



WEST VIRGINIA

**Higher Education  
Policy Commission**

**Campus Mental Health:  
Strategies with Proven  
Effectiveness  
JED Campus  
Request for Applications  
2026-2027**

## **I. Funding Opportunity Description**

### **Purpose**

This grant opportunity is to provide funding for one institution to enroll in the JED Foundation's JED Campus Fundamentals Program, "a nationwide initiative for colleges and universities to evaluate and strengthen their mental health, substance misuse, and suicide prevention programs using a comprehensive public health approach grounded in evidence. This program provides schools with strategic planning support and an evidence-based resource playbook to implement their plans and promote student emotional well-being. The evidenced-based approach transforms existing efforts into a comprehensive mental health strategy that protects students and strengthens the entire educational community." This is a one-year program for the institution that provides consultation, training, and the Healthy Minds survey on campus with data collection and final summary, as well as training.

The opportunity is managed by the Division of Health Sciences at the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission and is a project of the Behavioral Health Programs Campus Mental Health initiatives designed to address mental health needs of students on West Virginia's public institutions of higher education.

### **Program and Grant Opportunity Goals**

Grant funds under this opportunity are directed at improving student mental health, wellness, and safety through implementation of the JED Campus Fundamentals Program, conducting a campus survey and providing data, as well as training and consultation for campus leaders and campus mental health professionals.

For further information on the JED Foundation, please visit the following link: [The Jed Foundation](#)

### **Additional Resources**

- How universities can enhance student mental wellbeing: the student perspective <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/07294360.2019.1576596?journalCode=cher20>
- Healthy Minds Network: Return on Investment, Data and Action Toolkit for College Mental Health <https://healthymindsnetwork.org/>

## **II. Award Information**

### **Opportunity Eligibility**

West Virginia public two-year and four-year public institutions of higher education are eligible to apply. The following criteria will also be used to determine eligibility:

- There has been a campus suicide, act of violence, and/or a campus crisis in the past three years.
- There must be documented support from campus administrators- Two letters of support for this program must be submitted with the application. Letters of support can be from a campus dean, vice-president, and/or the campus president. Documentation of support from one campus organization or department is also required.
- There is a need for the creation of and/or update of mental health policies and procedures on campus.

If you have a question about whether your institution is eligible or need assistance in identifying potential partners, please contact Carolyn Canini, Director of Behavioral Health Programs at [carolyn.canini@wvhepc.edu](mailto:carolyn.canini@wvhepc.edu) or 304.558.0530.

### **Summary of Funding**

Funding will be provided upon the execution of an agreement for the grant opportunity. Funds will be paid directly to the vendor. The program will launch in February 2027 and will end February 2028.

### **Requirements**

**The awardee will be required to adhere to the following:**

1. The awardee must complete and execute an agreement for the grant program prior to any funds being released to the vendor. Award agreements will be sent to the authorized signatory via SignNow. Only agreements signed and returned via SignNow will be accepted.
2. The awardee must complete a final report. Final reports will require a narrative and budget update on program activities. Reporting will occur within the portal and is due 45 days after the grant end date in February 2028.
3. Attend a state conference and/or training and present on the experience of being a JED Campus and the JED Fundamentals Program to provide other campuses with information and guidance. This will need to be completed by June 30, 2028.

## **III. Application and Submission Information**

### **Content and Form of Application**

**All applications for funding will be received via the WV HEPC Health Sciences Grants portal.** Directions for applications via the portal are available at <https://hsgrants.force.com/>

- A. Exhibit A- Activity Overview/Statement of Work
- B. Exhibit B- Project Budget & Budget Justification

## **Application Submission**

Applications must be submitted via the portal. The deadline for all Campus Mental Health Grant applications is **Friday, July 31, 2026, by 5:00 p.m.**

## **IV. Application Review Information**

### **Review Process**

Applications will be reviewed by Commission grants management staff (business and financial review) and program staff (technical review and analysis of proposal), as well as by a team of external content area experts.

The following criteria will be considered in the review process:

- A narrative of how the institution meets some of the eligibility requirements and how being a JED Campus can benefit the institution.
- The appropriateness of the project objectives and time frames for initiation through completion of the project.
- At least TWO letters of support from campus administration.
- At least ONE letter of support from a different campus department or organization other than the department applying.
- A tentative list of campus staff that will be part of the JED Campus Mental Health Team.
- The rigor of the plan for evaluation of the project objectives.
- The potential for scalability and sustainability.

See the Program and Grant Opportunity Goals section of this document for more information on review criteria.

### **Proposal Revisions**

The Commission reserves the right to request revisions to the submitted proposal if, upon review, it is determined the proposed work plan does not meet the goals and requirements of this funding opportunity.

## **V. Additional Information**

All questions related to this opportunity should be directed to Candace D. Layne, EdD, ALPS,

LPC, PMH-C Director of Behavioral Health Programs at [candace.layne@wvhepc.edu](mailto:candace.layne@wvhepc.edu) or 304.558.0530.

## EXHIBIT A

### Statement of Work

1. Provide a two-to-three-page overview of the proposal which includes the following information:

- Need for the grant opportunity on campus.
- How the institution meets some of the eligibility requirements.
- A list of campus staff that will be part of the JED Campus Team.
- Project personnel and how they are qualified to guide the proposed project
- Evaluation methods
- Potential scalability of a successful project to the region or state

2. Complete the table to describe the project goals, activities, and outcomes that can be met with the JED Campus Program.

Project SMART Goals	Activities to meet goals	Anticipated outcome	Time for completion of goal

\*See <https://www.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/nc-smart-goals-fact-sheet.pdf> for a helpful review of SMART goals.

## EXHIBIT B

### Budget Detail

**Due to the funds being released directly to the vendor, there is no need for a budget chart or budget justification.**