



# Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant

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## ➤ **What**

The Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981 (Public Law 97-35) authorized a series of health and social services block grants to states to carry out programs that were previously authorized separately. The final version amended the PHS Act to create the Public Health and Health Services (PHHS) Block Grant. The Block Grant is a mandatory grant given by Congress annually.

## ➤ **Who**

Nationally, the PHHS Block Grant provides funds to 50 states, 2 American Indian tribes, 8 U.S. territories, and the District of Columbia to address their own unique public health needs and challenges. For Nebraska, internal DHHS programs and external organizations receive funding.

## ➤ **Funding**

The PHHS funding allocated to the Office of Health Disparities focuses on the reduction of health disparities and improving health equity among racial and ethnic minorities American Indians, African Americans, Hispanics, and Asian/Pacific Islanders residing in Nebraska.

## ➤ **Activities**

The Office uses the PHHS Block Grant funds for a variety of projects, which include awards with refugee/immigrant organizations to create health literacy and education materials in their native languages, mini grants to address health disparities in minority populations, surveying minorities through the Nebraska Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, and temporary staff to support preparation of reports.

### References:

<https://www.cdc.gov/phhsblockgrant/faqs.htm>. Website retrieved April 2021.

<https://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/Preventive-Health-and-Health-Service-Block-Grant-.aspx>. Website retrieved September 2023.