

# **OAA POSITION ON WHETHER LAW ENFORCEMENT, EMS, AND FIRE SERVICES EXPENSES QUALIFY AS “GOLD STANDARD” USES OF OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS.**

## **Law Enforcement**

The following law enforcement related efforts are considered allowable uses of opioid settlement funds for OAA “gold standard” purposes:

1. The actual cost for officers’ time while engaged in approved abatement efforts as listed within Exhibit E. This may also include providing security for an approved abatement effort listed within Exhibit E to occur.

This cost must be based on one of the following:

- a) The actual hourly personnel cost incurred for the time the officer was so engaged in the approved abatement effort.
  - b) The agency’s existing rate or charge for officers to when providing security in an off-duty assignment.
2. Education and training expenses when such education and training is focused on substance use disorders, crisis intervention, and directly related behavioral/mental health topics.
  3. Equipment such as computers or phones that are used solely for the approved abatement activity.

The following law enforcement related efforts would **NOT** be considered allowable uses of opioid settlement funding for OAA “gold standard” purposes:

1. Any cost connected to criminal intervention, including intelligence gathering, investigations, response to criminal activities, and the cost of incarcerating individuals.
2. The cost of response to opioid-related emergencies.
3. The purchase of police equipment including uniforms, body armor, radios, weapons, and vehicles.
4. Any education and training expense that is not specifically focused on substance use disorders, crisis intervention, or other directly related behavioral/mental health topics.
5. The cost of recruiting, hiring, and basic training of law enforcement officers is not an approved use for OAA “gold standard” purposes.

## **Fire and Emergency Medical Services (EMS)**

The following fire and EMS related efforts would be considered allowable uses of opioid settlement funding for OAA “gold standard” purposes:

1. Education and training expenses when such education and training is focused on substance use disorders, crisis intervention, and directly related behavioral/mental health topics.
2. Equipment used solely for the approved abatement activity.
3. Purchase, storage and management of any harm reduction supplies including over-the-counter medications.
4. Purchase, storage and management of FDA-approved medications for opioid use disorder, such as buprenorphine, methadone, and naltrexone.
5. Any non-emergency abatement efforts that are listed in Exhibit E. This would include public outreach efforts, follow-up efforts after an emergency has been resolved, and “leave-behind” naloxone or harm reduction efforts.

The following fire and EMS related efforts would **NOT** be considered allowable uses of opioid settlement funding for OAA “gold standard” purposes:

1. The purchase of fire and EMS equipment that is used in the response to a wide variety of emergencies. This would include ambulances, stretchers, cardiac monitors, ventilators, etc.
2. Any education and training expense that is not specifically focused on substance use disorders, crisis intervention, or other directly related behavioral/mental health topics.
3. Prescription medications and any medications that fall under DEA Schedule I through V, as well as any equipment that is required by law for the storage, inventory management, and security of these prescription and/or scheduled medications.
4. The cost of recruiting, hiring, and basic training of firefighters and EMS providers is not an approved use for OAA “gold standard” purposes.

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