

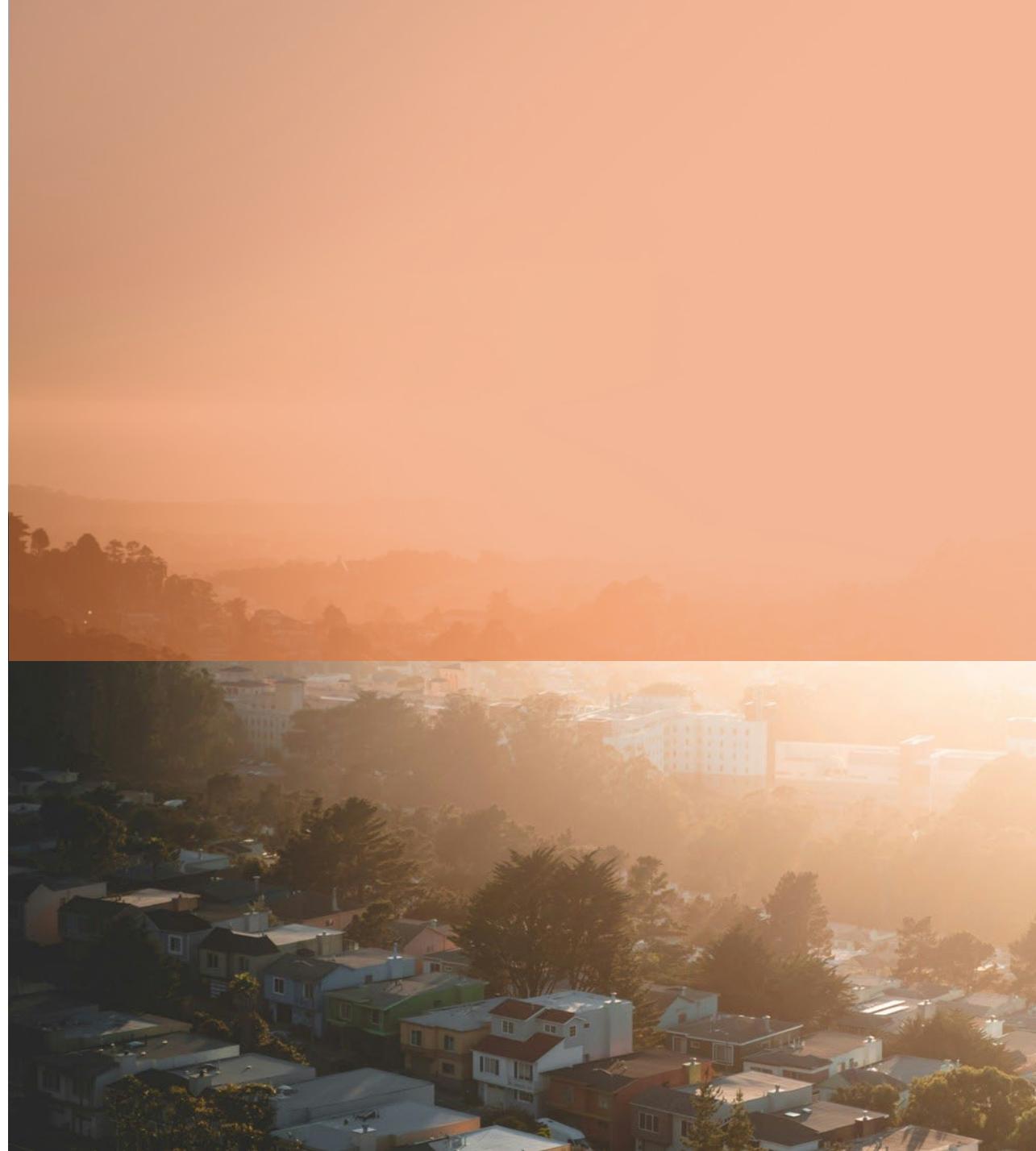


Innovation Partnership Fund (IPF) Outline

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Overview efforts to date

- Extensive engagement and analysis
 - Call for concepts
 - Three listening sessions (one focused on lived experience)
 - Three Program Advisory Committee (PAC) meetings
 - Client, Family, and Community Inclusion, Lived Experience, and Diversity Advisory Committee (CFC) meeting
 - Three full Commission meetings
 - Shared with state agency partners
 - Conducted internal analysis of BHSA statute
- Framework version 4.0 approved by the Commission on November 20, 2025.
- RFP outline approved by the PAC on December 15 and the CFC meeting on December 17, 2025.
- Plan to release the RFP in Winter 2026.



