes	10
<b>Total Points</b>	<b>100</b>

## Specialized Services

Scoring Category	Points
Experience & Model of Care	20
Capacity	15
Outreach & Engagement Approach	15
Priority Population Strategy	40
Evidence of Service Quality & Outcomes	10
<b>Total Points</b>	<b>100</b>

# Budget

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- Applicants must submit the required DEEL budget template with their application
- Select the service track and identify the projected number of unique youth served
- Complete the budget table aligned to your proposed service model and staffing structure



# Section 1: Experience and Model of Care

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## Application: Page 2

- Describe experience serving youth, mission, and therapeutic approach
- Universal applicants should demonstrate scalable virtual engagement models
- Specialized applicants should demonstrate culturally specific strategies and relationship-based approaches
- Strong applicants will clearly describe intake, treatment planning, and sustained engagement pathways



# Section 2: Capacity

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## Application: Page 3

- Describe staffing, infrastructure, implementation, and projected youth served
- Universal applicants should demonstrate high-volume therapist availability and rapid access
- Specialized applicants may include implementation plans for therapeutic service expansion
- Strong applicants will align staffing, budget, and service model clearly



# Section 3: Outreach and Engagement

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## Application: Page 4

- Describe how youth learn about, access, and remain engaged in services
- Universal applicants should demonstrate awareness and conversion strategies at scale
- Specialized applicants should demonstrate trusted community relationships and outreach
- Strong applicants will show clear strategies to reduce barriers and sustain participation



# Section 4: Population Strategy

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## Application: Page 4

- Describe populations served, barriers to care, and culturally responsive strategies
- Universal applicants should demonstrate ability to serve diverse youth citywide
- Specialized applicants should demonstrate deep experience with priority populations
- Strong applicants will demonstrate in-language care, trust-building, and culturally responsive engagement



# Section 5: Service Quality and Outcomes

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## Application: Page 5

- Describe youth outcomes, engagement, and evidence of impact
- Include quantitative and qualitative evidence where available
- Explain continuous quality improvement and use of data
- Strong applicants will demonstrate sustained engagement and positive youth outcomes



# How to Apply: Using the Online Application Form

**Important:** Application form must be submitted using an online portal ([Submittable](#))

[Watch a demo video here.](#)

1

## Create a Submittable account

- Are you a new user to Submittable? You need to create an account. It's quick and free!
- Are you an existing user? You need to sign in.
- [Sign up](#)/[Sign in link](#)

2

## Fill in the application form

- Application can be saved along the way
- (Optional) [An offline word template](#) of the application is available for internal collaboration only

3

## Submit the form

- Submittable portal automatically closes on June 12, 2026, at 11:59 pm
- Expect to receive an email confirmation that the application was submitted successfully



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# 1

## How to Create a Submittable Account

- **How do I access the online form?** If you are a new user, your organization must sign up for an account.
- **Who from my organization should sign up? Why is this important?** We recommend an organization designates an individual to sign up for Submittable. This individual will submit the online form. The email linked to the Submittable account is the primary contact receiving updates on the organization's submission.
- **How do I sign up?** Sign up/Sign in Link Fill in an email, password and name. Then, verify the email entered – you will receive a confirmation request by email from notifications@email.submittable.com.
- **What if I have a question about Submittable?** Check out the Submitter Resource Center. If question is not answered, contact Submittable (open ticket with Submittable Customer Support) and DEEL (email to DEELFunding@seattle.gov with "Question: Therapeutic Services RFP" in the subject line).



# 2

## How to Fill in the Application Form

- **Can I save progress on the application form?** Yes. To save an application so it can be completed later, click the Save Draft button at the bottom of the application form.
- **What if I forget to submit the draft application form before the deadline?** Any saved but unsubmitted drafts will not be considered. Once the deadline passes, access to the draft will be lost in Submittable. Make sure to submit the draft before the deadline!
- **How can my organization collaborate on the application form?** An optional word version of the application form is posted on the Youth Mental Health Therapeutic Services RFP [DEEL website page](#) dedicated for an organization to use for internal purposes only. The word version will not be accepted as an official application. Draft responses may be copied/pasted into the Submittable online application form prior to the application deadline.



# 3

## How to Submit the Application Form

- **What if I do not submit the application form before the deadline?** To submit the application, click the "Submit" button at the bottom of the application form before the cutoff time, Friday, June 12, 2026 by 11:59 pm. The Submittable online portal will automatically close at the deadline, late applications will not be accepted.
- **I just submitted. What's next?** A confirmation email from [notifications@email.submittable.com](mailto:notifications@email.submittable.com) will be sent to the email address provided during sign up. This email is proof of an organization's submission. If an email confirmation is not received, email [DEELFunding@seattle.gov](mailto:DEELFunding@seattle.gov) ASAP with "Question: Youth Mental Health Therapeutic Services RFP" in the subject line.
- **How can I save a copy of the submitted application?** To save a copy of the submitted application, [log in](#) to the Submittable account to [download a PDF copy for your records](#).





# Questions

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Submit to [DEELFunding@seattle.gov](mailto:DEELFunding@seattle.gov) with subject line: "Question: Youth Mental Health Therapeutic Services RFP"



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