

## Key Definitions and Acronyms

1. MHSP: Mental Health Service Professional
2. LEA: Local Educational Agency
3. SEA: State Educational Agency
4. ESEA: Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965
5. Ambitious: refers to goals and objectives that are substantial and far-reaching.
6. Baseline: refers to the starting point against which progress is measured.
7. Demonstrates a Rationale: refers to providing a clear and logical justification for proposed activities.
8. Logic Model: refers to a visual representation of how a program is expected to achieve its goals.
9. Project Component: refers to a separately identifiable activity within a project.
10. Relevant Outcome: refers to the specific result or effect that is directly related to the project's goals.
11. Credentialed: Holding the necessary qualifications or credentials for a specific role
12. Recruitment: The process of attracting qualified individuals for employment
13. Retention: The act of keeping individuals in their current positions or roles
14. Telehealth: The use of telecommunications technology to provide healthcare services remotely

These definitions are important for understanding the requirements and criteria of the MHSP and SBMH Grant Programs and are used to guide the application process and evaluation of proposals.

## Eligible Applicants

Here's how the eligibility criteria for the MHSP and SBMH grant programs align and differ:

Criteria	ED-MHSP Grant Program	ED-SBMH Grant Program
<b>High-need LEAs</b>	Eligible directly	Eligible directly
<b>SEAs</b>	Eligible, especially when applying on behalf of high-need LEAs	Eligible, primarily to increase the number of credentialed mental health service providers
<b>IHEs</b>	Eligible, for training programs to prepare school-based mental health service providers	Not specifically mentioned
<b>Consortia of LEAs</b>	Not specifically mentioned	Eligible, to enhance the availability of mental health services within their networks

This chart underscores the shared focus on supporting high-need LEAs across both programs, while also highlighting the MHSP's unique inclusion of IHEs in building a training pipeline for professionals, and the SBMH's provision for consortia of LEAs, emphasizing collaborative efforts to improve service availability.

## Purpose of Funds

Aspect	ED-MHSP Grant Program	ED-SBMH Grant Program
<b>Primary Aim</b>	To train and provide a pipeline of school-based mental health service providers for employment in high-need LEAs and schools.	To increase the number of credentialed mental health services providers offering services in schools, especially in LEAs with a demonstrated need.
<b>Target Recipients</b>	Innovative partnerships aiming to train mental health service providers for schools and LEAs.	State educational agencies (SEAs), LEAs, and consortia of LEAs.
<b>Focus Area</b>	Addressing the critical shortage of mental health professionals in high-need areas by expanding the pipeline of trained providers.	Enhancing the availability of qualified mental health professionals in schools to meet students' needs.
<b>Use of Funds</b>	Supports initiatives to increase provider numbers in high-need LEAs, promote diversity and inclusive practices, and cover support services costs (e.g., tuition, internships).	Used to increase the number of credentialed providers, with an emphasis on recruitment, retention, professional retraining, diversity, and competency.
<b>Priority Areas</b>	Increasing the number of providers, promoting diversity among them, and ensuring training in inclusive practices.	Increasing recruitment and retention incentives, promoting professional retraining, and enhancing the diversity and cultural competency of providers.
<b>Intended Impact</b>	Improve access to mental health support within educational settings, promoting student well-being and academic success.	Enhance the availability of mental health services in schools, support student well-being, address hiring and retaining barriers, and promote diverse services.
<b>Funding Beneficiaries</b>	Primarily focused on individuals and partnerships involved in training and preparing providers to work in schools.	Targets educational agencies directly for the purpose of augmenting and supporting the workforce of mental health professionals in schools.

## Purpose of Funds (Cont.)

The Mental Health Service Professional (MHSP) Grant Program is designed to address the shortage of mental health professionals in high-need schools and LEAs through innovative training partnerships. It focuses on expanding the pool of qualified mental health service providers, promoting diversity, and ensuring inclusive practices among them.

On the other hand, the School-Based Mental Health Services (SBMH) Grant Program aims to increase the number of credentialed mental health service providers in schools, particularly in areas demonstrating need. This program emphasizes enhancing the availability and diversity of mental health services in educational settings, with a strong focus on recruitment, retention, and cultural competency.

