



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Applicant Conference

**Request for Applications No. HHS0016568
Texas Nurse-Family Partnership (TNFP) Program
February 13, 2026, at 10:30 a.m. CST**





TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Housekeeping Items
3. Project Overview & Scope
4. Grant Term
5. Eligible Activities
6. Program Requirements
7. Prohibitions
8. Closing Comments



Introductions

Speakers

- **Julia Solis**, Grants Specialist
Sole Point of Contact for RFA
Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) Procurement and Contracting Services (PCS)



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services



Procurement Roles

Procurement Team

- Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) Procurement and Contracting Services (PCS) is responsible for all procurement and solicitation activities.
- Family Support Services (FSS) is responsible for contract management activities throughout the life of the Grant Agreements, including contract development, execution, and monitoring.
- FSS is also responsible for project scope, requirements, performance, results, and monitoring.



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services



Schedule of Events

Event	Date and Time
Funding Announcement Posting Date Posted to HHS Grants RFA and ESBD websites	January 26, 2026
Applicant Conference	February 13, 2026, at 10:30 a.m. Central Time
Deadline for Submitting Questions or Requests for Clarification	February 17, 2026, by 10:30 a.m. Central Time
Tentative Date Answers to Questions or Requests for Clarification Posted	February 24, 2026
Deadline for Submission of Applications NOTE: Applications must be <u>RECEIVED</u> by HHSC by this deadline, if not changed by subsequent Addenda, to be considered eligible.	March 11, 2026, by 10:30 a.m. Central Time
Anticipated Notice of Award	August 1, 2026
Anticipated Project Start Date	September 1, 2026



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services



Solicitation Access

HHSC will post all official communication regarding this RFA on the following website, including the notice of award:

- The HHS Grants website is located at <https://apps.hhs.texas.gov/pcs/rfa.cfm>

HHSC reserves the right to cancel this RFA or to make no award if it determines such action is in the best interest of the State.

HHSC may, in its discretion, reject any and all Applications or portions thereof.



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services



Sole Point of Contact

- All communications relating to this RFA must be directed in writing to **Julia Solis**, Sole Point of Contact, at julia.solis@hhs.texas.gov.
- All communications between Applicants and HHSC staff members, or any other HHS staff members, concerning this RFA are **strictly prohibited**.
- Failure to comply with these requirements may result in Application disqualification.



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services



Executive Summary of Program

- The Texas Nurse-Family Partnership (TNFP) program is a community-based program that provides home visiting services to expectant mothers, partnering them with trained nurses from pregnancy through the child's second birthday.
- The purpose of TNFP program is to improve maternal and child health, child development, and family economic self-sufficiency outcomes for participating families.



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services



Available Funding

- The total amount of federal and State funding available for the TNFP grant program is **\$134,480,753.00** for the entire Project Period.
- It is HHSC's intention to make multiple awards to Applicants that successfully demonstrate the ability to provide Nurse-Family Partnership programming in the State of Texas.
- HHSC estimates the total amount of funding for the TNFP program is \$17,930,767.00 per State fiscal year.
- Annual awards per individual Grant Agreement typically range between \$500,000.00 and \$2,000,000.00.
- HHSC estimates the value of the RFA based on the stated annual amount multiplied by five years, plus an additional 50% to allow for any potential increases in funding during the Project Period.



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Grant Term

- Anticipated Project Start Date: **September 1, 2026**
- Project End Date: **August 31, 2031**
- **Extension of Project Period:** HHSC may, at its sole discretion, extend the Project Period for up to one (1) year to allow for the full expenditure of awarded funding and completion of Grant activities. The Grant Term may not exceed six (6) years.



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services



Eligible Applicants

To be considered an Applicant eligible for evaluations, Applicant must meet the following minimum requirements:

- Applicant must be a nonprofit entity as described by Chapter 22 of the Texas Business Organization Code, governmental entity, public or private entity, including counties, municipalities, or other political subdivisions of the State.
- Applicant must submit a complete Application by the date identified as the “Deadline for Submission of Applications,” established at RFA **Section 7.1, Schedule of Events**.



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services



Eligible Activities

- The primary focus of the TNFP program is to provide Nurse-Family Partnership programming to expectant mothers and their families until the child's second birthday. Each Applicant must include provision of the Nurse-Family Partnership program as its primary service.
- Using clinical skills and nursing expertise, Nurse-Family Partnership nurse home visitors provide support and preventative care; assess mothers and infants for signs of health or developmental concerns during pregnancy, the postpartum period, infancy, and early childhood; work with parents to enhance parenting skills; and connect parents to resources and supports needed for the family's and child's optimal health and well-being in infancy and during the child's first two years.



