

Dear State Substance Abuse Authority or Tribal Leader:

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (SAMHSA/CSAT) is pleased to announce the public release of the Access to Recovery (ATR) Program's Request for Applications (RFA). You may review and download the RFA at the following address: <http://samhsa.gov/Grants/2010/TI-10-008.aspx#docs>

Access to Recovery is an important initiative that provides clients with vouchers to purchase substance abuse treatment and recovery support services. Eligible applicants include SSA's and federally recognized Tribes, Tribal Organizations, and Tribal Leaders. Individual grant awards may be funded up to \$4 million per year over a four year period. All new applications are due to SAMHSA by March 10, 2010.

Given the importance and complexity of this program, SAMHSA is offering a range of pre-application technical assistance (TA) to help support interested individuals and organizations during the application process. We are offering:

1. Two full-day, face-to-face TA meetings that will provide you with the opportunity to hear critical guidance on the application process, help you develop your application, receive an implementation toolkit that offers a step-by-step guide on how to develop and implement an ATR program, and have access to a range of Federal staff who can answer your application questions.
2. Two brief webinars (2 hours) that will provide you with critical information from Federal staff that is pertinent to your application and allow for questions and answers.
3. A website where you can post your questions publicly and receive public answers within 72 hours of posting. This will allow you to see an up-to-date listing of frequently asked questions.

Below is a summary of all TA activities that we are offering including critical dates, times, venues, and instructions:

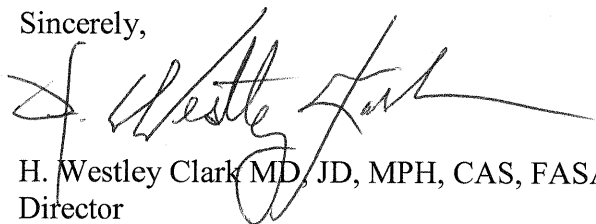
<i>Technical Assistance Events</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Venue</i>	<i>Instructions</i>
Face-to-Face Meeting for SSAs	January 21, 2010	9am – 6pm	Marriott Gaithersburg Washingtonian Center 9751 Washingtonian Blvd. Gaithersburg, MD 20878	Register at: http://events.SignUp4.com/ATR-RFA (link will become operational at 5pm EST January 7, 2010.)
Face-to-Face Meeting for Tribes, Tribal Leaders, and Tribal Organizations	January 22, 2010	9am – 6pm	Marriott Gaithersburg Washingtonian Center 9751 Washingtonian Blvd. Gaithersburg, MD 20878	Register at http://events.SignUp4.com/ATR-RFA (link will become operational on at 5pm EST January 7, 2010.)

Webinar for SSAs	January 27, 2010	3 – 5pm	Approximately 10 minutes prior to the event start time, please go to: http://altarum.na3.acrobat.com/atr - Select "Enter as a Guest," and type your first and last name, and click "Enter Room." (If for any reason the link does not work, simply copy-and-paste the URL into your browser) PHONE AUDIO: Dial: 1-877-705-6006 Passcode: "ATR"
Webinar for Tribes, Tribal Leaders, and Tribal Organizations	January 29, 2010	3-5pm	Approximately 10 minutes prior to the event start time, please go to: http://altarum.na3.acrobat.com/atr - Select "Enter as a Guest," and type your first and last name, and click "Enter Room." (If for any reason the link does not work, simply copy-and-paste the URL into your browser) PHONE AUDIO: Dial: 1-877-705-6006 Passcode: "ATR"
Question and Answer Website	Will be operational by Thursday January 7, 2010		http://atr.samhsa.gov/RFAquestions

Thank you in advance for your interest in applying for the Access to Recovery program and please do not hesitate to take advantage of these important opportunities to get support during the application process.

If you have any questions, please contact ATR Team Leader, Roula K. Sweis MA, PsyD at 240-276-1574 or Roula.sweis@samhsa.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,



H. Westley Clark MD, JD, MPH, CAS, FASAM
Director
Center for Substance Abuse Treatment