

Zero Suicide Grants: Guide for Applying

Applying for funding for Zero Suicide in Health Systems? We can help!

This document provides guidance on adding Zero Suicide Institute® services to your grant application, as well as how to use the Zero Suicide Toolkit™ to build your narrative.

Zero Suicide Institute Services

Zero Suicide Institute at EDC guides organizations and professionals through transformational change toward safer suicide care.

We provide expert training, consultation, and products to elevate quality of care and patient safety. Our clients include health and behavioral healthcare providers, state and federal agencies, tribal nations and urban indigenous healthcare organizations, and others who are ready to make continuous quality improvements system wide. We also provide services to clinicians, care specialists, and practitioners who share our dedication to person-first care based on empathy and lived experience expertise.

These services could be included your grant application:

- **Zero Suicide Workshops**

[Zero Suicide Workshops](#) introduce or support existing efforts to implement Zero Suicide. These tailored training events include up to six months of planning and consultation with Zero Suicide Institute. Workshops are recommended for awareness building of the intent to implement Zero Suicide, as kick-off events to the effort, or, in later years of Zero Suicide implementation, to focus on next steps and sustainability. Zero Suicide Institute offers [in-person](#) and [online](#) versions of the Zero Suicide Workshop, as well as shorter webinar events that offer similar support.

- **Zero Suicide Academies**

Zero Suicide Institute offers the [Zero Suicide Academy](#)® signature training event in three formats. We recommend systems attend a Zero Suicide Academy early in the implementation phase. This training will teach the core implementation team the Zero Suicide framework, as well as provide consultation on creating the teams action plan for implementation.

We offer multiple Zero Suicide Academy experiences:

- The [National Zero Suicide Academy](#) training workshop is an online version of the Zero Suicide Academy offered twice a year. It is an excellent opportunity for smaller systems to send an

implementation team or for larger system to register multiple teams. This training event is ideal for systems who want to reinvigorate their Zero Suicide implementation as well.

- Organizations can sponsor their own [In-Person Zero Suicide Academy](#) or [Online Zero Suicide Academy](#). These are training workshops for large systems, communities, and states. These events are tailored for your Zero Suicide implementation and include up to six months of consultation and planning with Zero Suicide Institute.

- **Zero Suicide Consultation**

Zero Suicide Institute offers a range of [consultation](#) services, both in person and online. Consultation can be used alone or alongside other events, such as the Zero Suicide Academy.

- **Zero Suicide Community of Practice**

The [Zero Suicide Community of Practice](#) is recommended as a follow-up to a Zero Suicide Academy or Workshop. In this consultation service, the implementation teams continue to meet virtually as they work on their implementation of Zero Suicide. We recommend a nine-month Community of Practice, so that, with the Academy or Workshop, the team has a total of one year of support and guidance.

- **Assessing and Managing Suicide Risk**

Zero Suicide Institute's [Assessing and Managing Suicide Risk](#) (AMSR) trainings are provided as in-person and online [workshops](#) and as asynchronous [courses](#). There are courses geared toward clinical staff as well as their support staff. We also offer [train-the-trainer](#) courses for AMSR.

- **CALM**

Zero Suicide Institute hosts the [CALM](#) training. We offer additional reporting options you can include in your grant budget. Fees are for the annual subscription service we offer that provides data on completion of the course for organizations and states.

Grant Language

When you reference Zero Suicide Institute services in your application, please use the following language to describe our role with your project:

EDC is pleased to provide the services described herein acting as a Contractor per 2 CFR part 200.331, Subrecipient and Contractor determinations.

Connect with Us

We are happy to meet with you as you prepare your application for this award. We will provide you with an estimate after we have been able to talk with you about the right selection of services for the intended outcomes the system seeks to achieve.

If you would like to discuss options with us, please schedule a time with [Zero Suicide Institute Associate Director Barb Gay](#). Reach out by [email](#) if you don't see a time that will work.

Zero Suicide Grant Narrative

Here are suggestions from Zero Suicide Institute on how to use the Zero Suicide Toolkit for your application narrative—and implementation after your award!

On the [Zero Suicide Toolkit](#), we offer tons of free resources to help you on your Zero Suicide implementation journey. This guide compiles resources that will help you craft a successful application now and later help you implement the Zero Suicide framework later.

This guide was created with the [2023 SAMHSA Cooperative Agreements to Implement Zero Suicide in Health Systems](#) in mind, but it is a tool that can be used for future SAMHSA grants and other funding opportunities for suicide prevention in healthcare as well.

Proposed Implementation Approach (Section B)

The SAMHSA Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFO), in Section B, states that there needs to be a description of how the required activities and allowed activities will be implemented. The required activities are to use all seven of the Zero Suicide elements, and to incorporate principles of health equity.

- **Getting Started with Zero Suicide**

You can use the [Getting Started with Zero Suicide](#) resource as a sketch for describing how your implementation of Zero Suicide might look.