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services



Eligible Activities Continued

Primary services under a TNFP grant award are those that are required by and guided through the Nurse-Family Partnership model and include:

- Nurse home visiting;
- Parent education and support;
- Screening and assessment; and
- Any other services required by the Nurse-Family Partnership model.



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services



Eligible Activities Continued

Supplemental services and activities are related to participants engaging in and benefitting from primary Nurse-Family Partnership programming and could include, but are not limited to:

- A. Support groups;
- B. Lactation consultation;
- C. Mental health supports, including stress management;
- D. Infant and early childhood mental health consultation;
- E. Tobacco cessation support;
- F. Behavioral health support;
- G. Financial wellness and literacy support;
- H. Basic needs support;
- I. Coordinated referrals and service connections; and
- J. Coordinated case management.

Any supplemental activities provided must enhance primary home visiting activities and cannot interfere with a program's ability to meet Grant Agreement and model requirements.



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services



Program Requirements

- All Grant Projects funded under this RFA must meet the program requirements in RFA **Section 2.6, Program Requirements**.
- Grantees must provide Nurse-Family Partnership programming and services as required by the Grant Agreement to the eligible population in the specified service area.
- Grantees must ensure competent and effective service provision and implement quality programming to meet program goals and objectives.
- Grantees must implement Nurse-Family Partnership programming with fidelity to the model, according to Nurse-Family Partnership requirements and standards as specified by the national model developer.



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services



Program Requirements

- Participation in TNFP programming and services must be voluntary and free of charge to Participants.
- Grantees may identify focus populations within the eligible service population for particular outreach or tailored support. Examples might include expecting adolescents or expecting mothers with substance use concerns. However, programs must make services known and accessible to all eligible families in the service area and no eligible families may be excluded or waitlisted for services if program capacity allows for service provision.
- Grantees must engage with a local or regional coalition that supports improvement in service coordination and outcomes related to maternal health or early childhood development and well-being.



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services



Grantee Partnerships

- TNFP Grantees are encouraged to partner with other relevant service providers in the service area to benefit participant families through coordinated referrals, access to services, and program awareness and outreach.
- TNFP Grantees are encouraged to partner with any local Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC), Early Childhood Intervention (ECI), and Thriving Texas Families (TTF) affiliates, along with other providers relevant to expectant parents and families with infants and young children.



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services



Application Requirements

- Applicants must conduct a Community Strengths and Needs Assessment (CSNA) for their proposed service area and provide a summary of their CSNA. Refer to RFA **Section 2.6.1, CSNA.**
- Applicants must describe their experience implementing and administering similar programs, including how they meet organizational qualifications. Refer to RFA **Section 2.6.2, Organizational Qualifications and Experience.**
- Applicants must describe current community partnerships and experience in connecting with other agencies and stakeholders to benefit expecting parents and families with infants and young children. Refer to **Form F, Program Narrative.**



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services



Application Requirements

- Applicants must develop and provide a staffing plan to ensure successful implementation of the Nurse-Family Partnership program and ability to meet program and grant requirements. Refer to RFA **Section 2.6.3, Program Staffing Requirements.**
- Applicants must describe outreach and recruitment plans and strategies to connect to eligible families and plans to promote participant retention. Refer to RFA **Section 2.6.4, Recruitment, Outreach, and Retention.**
- Applicants must describe plans for community and systems-level engagement and should outline any plans for connecting to and collaborating with other FHS grantees and providers within the proposed service area. Refer to RFA **Section 2.6.9, Community and Systems Engagement Requirements.**



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services



Application Requirements

- Applicants that have any existing HHSC grants or contracts must describe performance on these as well as any identified performance issues. Refer to **Form F, Program Narrative**.
- Applicants that do not already implement a Nurse-Family Partnership program must attach a letter of feasibility determination from the Nurse-Family Partnership national office and label as **Attachment F-1, Letter of Feasibility Determination**. Refer to Form F, Program Narrative.



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services



Program Requirements

- Grantees must have a documented process for conducting intakes and enrollments, including how the family's individual eligibility is determined. Refer to **RFA Section 2.6.5, Service Authorization and Enrollment.**
- Applicants must outline how referrals to other services or providers are documented, tracked, and supported. Refer to **RFA Section 2.6.6, Referrals.**
- Grantees must administer participant surveys as required by the Nurse-Family Partnership model and other surveys required by HHSC. Refer to **RFA Section 2.6.7, Program Surveys.**
- Applicants must describe the process for service completion and discharge. Refer to **RFA Section 2.6.8, Service Completion.**
- Grantees must maintain service documentation and participant records to reflect details of required programming and services and to support programmatic efforts and improvements. Refer to **RFA Section 2.6.10, Required Recordkeeping.**



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services



Required Reports

- HHSC will monitor Grantee performance, including, but not limited to, through review of financial and programmatic reports and Performance Measures, under any Grant Agreement awarded as a result of this RFA.
- Grantees must submit quarterly reports to HHSC regarding implementation efforts, achievements, challenges, and other issues relevant to performance.
- Grantees are required to enter data pertaining to participant enrollments, service activities, and program activities in the Prevention and Early Intervention Reporting System (PEIRS).
- Grantee must submit an invoice and purchase voucher in PEIRS monthly, no later than 30 calendar days following the month in which expenses were incurred or services provided.