RFP Outline Components Informed by the IPF Framework 4.0

Mandatory Components

(All applications must meet the following, as specified in the IPF Framework 4.0.)



Meet the definition of innovation



Address the needs of target populations



Apply to and support county programs

Applications must convey how they will:

(as specified in the IPF Framework 4.0)



Increase equity, reduce disparities, and ensure innovation projects serve underserved populations and those most in need



Involve community input and lived experience in the project design, implementation, and evaluation



Be financially sustainable beyond the life of the grant



Leverage data to identify what's working and what to improve



Align with statewide Behavioral Health Transformation efforts

Applicants will be asked to indicate if they will do any of the following:

(as specified in the IPF Framework 4.0)



Include community-centered solutions (including community-defined evidence-based practices)



Leverage emerging technologies



Advance effective treatment models



RFP Components Feedback Received to Date

Nuts and bolts: Eligibility and scoring

Feedback	Response
Proposed projects must not duplicate existing efforts	Shall be incorporated into RFP
The CBH must ensure no conflict of interest with Commissioners	Addressed with existing conflict of interest laws and waivers.
Mixed feedback on which entity should be lead proposer and/or receive priority points (e.g., some stakeholders want CBOs as lead, others indicated that CBOs should not be given priority over other types)	Considering carve out for small grant tier that requires the grantee be a CBO, nonprofit entities, or tribal organizations. Large grants will be open to all organizations.
Awards should prioritize equity, lived experience, and community leadership as scoring criteria	Shall be incorporated into RFP
Clarify who “ <i>Other populations, as determined by the CBH</i> ” refers to	For this year, we have not identified other populations.

Nuts and bolts: Eligibility and scoring (continued)

Feedback	Response
Eligibility should not be limited to those serving individuals with a diagnosis	Addressed in the definition of indicated prevention. BHSA eligibility does not require diagnosis.
Projects aimed at BIPOC and LGBTQ+ communities should be specifically prioritized	<p>We believe BIPOC and LGBTQ+ communities are encompassed in the following populations already prioritized in the IPF Framework 4.0:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Underserved populations</i> • <i>Low-income populations</i> • <i>Communities impacted by other behavioral health disparities</i> • <i>Other populations, as determined by the CBH</i>
Use IPF funding to sustain and expand the California Reducing Disparities Projects	All projects that meet eligibility outlined in the IPF RFP may apply.

Nuts and bolts: Research and learning

Feedback	Response
IPF should incorporate a shared learning component so impact is maximized for the broader public	CBH plans to assess and document learnings and (where appropriate) publish those learnings for public knowledge.
Grants should be data driven and have clear data collection and reporting requirements	Incorporated.
Grants should specify how investments will be measured, tracked, and evaluated to ensure goals are met	Incorporated.

Nuts and bolts: Funding

Feedback	Response
Funding should be tiered to meet the needs of applicants of different scales	Considering a small grant tier that requires the grantee be a CBO, nonprofit entities, or tribal organizations. Large grants will be open to all organizations.
Require matched funding or other way to ensure outside support	While potentially valuable, such a requirement may preclude many applicants and will not be incorporated at this time. However, sustainability will be a component considered in the RFP.



RFP Outline Components Elements to Consider

What's on the table

-  What does success look like and what metrics should the Commission use to measure this?
-  How should the Commission best assess potential for sustainability in the application process?
-  How do we ensure grantees have the capability to accurately and successfully collect, track, and apply data to ensure continuous improvement?
-  Any other considerations?

Motion

That the Commission approves the Innovation Partnership Fund grant procurement outline plan not to exceed \$20 million and authorizes the Executive Director to conduct the competitive solicitation, issue a Notice of Intent to Award to the highest-ranked proposer(s), and execute all resulting grant agreements in accordance with the approved outline plan and applicable procurement laws.