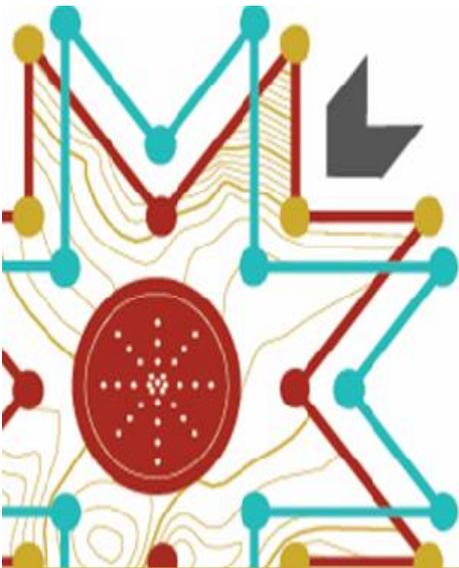


Pre-Application Webinar

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

Funding Opportunity Number: HHS-
2016-ACF-OCC-TH-1162

Thursday, February 4, 2016, 3 pm ET



ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES



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- Tribal Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program: Implementation and Expansion Grants
- Funding Opportunity Number HHS-2016-ACF-OCC-TH-1162
- 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-1162>
- **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 TH1162” 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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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 Implementation and Expansion – Letter of Intent.



TRIBAL HOME VISITING

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

- 5-year cooperative agreements
- Intended for tribal entities that have an established and ongoing experience with implementing high-quality, culturally relevant, evidence-based home visiting programs
- Successful applicants may include existing grantees under the Tribal MIECHV program that are proposing to sustain and/or expand services, as well as other tribal entities that can demonstrate past and ongoing experience with conducting such activities and are proposing to sustain, strengthen, and/or expand efforts in tribal communities to provide high-quality, culturally relevant, evidence-based home visiting services to AI/AN families and children
- **A separate FOA (Tribal Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program: Development and Implementation Grants, HHS-2016-ACF-OCC-TH-1161) is intended for tribal entities without prior and ongoing experience implementing home visiting programs**



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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

- \$8 million in total funding available
- Eligible applicants may apply for a minimum of \$250,000 and a maximum of \$1,000,000 per budget period.
- There will be up to 20 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 Implementation and Expansion Grants support:

- Conducting or updating a coordinated community needs and readiness assessment of at-risk tribal communities through a collaborative process that engages all relevant stakeholders;
- Implementing high-quality, culturally relevant, evidence-based home visiting programs that meet the needs of at-risk tribal communities;
- Improving and enhancing infrastructure and capacity necessary to implement, sustain, and/or expand home visiting programs in AI/AN 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; and
- Participating in and/or 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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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 that are currently operating an evidence-based home visiting program and propose to sustain and/or expand their established infrastructure for home visiting services in tribal communities
- 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



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 (NOTE: This includes existing, ongoing home visiting services provided to families by the grantee using Tribal MIECHV or other funds, as well as any other programs operating in the 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, maintaining and/or expanding 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
- Enhancing 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
- Engaging in rigorous program evaluation planning activities



Required Grant Activities – Year 1 – Planning and Capacity Building

- Rigorous Evaluation Planning Activities
 - Grantees will build capacity to EITHER
 - A) Participate in a rigorous multi-site program implementation evaluation involving multiple grantees and developed and overseen by ACF in strong collaboration with participating grantees and tribal communities; OR
 - B) Conduct a rigorous local evaluation that examines the efficacy of an evidence-based or promising home visiting model (or components of models) in affecting outcomes of value in tribal communities.
 - **Note: 5 bonus points are offered to applicants who indicate that they plan to participate in the rigorous multi-site program implementation evaluation.**



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 – Year 1 – Deliver Existing Home Visiting Services

- Continued delivery of home visiting services to eligible families
- If the grantee's existing home visiting program has been funded with Tribal MIECHV funds prior to award under this FOA, the grantee may use funds provided under this FOA to support ongoing delivery of services during Year 1.
- If the grantee's existing home visiting program has been funded with non-Tribal MIECHV funds, funds provided to an eligible entity receiving a grant under this announcement shall **supplement, and not supplant**, funds from other sources for early childhood home visiting programs or initiatives (per the Social Security Act, title V, section 511(f)).
- Penalties for reducing effort or expenditure would be a proportionate reduction in Tribal MIECHV funds.



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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
- Engaging in 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, through participating in a multi-site ACF-led evaluation or a local program evaluation



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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.
- Five categories of evaluation criteria
 - **5 Bonus Points will be awarded to applicants who propose to participate in the rigorous multi-site implementation evaluation.**
- 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.
- Awards will be made no later than September 30, 2016, but ACF *may* award some grants by July 1, 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.



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 or update a comprehensive community needs and readiness assessment, engage in planning and capacity building activities, develop an implementation plan, and continue delivery of existing home visiting services to children and families.
- 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!