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services



Required Reports Continued

- Grantee shall provide all applicable reports in the format specified by HHSC in an accurate, complete, and timely manner and shall maintain appropriate supporting backup documentation.
- Failure to comply with submission deadlines for required reports or other requested information may result in HHSC, in its sole discretion, placing Grantee on financial hold without first requiring a corrective action plan in addition to pursuing any other corrective or remedial actions under the Grant Agreement.
- Refer to RFA **Section 2.7, Required Reports.**



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services



TNFP Performance Measures

Refer to RFA **Section 2.8, Performance Measures and Monitoring.**

Output and Outcome Measures Defined	Required Outputs and Outcomes
Output 1: Expected number of families served monthly.	Applicant will propose the number of families served monthly.
Output 2: Expected number of families served annually.	Applicant will propose the number of families served annually.
Output 3: Percentage of families who remain engaged in the program for a minimum of one (1) year.	50%
Output 4: Percentage of primary caregivers who complete program experience surveys.	50%
Output 5: Grantee will participate in a local early childhood coalition.	Regular participation demonstrated in reporting.
Outcome 1: Percentage of mothers who breastfeed for at least six (6) months postpartum.	20%
Outcome 2: Percentage of children who attend recommended well child visits.	80%
Outcome 3: Percentage of primary caregivers and/or family members who read, tell stories, or sing songs daily with their child.	80%
Outcome 4: Percentage of primary caregivers who report satisfaction with services (agree/strongly agree responses) in at least one (1) domain of completed Program Experience Surveys.	80%
Outcome 5: Percentage of Index Children who remain Safe while receiving programming.	100%
Outcome 6: Percentage of primary caregiver(s) who demonstrate progress toward financial stability, through education or employment.	20%



Prohibitions

Grant funds may not be used to support the following services, activities, or costs:

- Any use of grant funds to replace (supplant) funds that have been budgeted for the same purpose through non-grant sources;
- Inherently religious activities such as prayer, worship, religious instruction, or proselytization;
- Lobbying or advocacy activities with respect to legislation or to administrative changes to regulations or administrative policy (cf. 18 U.S.C. § 1913), whether conducted directly or indirectly;
- Any portion of the salary of, or any other compensation for, an elected or appointed government official;
- Vehicles for general agency use; to be allowable, vehicles must have a specific use related to Project objectives or activities;



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services



Prohibitions Continued

- Entertainment, amusement, or social activities and any associated costs, including, but not limited to, admission fees or tickets to any amusement park, recreational activity, or sporting event unless such costs are incurred for components of a program approved by the grantor agency and are directly related to the program's purpose;
- Costs of promotional items and memorabilia, including models, gifts, and souvenirs;
- Food, meals, beverages, or other refreshments, except for eligible per diem associated with grant-related travel, where pre-approved for working events, or where such costs are incurred for components of a program approved by the grantor agency and are directly related to the program's purpose;



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Prohibitions Continued

- Membership dues for individuals in any civic or community organization, except when preapproved by HHSC, required for program implementation, and in accordance with 2 CFR § 200.454;
- Any expense or service that is readily available at no cost to the Grant Project;
- Any activities related to fundraising;
- Any allocation of grant funds to individuals that do not meet the requirements outlined in RFA Section 2.3, Eligible Population;



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services



Prohibitions Continued

- Equipment and other capital expenditures, such as capital improvements, property losses and expenses, real estate purchases, mortgage payments, remodeling, the acquisition or construction of facilities, or other items that are unallowable pursuant to 2 CFR 200.439;
- Any other prohibition imposed by federal, State, or local law; and
- Other unallowable costs as listed under TxGMS, Appendix 7, Selected Items of Cost Supplement Chart and/or 2 CFR 200, Subpart E – Cost Principles, General Provisions for Selected Items of Cost, where applicable.
- Refer to RFA **Section 5.3, Grant Funding Prohibitions.**



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services



Submission of Forms and Exhibits

Applicants must complete and submit Forms A through G and Exhibits A through L in accordance with the RFA, **Section XIII, Submission Checklist.**



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services



Evaluation Process

HHSC uses a three-step selection process, as outlined in the RFA, **Section 9.1, Overview**:

1. Application screening to determine whether Applicant meets the minimum requirements of this RFA;
2. Evaluation based upon specific criteria; and
3. Final selection based upon State priorities and other relevant factors, as outlined in **Section 10.1, Final Selection**.



