

Questions and Answers

Severe Behaviour Response Teams (SBRTs) competitive grants process

The following questions and answers are specific to this funding round. Please also refer to the [Frequently Asked Questions webpage](#) for general questions about applying for DSS grants.

1. What is the population of people that my organisation would be expected to provide support for?

SBRTs will support people displaying very severe and extreme behaviours, such as those that frequently occur in people with severe behavioural and psychological symptoms of dementia (BPSD).

This population is extremely challenging for other residents and very difficult for staff of aged care homes to deal with. SBRTs will not replace specialised mental health services and will advise referral to state based mental health services, psychogeriatric units and acute care if appropriate.

2. What will be the referral pathway for SBRTs? How will SBRTs interact with Dementia Behaviour Management Advisory Services (DBMAS)?

SBRTs will work closely with the existing DBMAS in each state and territory. A second phase will see SBRTs and Dementia Behaviour Management Advisory Services integrated from 2016-17.

The Department will work with the successful applicant and DBMAS to determine an appropriate risk-based referral pathway to ensure national consistency and that only appropriate cases are referred to the SBRT.

Placing DBMAS on the referral pathway will make use of current infrastructure to ensure that teams from DBMAS and SBRTs are coordinated, and not both being called to address the same issues. Referrals to acute care will remain the responsibility of approved provider.

3. What funding is available for this grant?

\$12.674 million (GST incl) has been allocated for the 2015-2016 financial year.

4. Why is the funding for one year only?

The existing DBMAS service provision contracts conclude on 30 June 2016, so it makes sense to develop and test the SBRT model before formally incorporating it as the top tier of support for DBMAS in all States and Territories from 2016-17.

5. How much funding for SBRTs is available in each state or territory?

SBRTs will be funded on a national basis. If no suitable applications are received for a national organisation, consideration will be given to funding state based SBRTs. This will be calculated on a pro rata basis of each state and territory's residential aged care population with regional needs taken into consideration.

6. How much coverage will SBRTs be expected to provide?

SBRTs are a national operation, expected to provide coverage to residential aged care facilities in both metropolitan areas, and regional, rural and remote areas. The precise nature of this coverage should be proposed in your application, and can include telehealth technology if appropriate.

7. If my organisation is part of a group of organisations, can we submit a joint application?

Yes, a joint application can be submitted if the work or project benefits or involves more than one organisation. However, in order to manage the funds appropriately, if a joint Application is successful,

the Department will enter into a Funding Agreement with the nominated lead organisation. Additionally, the joint Application must include a letter of support from each organisation that is part of the joint Application.

8. What is a lead organisation?

A lead organisation must be an incorporated body which is able to enter into the Funding Agreement. The other partner organisations do not have to be incorporated.

If you submit a joint Application with one or more other organisations, you must nominate a lead organisation for the Application. The lead organisation for the project will, if your Application is successful, sign the Funding Agreement, receive the funding and assume legal responsibility for performing the activities and meeting the outcomes under the Funding Agreement.

9. Would the Department prefer a consortia (joint) approach?

Applications submitted from individual organisations will be neither preferred nor disadvantaged over applications from consortia.

10. If my application is successful, what will be the contract period?

The contract period will be from the date of the execution of the Funding Agreement until 30 June 2016.

11. If my application is successful, when will we receive funding?

Funding commences from the date of the execution of the Funding Agreement.

12. Will my organisation have to spend the funding by a particular date?

Funding for Phase 1 of the SBRT Programme will be for the period to 30 June 2016. Based on that timeframe and outcomes of negotiations with the successful applicant, a schedule of payment of funds will be listed in the Funding Agreement with the Department.

13. If successful, can I specify multiple bank accounts in which to receive funding?

No, only one bank account may be used over the funding period. If your organisation changes bank accounts, consideration may be given to also change the account into which funding is paid.

14. How many documents can I attach in support of my application?

Applicants may attach as many documents as required to expand on the responses provided in the application form, up to a limit of 15 megabytes. Applicants can limit the size of attachments by not using large images and complex formatting.

15. Can you let me know if my application is likely to be successful or provide guidance on how to complete the application?

Due to probity reasons, it is not possible to provide guidance on the eligibility or likelihood of success of any application, which includes commentary on who is expected to apply for the grant.

16. The criterion attributes are scored on a rating scale of one to five. What definitions for what constitutes each of the ratings are publically available?

The definitions that will be used for the Severe Behaviour Response Teams funding round process are as in the rating score table below.

Rating	
Excellent quality - excellent claims against the criterion, exceeds expectations, supporting information confirms consistent superior performance	5
Very good quality - very good claims against the criterion, meets all expectations to a high standard with complete and comprehensive supporting information	4
Good quality – good claims against the criterion, meets all expectations with convincing supporting information	3
Satisfactory quality – adequate claims against the criterion, mostly meets expectations, but may be lacking detail and/or supporting information	2
Marginal or poor quality – poor claims against the criterion, does not meet expectations, has deficient supporting information	1
Does not meet criterion at all	0

17. Criterion 2 will assess how an organisation will deliver, “a nationally consistent operation covering all Commonwealth residential aged care homes and flexible funded services”. What are “flexible funded services”?

Flexible funded services cater to the needs of older people who may require a different approach than that provided through mainstream residential care options. These services include Multi-Purpose Services, National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flexible Aged Care, Transition Care and Innovative Care. For more information please follow this link to details about [Flexible Care](#).

18. How many interventions would be likely to be required nationally and on a state by state basis per year?

It is not possible to provide conclusive numbers on how many cases will be referred to SBRTs. The Department of Social Services [Portfolio Budget Statements 2015-16](#) estimate that the number of service episodes delivered by Severe Behaviour Response in 2015-16 will be 2,200.

19. Does the 24-48 hour response via face to face or televideo as outlined in the SBRT programme documentation include calls to the service that are received after business hours i.e. after 5pm, weekends and public holidays?

SBRTs will act on referral from a DBMAS. DBMAS have a 24 hour, 7 day a week telephone assistance line that provides an after-hours service function, staffed by a behaviour consultant, to offer support and advice in crisis situations. This function provides support for all DBMAS across Australia and will continue.

Due to probity reasons, it is not possible to provide any guidance on a potential referral mechanism between DBMAS and SBRTs.

20. Is there an expectation that a specific budget or spread sheet outlining costs associated with the proposal be provided? If so, what level of detail is required?

The application does not include a section to outline costs associated with the proposal. Due to probity reasons, it is not possible to provide guidance on the level of detail required for any application, or to offer assistance to complete your application.

However, clauses 2.6.2 of the Programme Guidelines outlines the eligible and ineligible activities for which grant funding can be used and, in line with the guidelines, grant activities will be managed to

ensure the efficient and effective use of public monies. This will be consistent with best value in social services principles, the DSS grant agreement, and will aim to maintain viable services and act to prevent fraud upon the Commonwealth. Acquittal documents will need to be provided to the Department of Social Services as outlined in the grant agreement.

21. Where should I go for further information?

Contact: grants@dss.gov.au