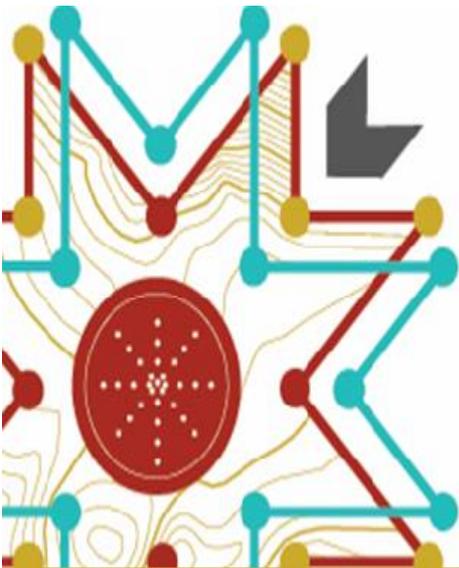


Pre-Application Webinar

FY 2016 Tribal Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program: Development and Implementation Grants

Funding Opportunity Number: HHS-
2016-ACF-OCC-TH-1161

Thursday, February 4, 2016, 1 pm ET



ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES



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- Tribal Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program: Development and Implementation Grants
- Funding Opportunity Number HHS-2016-ACF-OCC-TH-1161
- CFDA # 93.872
- www.grants.gov
- <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/open/foa/>.
- Full FOA available at <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/open/foa/index.cfm?switch=foa&fon=HHS-2016-ACF-OCC-TH-1161>
- **Applications DUE WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 2016 at 11:59 PM ET.**



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Send questions to: tribal.homevisiting@acf.hhs.gov

- Questions will be accepted until 8:00pm ET on Monday, February 15th.
- Please include the words “Applicant Question TH1161” in the subject heading of the email, and please include your name, the name of your organization, and your telephone number in the text of the message.
- A transcript of this webinar and a summary of listener questions received before 8:00pm ET on Monday, February 15th, along with ACF responses, will be posted to <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ecd/home-visiting/tribal-home-visiting>
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Moushumi Beltangady, (202) 260-3613, tribal.homevisiting@acf.hhs.gov

Tim Chappelle, (202) 401-4855, tim.chappelle@acf.hhs.gov



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Letter of Intent

- Applicants are strongly encouraged to notify ACF of their intention to submit an application under this announcement.
- The letter of intent should include the following information: number and title of this announcement; the name and address of the applicant organization; and/or Fiscal Agent (if known); and the name, phone number, fax number and email address of a contact person.
- Letter of intent information will be used to determine the number of expert reviewers needed to evaluate applications.
- **The letter of intent is optional.** Failure to submit a letter of intent **will not** impact eligibility to submit an application and **will not** disqualify an application from competitive review.
- Letters of intent may be submitted by email by 11:59 pm ET on February 6th to tribal.homevisiting@acf.hhs.gov, subject line: Tribal MIECHV Development and Implementation – Letter of Intent.



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Tribal Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program: Development and Implementation Grants

- 5-year cooperative agreements
- This funding opportunity announcement (FOA) is intended for tribal entities that do not have prior experience with implementing evidence-based home visiting models, performance measurement and continuous quality improvement systems, and rigorous evaluation.
- **A separate FOA (Tribal Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Grant Program: Implementation and Expansion Grants, HHS-2016-ACF-OCC-TH-1162) is intended for entities with such prior experience.**



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Statutory authority

- Section 511 of Title V of the Social Security Act, as amended by the Medicare Access and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Reauthorization Act of 2015 (Public Law 114-10).
- Authorizes the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program (MIECHV)
- Authorizes the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award MIECHV grants to Indian Tribes (or a consortium of Indian Tribes), Tribal Organizations, or Urban Indian Organizations
- Authorizes 3 percent of total MIECHV appropriation for grants to tribal entities
- States that tribal grants, to the greatest extent practicable, are to be consistent with the requirements of the MIECHV grants to States and territories and include conducting a needs assessment and establishing benchmarks



Cooperative agreement

- A cooperative agreement is a specific method of awarding Federal assistance where substantial Federal involvement is anticipated.
- The Federal involvement and collaboration includes several activities described in the funding opportunity announcement under Section II, “Award Information”.
- Cooperative agreements defining the respective responsibilities of ACF and grantees will be negotiated.



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Cooperative agreement

- As part of the cooperative agreement, in accordance with the statutory requirements ACF anticipates providing training and technical assistance (TA) to grantees throughout the 5-year project period.