## Eligible Activities

The eligible activities for the Mental Health Service Professional (MHSP) Grant Program and the School-Based Mental Health Services (SBMH) Grant Program share common goals of enhancing mental health services within educational settings but differ in their specific focuses and approaches. Below is a comparison of the eligible activities:

Activity	ED-MHSP Grant Program	ED-SBMH Grant Program
<b>Training Programs</b>	Developing and implementing innovative training programs for mental health service providers.	Providing training and professional development for school-based mental health services providers.
<b>Partnerships for Training</b>	Establishing partnerships between LEAs, SEAs, and IHEs.	Establishing partnerships with community organizations and mental health providers.
<b>Clinical Opportunities</b>	Providing practicum or internship opportunities in high-need LEAs.	Not specifically mentioned but could be inferred under training and professional development opportunities.
<b>Professional Development</b>	Offering professional development and continuing education.	Providing training and professional development opportunities.
<b>Evidence-based Practices</b>	Implementing evidence-based practices and interventions.	Implementing evidence-based practices and interventions.
<b>Outreach and Engagement</b>	Conducting activities to promote mental health awareness and reduce stigma.	Conducting outreach and awareness campaigns to reduce stigma and promote mental health awareness.
<b>Coordination and Collaboration</b>	Enhancing coordination between schools, mental health providers, families, and community organizations.	Not specifically mentioned but could be included within establishing partnerships.

## Eligible Activities

Activity	ED-MHSP Grant Program	ED-SBMH Grant Program
<b>Evaluation of Services</b>	Evaluating the effectiveness of implemented services and interventions.	Not specifically mentioned, but improving quality of services implies some level of evaluation.
<b>Data Collection and Monitoring</b>	Establishing systems for data collection and monitoring to track impact.	Not specifically mentioned, but critical for assessing program effectiveness.
<b>Increasing Provider Numbers</b>	Not specifically mentioned, but can be an outcome of training programs and partnerships.	Increasing the number of credentialed mental health services providers in LEAs.
<b>Diversity and Cultural Competency</b>	Not specifically mentioned, but diversity efforts can be part of broader training and recruitment strategies.	Developing strategies to increase diversity and cultural competency among providers.
<b>Telehealth Services</b>	Not specifically mentioned.	Offering telehealth services to expand access to mental health support.

Both programs aim to improve mental health services for students through training, partnerships, and the implementation of evidence-based practices. The MHSP focuses more on the training infrastructure, including developing training programs and providing internship opportunities, while the SBMH emphasizes increasing the provider workforce, enhancing service delivery through telehealth, and fostering diversity and cultural competency.

## Sample Program Design Outline for MHSP Program

Project Goal	Objective	Activities	Evaluation
<b>Increase the number of mental health professionals in high-need LEAs</b>	Develop and implement innovative training programs	Collaborate with SEAs, LEAs, and IHEs to design and implement training initiatives	Assess participant satisfaction and competence through surveys and assessments
	Establish partnerships for training	Form partnerships with community organizations to facilitate training opportunities	Measure the effectiveness of partnerships in expanding training reach
	Provide practicum/internship opportunities	Create placements in high-need LEAs for hands-on experience	Track participant progress and outcomes during internships
	Offer professional development	Organize workshops and seminars for ongoing skill development	Evaluate the impact of professional development activities on provider knowledge and skills
	Implement evidence-based practices and interventions	Incorporate proven methods into training curricula	Monitor adherence to evidence-based practices during training
	Conduct outreach to increase awareness	Organize informational sessions and events for prospective providers	Measure attendance and knowledge gained from outreach activities
	Enhance coordination between schools and providers	Facilitate communication and collaboration between educational and mental health entities	Assess improvements in coordination through stakeholder feedback
	Evaluate effectiveness of training initiatives	Collect data on participant outcomes and program impact	Analyze data on provider placement rates and retention in high-need areas

## Sample Program Design Outline for SBMH Program

Project Goal	Objective	Activities	Evaluation
<b>Increase number of credentialed mental health providers in high-need LEAs</b>	Develop training and professional development programs	Design curriculum and materials tailored to school-based settings	Assess participant satisfaction and learning outcomes through surveys and assessments
	Establish partnerships with community organizations	Collaborate with local mental health agencies for resource sharing	Measure the effectiveness of partnerships in expanding training reach
	Increase diversity among providers	Implement recruitment strategies targeting underrepresented groups	Track demographic data of recruited providers to assess diversity efforts
	Address retention barriers	Provide incentives for providers to remain in high-need areas	Monitor retention rates and reasons for provider turnover
	Expand access to mental health services	Establish telehealth services for remote or underserved areas	Evaluate the usage and effectiveness of telehealth services through utilization data and user feedback
	Promote evidence-based practices	Provide ongoing training on best practices and interventions	Assess provider adherence to evidence-based practices through observation and documentation
	Reduce stigma and increase awareness	Conduct outreach campaigns and educational workshops	Measure changes in community attitudes and knowledge about mental health



## Sample Program Design Outline for SBMH Program

Project Goal	Objective	Activities	Evaluation
<b>Increase number of credentialed mental health providers in high-need LEAs</b>	Enhance coordination among stakeholders	Facilitate regular meetings between schools, providers, and families	Assess improvements in coordination through stakeholder feedback and meeting attendance
	Evaluate service effectiveness	Collect data on service utilization and outcomes	Analyze data on service delivery, client outcomes, and satisfaction levels