

Response to Written Questions

As per the Request for Applications for subgranting Title V / Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Block Grant (RFA #13548-Y3) released May 31, 2012 by the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), DHHS will respond to questions at the conclusion of the two periods. These questions and answers (numbered 10, 11, 12, 13a, 13b, 13c) are in response to the period ending July 6th at 5:00 p.m.

Responses to questions received in the first period (numbered 1-9) were posted on June 18 at http://dhhs.ne.gov/publichealth/Pages/lifespanhealth_planning_index.aspx.

Question 10:

“As I read the RFA I did not see any restrictions to doing health screening such as cholesterol, blood sugar, height weight, etc. Are there any screening restrictions?”

Answer 10:

There are no specific restrictions that would regard health screenings as an unallowable activity or cost. References include **Section 1 - Purpose and Scope of the Request**, and **Section 2 - Description of Maternal and Child Health Subgrant**, as well as Title V of the Social Security Act and the OMB Cost Principles and Administrative Requirements, as referenced in **Section 4, Appendix 1: Statutory and Regulatory Compliance**.

In addition, subsection **3.05 Budget** of the RFA provides information and instructions for preparing the budget, including the statement: “Items of cost must be clearly identified in the Budget in order for the Evaluation Committee to readily determine if the items of cost are allowable, allocable, and reasonable, comply with Administrative Requirements, to consider the degree to which all costs are relevant to the Work Plan, and identify adequate and allowable matching.”

Question 11:

“Four years ago we completed a SPF community needs assessment. Would we be able to use data from this community needs assessment for our MCH application? Would we be able to repeat this type of community needs assessment with funds from the MCH funding?”

Answer 11:

(SPG refers to the Strategic Prevention Framework for the State Incentive Grant awarded to DHHS.)

Yes, data from a SPF community needs assessment conducted four years ago falls within the time period allowed for a valid community needs assessment, as specified in Required Minimum Criterion #2 of subsection **2.02.2 Type of**

Projects/Services: “the application must clearly demonstrate and address that local needs have been identified through a valid community needs assessment conducted or updated within the past five years which justifies or supports the chosen MCH/CSHCN priority(ies).”

A current needs assessment conducted four years ago falls within the time period allowed for a valid assessment. Using that assessment, determine if proposing to repeat the community needs assessment fits all of the minimum criteria for a fundable project, as stated in subsection **2.02.2 Type of Projects/Services**. If proposing to repeat this type of community assessment does not meet each of the three minimum criteria, it is not a fundable project.

Question 12:

“Is the 2013-2014 MCH application available in Word? The information is in pdf and with our computers the process to copy and paste, rearrange, space, etc. is a tedious job.”

Answer 12:

The RFA is available in pdf only, and posted at the DHHS website http://dhhs.ne.gov/publichealth/Pages/lifespanhealth_planning_index.aspx. The website has fillable Word documents of the required forms to assist with the application process.

Question 13:

a) “Why does the definition of pregnant woman include ‘60 days after birth’?” b) Would you please clarify where teen moms with children older than 2 months (60 days) would be recognized? Would they be included in children age 1-21/interconception? c) Could an agency that already provides TOP through a different funding stream be eligible to offer TOP through this funding stream too?”

Answer 13a:

The definition of ‘pregnant woman’ in **Section 4, Appendix 3: Glossary** is a definition from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), and quoted in the HRSA Guidance and Forms for the Title V Application / Annual Report.

Answer 13b:

Teen moms are recognized as ‘children’, as defined in **Section 4, Appendix 3: Glossary** and quoted in the HRSA Guidance referenced in Answer 13.a.

Answer 13c:

(TOP refers to Teen Outreach Program (TOP™) selected by DHHS as the model under the Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP) funding.)

Yes, an enhancement of a current service or activity is one type of project that would not require extended start-up time or effort. See subsection **2.02.2 Type of Projects/Services, Required Minimum Criterion #3**. A Teen Outreach Program currently in operation is an acceptable example.

If other funds are involved in the proposed project or activities, Applicants should distinguish costs allocable to multiple funds. See subsection **3.05 Budget** for information and instructions for preparing the budget.