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Eligible Applicants

- Federally recognized Indian tribes (or consortia of tribes)
- Tribal organizations
- Urban Indian organizations

As defined by Section 4 of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, Pub.L. 94-437 at

http://www.ssa.gov/OP_Home/comp2/F094-437.html



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Award amounts

- \$1 million in total funding available
- Eligible applicants may apply for a minimum of \$100,000 and a maximum of \$400,000 per budget period.
- There will be up to 4 cooperative agreements made under this funding opportunity.
- The cooperative agreements awarded will be for a project period of up to 60 months with up to five 12-month project periods.
- Applicants should provide a budget and budget justification only for the first 12-month budget period. Funds for Years 2-5 will be awarded on the basis of submission and approval of non-competing continuation applications, adequate grantee performance, and availability of funds.
- There is no match requirement for grants awarded under this funding opportunity announcement.



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Program Goals

The overall goals of Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) Program:

- Strengthen and improve maternal and child health programs
- Improve service coordination for at-risk communities
- Identify and provide comprehensive services to families who reside in at-risk communities

Information about the HRSA MIECHV grants to states and territories can be found at

<http://mchb.hrsa.gov/programs/homevisiting/>.



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Tribal MIECHV Program Goals

- Supporting the development of happy, healthy, and successful American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) children and families through a coordinated home visiting strategy that addresses critical maternal and child health, development, early learning, family support, and child abuse and neglect prevention needs;
- Implementing high-quality, culturally relevant evidence-based home visiting programs in AI/AN communities;
- Expanding the evidence base around home visiting interventions with Native populations; and
- Supporting and strengthening cooperation and coordination and promoting linkages among various programs that serve pregnant women, expectant fathers, young children, and families, resulting in coordinated, comprehensive early childhood systems in grantee communities.

More information about the Tribal MIECHV Program, current grantees, and the communities they serve can be found at

<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ecd/home-visiting/tribal-home-visiting>.



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Use of Funds

- Funds under the Tribal MIECHV Development and Implementation Grants support:
 - Conducting a coordinated needs and readiness assessment of at-risk tribal communities through a collaborative process that engages all relevant stakeholders;
 - Collaborative planning efforts to address identified needs by developing capacity and infrastructure to fully plan for, adopt, implement, and sustain high-quality home visiting programs in AI/AN communities;
 - Implementing high-quality, culturally relevant, evidence-based home visiting programs that meet the needs of at-risk tribal communities;
 - Engaging with tribal, local, and state early childhood program partners and other stakeholders to maximize the success of home visiting programs and support the comprehensive needs of pregnant women, parents and caregivers, and children from birth to kindergarten entry living in at-risk tribal communities;
 - Conducting performance measurement and continuous quality improvement activities; and
 - Carrying out rigorous local program evaluations using quality research methods that answer questions of interest to grantee communities and the broader field.



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Population of Focus

- AI/AN in tribal communities, including Indian Tribes or Urban Indian Centers (as defined by Section 4 of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, Pub.L. 94-437 at http://www.ssa.gov/OP_Home/comp2/F094-437.html).
- Eligible families in at-risk AI/AN communities include pregnant women, expectant fathers, parents, and primary caregivers of children aged birth through kindergarten entry, including grandparents or other relatives of the child, foster parents who are serving as the child's primary caregiver, and non-custodial parents who have an ongoing relationship with, and at times provide physical care for, the child.
- MIECHV priority populations



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Required Grant Activities

- 5-year grants (cooperative agreements) between ACF and tribal entities
- Year 1 for Needs Assessment, Planning, and Capacity Building
- In Years 2-5 of the cooperative agreement, grantees will fully implement the various components of their implementation plan and work closely with ACF to ensure implementation and evaluation of high-quality, evidence-based home visiting programs in their community
- Funds for Years 2-5 will be awarded on the basis of submission and approval of non-competing continuation applications, adequate grantee performance, and availability of funds



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Definitions

- *Definitions* section located in the Appendix and provides important additional information about expectations for grantees under this FOA
- Items that are *italicized* throughout Section 1 of the FOA are defined in the Appendix



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Required Grant Activities – Year 1 – Comprehensive Community Needs and Readiness Assessment

- A. Identify at-risk tribal community or communities in the grantee's target area by collecting data on the health and well-being of individuals and families in these communities
- B. Assess the quality and capacity of existing programs or initiatives for early childhood home visiting in the target community
- C. Assess the community's capacity for providing substance abuse treatment and counseling services to individuals and families in need of such treatment or services
- D. Assess the community's capacity to implement and integrate home visiting services into an early childhood system of support for families

Needs and readiness assessment must involve and engage community stakeholders and partners and be coordinated with and take into account, to the greatest extent possible and as appropriate for the community, other needs assessments conducted by Federal, State, tribal, local, and private entities within the community.



