

**INDIANA STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH DIVISION**

**Request for Applications to provide
Abstinence Education Grant Program (AEGP)**

Email Forum #1 Questions & Answers

Q.1 In the past for this grant, there was always an application template that we used to answer everything. I see it referenced in the instructions, but cannot find an attachment anywhere on the website. I see the instructions but don't see what appears to be the actual application unless it is different this time. Is this part of attachment B that has not been released yet?

A1. Unlike previous years, there is no application template for this application. There are two templates provided, the *Application Cover Page* (Attachment B) and the *Budget Template* (Appendix F). The requirement is to use those provided templates to complete those specific sections of the application. To meet the requirements of completing the application, respond to all required information in the order outlined and include all required information on Section *IX Application Instructions* in the order outlined on page 7 of the RFA. Please do not change the order of the application's required information and do not leave any sections blank.

The Application Information Page, which was incorrectly referred to as "Form A" in the RFA is Attachment B, *Application Cover Page*.

Note: This has been clarified and corrected in the updated version of the RFA.

Q2. I would like clarification on what is allowable for matching funds? I understand that in-kind services and resources are allowable; please elaborate. What in-kind donations/resources are not allowable?

A2. Please refer to section *B. Cost Sharing or Matching* on page 13 of this Federal Guidance, (https://ami.grantsolutions.gov/files/HHS-2016-ACF-ACYF-AEGP-1131_1.pdf).

Q3. Can you tell me what the ceiling is for the funding?

A3. Applicants will be scored on the competitiveness of their budgets and proposals. Please refer to section *VI. Summary of Funding* on page 8 of the RFA for more information.

Approximately \$1,200,000 is expected to be available annually for the budget periods of October 1, 2017-September 30, 2018 and October 1, 2018-September 30, 2019.

ISDH MCH anticipates having the capacity to fund up to 10 organizations through this RFA. The above amount is an estimate based on the current fiscal year's funding level and is subject to change based on an increase or decrease of funding from FYSB.

Note: The applicant must match at least 45% of the project's total cost with non-Federal resources while ISDH MCH will fund no more than 55% of the project's total cost.

Q4. Our agency has developed an abstinence based curriculum because the ISDH MCH approved curriculum at the time could not be implemented in our community based on the condom requirement. Earlier this year, our organization was asked by the state if we could implement one of the state's new approved curricula. From this conversation was ISDH indicating *our curriculum* would no longer be funded under this grant? Is our organization required to use one of the state's approved curricula to receive funding under this grant?

A4. As stated in the Purpose section (II. Purpose) of the RFA, applicants awarded funding are required to implement and/or expand evidence-based or promising practice abstinence education programs, based on sound theoretical frameworks, to foster peer support of decisions to delay sexual activity in adolescents and young adults, as described in the Administration of Children and Families (ACF) Family and Youth Services Bureau (FYSB) 2016 Title V State Abstinence Education Grant Program Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) available online at https://ami.grantsolutions.gov/files/HHS-2016-ACF-ACYF-AEGP-1131_1.pdf

Five bonus priority points will be given to applicants implementing and/or expanding evidence-based programs. The following abstinence education programs have been determined to be evidence-based by the United States Department of Health and Human Services (https://www.hhs.gov/ash/oah/oah-initiatives/teen_pregnancy/db/tpp-searchable.html): Promoting Health among Teens! (PHAT) Abstinence-Only Intervention, Making a Difference! (MAD), and Heritage Keepers Abstinence.

Please note, none of the above referenced curriculums require condom instruction. If there are specific concerns regarding specific language or requirements in any of the approved curriculums, please reference these instances in your proposal and ISDH MCH will consider exceptions with curriculum owner to ensure fidelity to the program will be maintained.

The ISDH MCH Division is requiring that all programming, whether evidence-based or promising practice:

- Be based on sound theoretical frameworks (e.g. social cognitive theory, theory of reasoned action, theory of planned behavior, etc.)
- Foster peer support of decisions to delay sexual activity
- Select educators with desired characteristics (whenever possible), train them, and provide monitoring, supervision, and support

- Curriculum development involved multiple people with expertise in theory, research, and sex and STD/HIV education (Kirby, D.2007. Emerging Answers 2007: Research Findings on Programs to Reduce Teen Pregnancy and Sexually Transmitted Diseases. Washington, DC: National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy.)