

## **Brain Injury Oversight Committee (BIOC) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)**

**Deadline:** March 15, 2026

The Brain Injury Oversight Committee is pleased to announce an opportunity of support funding provided by the state of Nebraska and the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services. The committee has \$475,000 available to meet the statutory objective of assisting the community of individuals living with a brain injury. Award funding will be for project(s) starting on or after July 1, 2026, and up to one year long. Only projects that achieve the funding objectives of the committee and Nebraska statute will be considered.

To learn more about the Brain Injury Oversight Committee, please visit our [website](#). If you have any questions email [BIOC.applications@nebraska.gov](mailto:BIOC.applications@nebraska.gov).

## **Purpose and Intent**

The Brain Injury Oversight Committee (BIOC) consists of nine public members, including individuals with brain injury or family members and other representatives, each of whom are appointed by the governor, and the following directors, or their designees: The Commissioner of Education; the Director of Behavioral Health of the Department of Health and Human Services; and the Director of Public Health of the Department of Health and Human Services. The Brain Injury Oversight Committee was created by LB481 in 2019. Sections 71-3701 to 71-3706 of the Nebraska Revised Statutes are the Brain Injury Assistance Act.

The purpose of the committee, as stated in Nebraska Revised Statute 71-3704, is to:

- Provide financial oversight and direction to the University of Nebraska Medical Center in the management of the Brain Injury Assistance Act.
- Develop criteria for expenditures from the Brain Injury Assistance Act.
- Represent the interest of individuals with a brain injury and their families through advocacy, education, training, rehabilitation, research, and prevention.

## **Funding and Expenditure Priorities**

As stated in Nebraska Revised Statute 71-3705 (2)(a)

The program shall provide assistance for individuals with a brain injury by paying for contracts with outside sources that specialize in the area of brain injury. Such outside sources shall work to secure and develop community-based services for individuals with a brain injury; provide support groups and access to pertinent information, medical resources, and service referrals for individuals with a brain injury; and educate professionals who work with individuals with a brain injury.

As stated in Nebraska Revised Statute 71-3705, (2)(b) Expenditures from the program will include, but not be limited to:

- Resource facilitation. Resource facilitation shall be given priority and made available to provide ongoing support for individuals with a brain injury and their families for coping with brain injuries. Resource facilitation may provide a linkage to existing services and increase the capacity of the state's providers of services to individuals with a brain injury by providing brain-injury-specific information, support, and resources and enhancing the usage of support commonly available in a community. Agencies providing resource facilitation shall specialize in providing services to individuals with a brain injury and their families.
- Voluntary training for service providers in the appropriate provision of services to individuals with a brain injury.
- Follow-up contact to provide information on brain injuries for individuals on the brain injury registry established in the Brain Injury Registry Act.
- Activities to promote public awareness of brain injury and prevention methods.
- Supporting research in the field of brain injury.
- Providing and monitoring quality improvement processes with standards of care among brain injury service providers; and
- Collecting data and evaluating how the needs of individuals with a brain injury and their families are being met in this state.

## **Award Information:**

**Funding Instrument Type:** Grant

**BIOC Allocation Period:** July 1<sup>st</sup> 2025 – June 30<sup>th</sup> 2026, Fiscal Year 2026

**Total Funding:** \$475,000

**Funding Source:** State of Nebraska, Not Federally Funded

**Estimated Number of Awards:** 1 or more, with a maximum award amount of \$475,000 depending on the number of awards made.

**Estimated Award Date:** April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026

**Award Period of Performance:** July 1<sup>st</sup> 2026 – June 30<sup>th</sup> 2027, Fiscal Year 2027

## **Application Guidelines/Process:**

### **Eligibility**

As stated in Nebraska Revised Statute 71-3705, (2)(a)

Outside sources shall operate, at a minimum, statewide, and in targeted areas as defined and determined in the contract, with individuals with brain injury; work to secure and develop community-based services for individuals with a brain injury; provide support groups and access to pertinent information, medical resources, and service referrals to individuals with a brain injury; and educate professionals who work with individuals with a brain injury.

## **Submission Requirements for Applicants**

### **Application Deadline**

Applications will be accepted through 11:59 pm Central Time on March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026. If the application is not submitted before the deadline, it will not be reviewed.

### **Submission Method**

Applications will be sent to: [BIOC.Applications@nebraska.gov](mailto:BIOC.Applications@nebraska.gov) Paper applications will not be accepted. Applications must be submitted in an electronic format. Acceptable file types are spreadsheets (for budget forms), word processing files for narratives, and PDF files may be substituted for spreadsheets or word processing files. It is preferred that the application be submitted as a single document.

### **Submission Requirement**

The proposal must be signed by an authorized official for the proposing entity.

- **Application Font and Spacing**
  - Arial size 11, single spaced, .5-inch margins
- **Project Contacts**
  - Project Coordinator/Director: Provide names and contact information of responsible parties of the project.

## Budget Summary Template

<i>Budget Summary Template – BIOC Application</i>		
<i>PERSONNEL SUMMARY</i>		
POSITION TITLE	ROLE ON PROJECT	SALARIES & WAGES + FRINGE BENEFITS
		\$
		\$
		\$
<b>TOTAL SALARIES &amp; WAGES + FRINGE BENEFITS</b>		<b>\$</b>
<i>OPERATING AND SUPPLIES COSTS</i>		
CONTRACTED SERVICES		\$
SUPPLIES		\$
TRAVEL		\$
OTHER EXPENSES (itemize by category)		\$
<b>TOTAL OPERATING AND SUPPLIES COSTS</b>		<b>\$</b>
<b>TOTAL COSTS</b>		<b>\$</b>

## Evaluation Process

Applications will be reviewed in three phases.