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Required Grant Activities – Year 1 – Planning and Capacity Building

- Based on the results of the needs and readiness assessment, develop capacity to implement evidence-based home visiting models or promising approaches that meet the needs of the community and families, as well as any necessary cultural or contextual adaptations and enhancements.
- Selecting, developing, and supervising a qualified home visiting program workforce, including managers.
- Developing or improving an integrated data management information system
- Developing plans and infrastructure to support performance measurement and data-driven continuous quality improvement and learning activities that reflect a re-designed Tribal MIECHV Performance Measurement System
- Working together with tribal and organizational leaders, elders, families, community members, and early childhood partners to consider how best to meet the needs of families from pregnancy to kindergarten entry through an early childhood system of support for families
- Engaging in rigorous program evaluation planning activities



Required Grant Activities – Year 1 – Development of Implementation Plan

- Upon award, ACF will provide grantees with detailed guidance for submitting a needs and readiness assessment and an implementation plan that describes how the grantee will carry out required grant activities in Years 2-5, including implementing home visiting services, conducting performance measurement and continuous quality improvement activities, and engaging in rigorous evaluation.
- This detailed guidance will clearly lay out the deliverables that grantees will be required to submit.
- Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval under the Paperwork Reduction Act for this information collection has been requested and is pending.
- Grantees will be expected to submit the needs assessment and implementation plan within 10 months of the Year 1 award date, with draft submission milestones throughout Year 1.



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Required Grant Activities – Years 2-5

- Implementing high-quality, culturally relevant, evidence-based home visiting programs that meet the needs of at-risk tribal communities and delivering home visiting services to eligible families
- Partnering with tribal, local, and state early childhood stakeholders to ensure a successful home visiting program and support the comprehensive needs of pregnant women, parents and caregivers, and children from birth to kindergarten entry living in at-risk tribal communities through development of an early childhood system
- Conducting performance measurement and continuous quality improvement activities
- Conducting rigorous program evaluation activities that will contribute to the empirical evidence base on implementation, efficacy, effectiveness, and/or adaptation of home visiting programs in AI/AN communities.



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Evaluation Criteria

- Applications competing for financial assistance will be reviewed and evaluated using the criteria described in *Section V.1* of the FOA.
- The corresponding point values indicate the relative importance placed on each review criterion.
- Points will be allocated based on the extent to which the application proposal addresses each of the criteria listed.
- Four categories of evaluation criteria
- Applicants should address these criteria in their application materials, particularly in the project description and budget justification, as they are the basis upon which competing applications will be judged during the objective review.
- ACF anticipates awarding grants by July 1, 2016, but awards will be made no later than September 30, 2016.



Application Submission

- ACF requires electronic submission of applications at www.Grants.gov.
- Applications in response to this program announcement are due by 11:59 pm Eastern Time on March 23, 2016.
- ACF does not accommodate transmission of applications by email or facsimile.
- Applicants are required to submit their applications electronically unless they have requested and received an exemption that will allow submission in paper format.



Form and Content of Application Submission

- Two file requirement, excluding Standard Forms and OMB-approved forms.
 - File 1: Project Description - limited to **100** pages
 - File 2: Appendices - limited to **25** pages
- All applications must be double-spaced, Times New Roman (TNR), 12-point font, except for footnotes, which may be TNR 10-point font.
- Some Application Elements are Exempted from Double-Spacing Requirements.
- Applications that fail to adhere to ACF's FOA formatting, font, and page limitation requirements will be adjusted by the removal of page(s) from the application. Pages will be removed before the objective review. The removed page(s) will not be made available to reviewers.



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Form and Content of Application Submission – Project Description

- Table of Contents; Abstract (one page); Objectives and Need for Assistance; Approach; Organizational Capacity; and Budget and Budget Justification.
- Under Approach, the applicant must describe the approach it proposes to take in Year 1 to conduct a comprehensive community needs and readiness assessment, engage in planning and capacity building activities, and develop an implementation plan
- Considerations under Budget and Budget Justification



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Reminders

- First, applicants are responsible for ensuring that applications are submitted in advance of the application due date and time.
- Second, electronic submission is required unless an exemption is granted by ACF, as described earlier.
- Third, all applicants must have a DUNS Number (<http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>) and an active registration with the Central Contractor Registry (CCR) on the System for Award Management (SAM.gov/SAM, www.sam.gov).
- If applicants encounter any technical difficulties in using www.Grants.gov, contact the Grants.gov Support Center at: 1-800-518-4726, or by email at support@grants.gov, to report the problem and obtain assistance



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Thank You and
Good Luck!

