

COMPETITIVE FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENTS FY26



Project Topic: Tobacco Use Prevention/Cessation Funding Opportunity

Proposal/Application Due Date: October 1, 2025

Purpose/Project Goals

The Cecil County Health Department (CCHD) is pleased to announce funding opportunities through the Maryland Cigarette Restitution Fund Program, Local Public Health Tobacco Use Prevention and Cessation Grant. This initiative aims to implement vital tobacco and vape use prevention and cessation activities within Cecil County.

We are seeking partnerships and projects that will:

- Promote community dialogue on tobacco use-related disparities.
- Support a tobacco-free environment.
- Offer comprehensive tobacco use prevention education.
- Increase awareness of the risks associated with Electronic Smoking Devices (ESDs), commonly known as "vaping."

These activities are essential for reducing health disparities among populations disproportionately affected by tobacco use. These high-risk groups include, but are not limited to, youth, low-income, African Americans, Hispanic/Latinx individuals, and LGBTQ+ communities.

Please note that the number of viable applications may influence award amounts, and funding may be divided into smaller allocations.

Eligibility/Submission Requirements

To be eligible for funding, organizations must meet the following criteria:

- **Location:** Organizations must be physically located within Cecil County.
- **Schools:** Must serve high school-aged children.
- **Organizations:** Must have a primary focus on serving the youth and or disparate populations.

Projects to be Funded

Funding will be allocated to the following types of projects:

1. **School/School-Based Club Projects (1 Award):** To implement evidence-based prevention programs such as "Catch My Breath" and/or the "Stanford University Tobacco Prevention Toolkit." These programs should educate Hispanic students on the dangers of electronic cigarettes and vaping. Special consideration will be given to



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Hispanic school-based clubs to effectively reach this disproportionately affected population.

2. **Youth-Focused Community-Based Organizations (2 Awards):** To conduct engagement and outreach activities that incorporate youth prevention messaging on tobacco/vape prevention. All activities must be directly targeted at youth. The aim is to incentivize youth-focused organizations to integrate robust prevention messaging into their programs.
3. **Community-Based Organizations for Youth and Adults (2 Awards):** To conduct engagement and outreach activities that incorporate prevention messaging on tobacco/vape prevention for both youth and adults. These activities may include health communication campaigns to advertise tobacco use prevention and local cessation services to community residents. We encourage and will support grassroots partnerships that foster community dialogue on tobacco-related disparities. Special consideration will be given to organizations that serve ethnic/racial minorities, LGBTQ+ individuals, low-educated populations, individuals with behavioral health conditions, and/or low-income populations.

Funding Information

Funding allocations and award amounts will vary based on the quality of applications received and the total number of applications. Funding amounts may be adjusted downward if a large number of viable applications are submitted.

- **School-based projects:** May be funded up to \$4,000.
- **Youth-focused organizations:** May be funded up to \$4,000.
- **Community organization projects (youth and adult focus):** May be funded up to \$2,500.

Funded organizations will be able to request payment in three installments:

- Up to 25% of the award upfront.
- Up to 50% of the award once 50% of the project deliverables have been met.
- The remainder of the award once all project deliverables have been met.

All funded projects must be completed by **June 1, 2026**, and all invoices must be submitted by **June 15, 2026**.

Reporting and Other Information

All funded partners are required to:

- **Support the Cecil County Tobacco Task Force:** By attending virtual meetings to provide activity updates and offer input into tobacco use prevention and cessation



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strategies. Representatives from awarded organizations may submit a video in lieu of their attendance if they have an unavoidable scheduling conflict.

- **.Submit Reporting Forms:** Project-specific reporting forms will be provided by CCHD and must be completed by all funded partners.
- **Complete Process Improvement Survey:** All funded partners are requested to complete a process improvement survey at the end of the funding period to assist the CCHD in its continuous quality improvement efforts.

How to Apply

The application deadline is October 1, 2025 **at 3:00 PM EDT**. If funds remain available after this deadline, CCHD will continue to accept applications until all funds are allocated to viable projects on a first-come, first-served basis.

For more information or to obtain an application, please contact Jennifer Padgett at jennifer.padgett@maryland.gov. Application forms will provide detailed activity guidelines and rules.

Please also refer to procurementcchd.procurement@maryland.gov for additional guidelines.

Jennifer Padgett
Community Health Educator III
Local Behavior Health Authority
Cecil County Health Department