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services



Specific Selection Criteria

HHSC will evaluate and score Applications in accordance with the following scoring criteria using Exhibit H, Evaluation Tool.

Scoring Criteria: Qualified Applications will be evaluated based upon:

- A. Experience (30%);
- B. Community Engagement (30%); and
- C. Project Design (40%).

Refer to RFA **Section 9.4, Evaluation Criteria.**



Required Submission Method

Applicants must submit their completed Applications by the Deadline for Submission of Applications provided in RFA **Section 7.1, Schedule of Events**, or subsequent Addenda, using one (1) of the approved methods identified in RFA **Section 8.3, Required Submission Method**.

Applications submitted by any other method (e.g., facsimile) will not be considered and will be disqualified



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services



Required Submission Method Continued

Submission Option #1 HHS Online Bid Room: Applicants shall upload the following documents to the Online Bid Room utilizing the procedures in Exhibit G, HHS Online Bid Room Information. (File Size Limitation: Restriction to 250MB per file attachment.)

1. One (1) copy marked as "Original Application" that contains Applicant's entire Application in a Portable Document Format (".pdf") file.
2. One (1) copy of the completed Exhibit F, Requested Budget Template, in its original Excel format.
3. One (1) copy of the complete Application marked as "Public Information Act Copy," if applicable, in accordance with RFA **Section 12.1, Texas Public Information Act-Application Disclosure Requirements**, in a Portable Document Format (".pdf") file.



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services



Required Submission Method Continued

Submission Option #2 Sealed Package with USB Drives: Applicants shall submit each of the following on separate USB drives:

1. One (1) USB drive with the complete Application file marked as "Original Application" in a Portable Document Format (".pdf") file. Include the USB in a separate envelope within the sealed Application package and mark the USB and envelope with "Original Application." USB drive must include the completed Exhibit F, Requested Budget Template, in its original Excel format.
2. One (1) USB drive with a copy of the complete Application file marked as "Public Information Act Copy," if applicable and in accordance with Section 12.1, Texas Public Information Act-Application Disclosure Requirements. The copy must be in a Portable Document Format (".pdf") file. Include the USB in a separate envelope within the sealed package and mark the USB and envelope with "Public Information Act Copy" or "PIA Copy."
3. Sealed packages must be clearly labeled with the following:
 - a. RFA number;
 - b. RFA title;
 - c. Deadline for submission of Applications;
 - d. Sole Point of Contact's name; and
 - e. Applicant's legal name.



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services



Required Submission Method Continued

Applicants are solely responsible for ensuring the USB drives are submitted in sealed packaging that is sufficient to prevent damage to contents and delivered by U.S. Postal Service, overnight or express mail, or via hand delivery to the addresses below. No HHS agency will be responsible or liable for any damage

Overnight/Express/Priority Mail	Hand Delivery
Health and Human Services Commission ATTN: Julia Solis Tower Building Room 108 1100 W. 49th St., MC 2020 Austin, Texas 78756	Health and Human Services Commission ATTN: Julia Solis Procurement & Contracting Services Building 1100 W. 49th St., MC 2020 Austin, Texas 78756



Questions and Answers

All questions **must** be submitted in writing to the Sole Point of Contact using the formatting below from the RFA, **Section 7.3, RFA Questions and Requests for Clarification:**

- A. RFA number;
- B. Section or paragraph number from the Solicitation;
- C. Page number of the Solicitation;
- D. Exhibit or other attachment and section or paragraph number from the exhibit or other attachment;
- E. Page number of the exhibit;
- F. Language, topic, and section heading being questioned; and
- G. Question.

Submit via email to julia.solis@hhs.texas.gov by **10:30 a.m. on February 17, 2026.** 



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Question Deadline

- Questions are due by **10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, February 17, 2026.**
- HHSC will not respond to questions received after this deadline.
- An Addendum will be posted to the HHS Grants Website with the answers to questions **on or after February 24, 2026.**



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services



Closing Comments

- Applicants are responsible for meeting the RFA requirements, including any Addendums.
- All Addendums must be signed and submitted with the original Application.
- Applicants must check the HHS Grants website frequently for any Addendums that may have been added to this solicitation.



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

HHS Grants Website

Access at the following link: <https://resources.hhs.texas.gov/rfa>





TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Thank you!

Request for Applications No. HHS0016568

Texas Nurse-Family Partnership (TNFP) Program

