

# Opioid Abatement Funds

## What are Opioid Abatement Funds?

As party to a series of nationwide settlements with opioid manufacturers and distributors totaling more than \$54 billion, Kentucky will receive **\$842 million** in opioid settlement funds to be paid out in installments through 2038. The national settlement agreement outlines key requirements for use of the funds, but states and localities are given significant leeway in how to allocate and distribute the funds to address the opioid epidemic in their communities.

## How is Kentucky spending the funds?

50% of the settlement funds are allocated to the Commonwealth of Kentucky and will be distributed through a grant program, and the other 50% are allocated to county governments and will be administered at the local level.

## How are the funds managed?

The Kentucky Opioid Abatement Advisory Commission (KYOAAC) provides oversight and management of the settlement, ensuring that all funds are distributed in compliance with KRS 15.291 through 15.293.

40 KAR 9:010E, 9:010, 9:020E, and 9:020 provide additional guidance.

## What can the funds be used for?

The settlement agreement requires at least 70% of the funding be used for opioid remediation efforts, defined in the agreement as "care, treatment, and other programs and expenditures designed to a) address the misuse and abuse of opioid products, b) treat or mitigate opioid use or related disorders, and c) mitigate other effects of the opioid epidemic." KRS 15.291(5) provides a detailed list of appropriate uses. For guidance on opioid abatement strategies and programs: National Association of Counties: [www.naco.org/resources/opioid-solutions-center](http://www.naco.org/resources/opioid-solutions-center) Johns Hopkins: [www.opioidprinciples.jhsph.edu/implementation-tools/](http://www.opioidprinciples.jhsph.edu/implementation-tools/)

The HEALing Communities Study at the University of Kentucky has been working to implement evidence-based practices to mitigate effects of the opioid epidemic across 16 counties in Kentucky. For information about these programs and partners, please contact Margaret McGladrey, PhD at [margaret.mcgladrey@uky.edu](mailto:margaret.mcgladrey@uky.edu)



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## How to Apply for Funding

### *State Settlement Funds:*

The state's portion of the settlement will be distributed via a grant program managed by the KYOAAC.

- Any entity or governmental agency may apply for funds through the grant portal, including local government units that receive funding at the local level.
- Funds must be used in compliance with KRS 15.291 and 15.293.
- There is no limit on the amount of money that can be requested, but requests should be reasonable in light of the limited availability of funding.
- Applications are accepted on a rolling basis, and applicants are asked to limit submission to one application per fiscal year.

The full list of requirements, access to the application portal, and FAQs can be found at the KYOAAC website: [bit.ly/kyopioidsettlement](https://bit.ly/kyopioidsettlement)

### *Local Government Settlement Funds:*

Local allocations are determined using a formula outlined in the national settlement agreements. The formula factors in population, opioid deaths in the area, and other considerations related to the impact of the opioid epidemic. Local governments that opt-in to use of the settlement funds must certify that funds are spent in compliance as detailed in KRS 15.291; participating counties are required to submit a certification form to KYOAAC. Application processes will vary by locality; interested agencies and community partners are encouraged to contact their local fiscal court or county official to learn more.

### **Additional Information and Resources:**

Kentucky Opioid Abatement Advisory Commission: [bit.ly/kyopioidsettlement](https://bit.ly/kyopioidsettlement)

Kentucky Association of Counties (KACO): [www.kaco.org](https://www.kaco.org)

Kentucky League of Cities: [www.klc.org](https://www.klc.org)

National Opioid Settlement website: [www.nationalopioidsettlement.com](https://www.nationalopioidsettlement.com)