- Phase I: All applications will be initially reviewed for eligibility and completeness by the executive committee members (the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Secretary). Applicants will be notified if their applications did not meet eligibility and/or published submission requirements.
- Phase II: A workgroup (of 3 to 6 committee members) will score applications based on the criteria/scoring system described within this notice.
- Phase III: Committee Discussion/Vote on Awarding Funds at a Committee meeting.

## Application Evaluation and Performance Measurements

**Evaluation and Performance Measurement**

**Maximum Points for Application: 100**

Committee members will evaluate the applications based on the following criteria:

## **Project, Summary, Description and Work Plan** (limited to 6 pages)

Maximum Points: 60

- Provide brief statement (3-4 sentences) that clearly states the project goal (2 points)
- Describe the needs being met and how these relate to the Brain Injury Assistance Act priorities (13 Points)
- Define how the project will focus on resource facilitation as described in the Brain Injury Assistance Act (15 points)
- Describe how the project will meet broad, long-term objectives and specific aims (10 Points)
- Describe the potential long-term community impact (10 Points)
- Explain what data will be collected – include description of reports/outputs (10 Points)

## **Budget Summary**

Maximum Points: 5

- Budget Justification Narrative - explain the need and uses of the requested funding (*The funding from BIOC will not be used to purchase capital equipment or other capital purchases.*)
- Provide a project budget for requested funds (a sample template is available as part of this notice.)

## **Qualifications**

Maximum Points: 20

- Organization's history and capacity to take on the project (5 Points)
- What sets you apart from other organizations (5 Points)
- Attach job descriptions for key positions. If individuals are already hired for the key positions, attached their resumes or CV (5 Points)
- **Attach the following:**
  - A copy of the Tax form 990 from the most recently completed year (if applicable) (1 point)
  - A copy of the company's financial statements from the most recently completed year (if applicable) (2 points)
  - Board approved organizational budget for current year (2 points)

## **Coordination and Collaboration**

Maximum Points: 15

- Description of community involvement - document the strength of relationships with other agencies to achieve common goals and priorities of the BIOC (limited to one page) (10 Points)
- Letters of Support: 2-4 letters as it relates to the ability to handle the project description or work plan (5 points)

## **Expectations of Awardees**

- Awardees will agree to the terms and conditions of the Award Agreement including:
  - Applicants are responsible for reporting if this application will result in programmatic, budgetary, or commitment overlap with another application or award submitted to another funding source. Overlap occurs when substantially the same project is proposed in more than one application or is submitted to two or more funding sources for review and funding consideration or a specific objective and the project design for accomplishing the objective are the same or closely related in two or more applications

- or awards, regardless of the funding source. Any overlap will be resolved by the BIOC with the applicant prior to award.
- Semi-annual reports made in writing and in person to the BIOC stating progress, challenges and future plans.
  - Any substantial deviations from the proposed project will be communicated to the committee and must be approved prior to implementation.
  - The Award Agreement will incorporate the Notice of Funding Opportunity and the proposal as submitted for reference.
  - Funds should be expended within one year of the award date. Unspent funds exceeding 15% of the original award will need to be reported to the committee. The committee may approve no cost extensions of expenditures upon request.
  - The committee reserves the right to set forth additional requirements of the recipient(s) including but not limited to additional monitoring requirements to the disbursements of funds.

## **Brain Injury Oversight Committee (BIOC) Application Review Form**

Project Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewer (Committee Member Name): \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Committee members will provide a score (based on the below criteria) to reflect their assessment of the application for funding.

**Application Total Score:** \_\_\_\_\_ (Maximum Points for Application: 100)

**Reviewer Score**

### **Project Description and Work Plan** (Maximum Points: 60)

- Provide brief statement (3-4 sentences) that clearly states the project goal (2 points)
- Describe the needs being met and how these relate to the Brain Injury Assistance Act priorities (13 Points)
- Define how the project will focus on resource facilitation as described in the Brain Injury Assistance Act (15 points)
- Describe how the project will meet broad, long-term objectives and specific aims (10 Points)
- Describe the potential long-term community impact (10 Points)
- Explain what data will be collected – include description of reports/outputs (10 Points)

**Total Project Description and Work Plan Points**

### **Budget Summary** (Maximum Points: 5)

- Budget Justification Narrative – explain the need of the requested funding and attach project budget (5 Points)

**Total Budget Summary Points**

### **Qualifications** (Maximum Points: 20)

- Organization's history and capacity to take on the project (5 Points)
- What sets them apart from other organizations (5 Points)
- Key job descriptions and attached resumes/CV (5 Points)
- Copies of most recent: Tax document 990 or equivalent (1 point) financial statements (2 points) approved organizational budget. (2 Points)

**Total Qualifications Points**

### **Coordination and Collaboration** (Maximum Points: 15)

- Description of community involvement relationships with other agencies to achieve common goals and priorities of the BIOC (10 Points)
- Letters of Support: 2-4 letters as it relates to the ability to handle the project description or work plan. (5 points)

**Total Coordination and Collaboration Points**