- **Organizational Self-Study**

You will need to include your measurable goals and objectives and your timeline, which include all the required activities from Section 1. You will need to show you can implement the project and service delivery no later than four months after the award.

Using the PDF version of the General [Organizational Self Study](#) can provide an overview of the comprehensive Zero Suicide approach. We suggest using aspects of the Organizational Self-Study to speak to your system's current strengths and weaknesses. It is fine to use the free Organizational Self-Study portal if your system has an implementation team in place.

If your system has been implementing Zero Suicide, we recommended that you complete the Organizational Self Study, which can then be used to explain progress that has been accomplished to date as well as future work that will be planned.

Within four months of receiving this grant award, your implementation team will need to complete the Organizational Self Study. Use this as a baseline measure and to assist in creating your action steps. Future use of the Organizational Self-Study is also encouraged, such as annually, to check for fidelity and to identify areas for improvement. We recommend you use the free portal to fill out your Organizational Self-Study so you can access your data any time and get yearly reminders to update your information.

- **Zero Suicide Work Plan**

After completing the Organizational Self-Study, we recommend using the [Zero Suicide Work Plan](#) to outline the implementation steps that will be taken in each element.

- **Suicide Care Training Options**

For Train, systems can identify current training that is provided, as well as indicate which trainings you will add for clinical and non-clinical staff. The [Suicide Care Training Options](#) provides you an overview of training for all staff by role. This can be used to review and determine which trainings are appropriate. Costs for the selected trainings can be included in the budget proposal.

Zero Suicide Institute's [CALM](#) course is included in the NOFO as a suggested training.

- **Zero Suicide Workforce Survey**

For this award, you will also need to complete the [Zero Suicide Workforce Survey](#). Consider when the survey will be distributed to all your staff, taking into consideration time to announce and communicate to the entire system the intention to implement Zero Suicide, as well as time to identify the full Implementation Team.

- **Lead Element of the Zero Suicide Toolkit**

In the narrative, explain how members of your Implementation Team will be identified. Or, if your team is already identified, explain how their roles align with the recommendations in the Zero Suicide [Lead](#) element. It is essential that people with [lived experience](#) of suicide be included on the implementation team and in all aspects of Zero Suicide implementation.

Proposed Evidence-Based Service (Section C)

You'll need to describe the evidence-based practices (EBPs) related to suicide that your organization will be using in your Zero Suicide implementation. You will also need to speak about the methods you will use to monitor the delivery of the EBPs to ensure that they are implemented with fidelity.

- **Evidence**

On the Zero Suicide website, Zero Suicide Institute provides the [evidence for each of the seven elements](#) of Zero Suicide.

- **Treat Element of the Zero Suicide Toolkit**

Also on the Zero Suicide toolkit is the [research base of interventions and treatments](#), including of direct and indirect intervention and treatment modalities.

- **Cultural Competence Toolkit**

The [Toolkit for Modifying Evidence-Based Practices to Increase Cultural Competence](#) provides a structured method for modifying Evidence-Based Practices (EBPs) to better meet the needs of the cultural groups that will be served under this grant.

Data Collection and Performance Measurement (Section E)

You will need to provide information about how required data will be collected and how it will be used to manage, monitor, and enhance the program. The response will need to include the plan for assessing the impact of the project on suicide attempts and suicide deaths for the selected population of focus.

■ Data Elements Worksheet

Review the [Data Elements Worksheet](#). Discuss in your narrative measures that are already being tracked in your system and those measures that will be considered for additional tracking.

■ Zero Suicide Results

For ideas on what outcomes can be achieved when Zero Suicide is implemented, the [Zero Suicide Results](#) document may be of help.

■ Zero Suicide Data Dashboard

An allowable activity in this grant will be to use the [Zero Suicide Data Dashboard](#). Review what is in the works on the Zero Suicide Institute website and sign up for our [email list](#) to get future updates.

Tribes and Tribal Organizations

■ Zero Suicide Toolkit Adaptation for Indian Country

There will be at least two awards made to tribes or tribal organizations. The [Zero Suicide Toolkit Adaptation for Indian Country](#) offers best and promising practices for the implementation of Zero Suicide in Indian Country.

Here are a few key resources to be used with your application and implementation planning:

- From the [Lead](#) section of this toolkit adaptation, sample Tribal proclamations and the Zero Suicide Organizational Self Study [addendum](#).
- In the [Train](#) section, you'll find the [Workforce Survey: Indigenous Version](#) as well as a sample template to review the results of the workforce survey.
- In [Identify](#) we share examples of how screening and assessment can be implemented that it is both culturally appropriate and relevant. The video highlights implementing universal screening.
- Although no evidence based treatments have been validated on Indigenous people, [Treat](#) overviews the need to ensure evidence-based methodology is culturally-resonant and tailored to the community in which the care is offered.
- The [Improve](#) page can help with the narrative you will need to write for Section E around data collection.