

States to Get \$1.5 Billion Infusion for Opioid Response Says HHS

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The US federal government announced \$1.5 billion for grants to states and tribes to fund their responses to the opioid crisis—maintaining a similar level of funding provided in 2024.

“We are putting power back in the hands of states and Tribes to build solutions that reflect their people and their traditions,” Health and Human Services Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. said. “This investment is about saving lives, restoring hope, and making our communities whole again.”

The announcement comes as President Trump’s administration seeks to reorganize the Health and Human Services Department, including the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, which oversees the grants. The president’s budget request for fiscal 2026 would combine the state opioid response grants with other sources of mental health and substance use disorder funding into a new Behavioral Health Innovation Block Grant. Then the total would be slashed from \$4.5 billion to \$4.1 billion, according to Brookings Institution analysis.

A Bloomberg Government investigation found that resources to mental health and substance use disorder programs would shrink by \$1.4 billion under Trump’s reorganization plan.