

# **Pre-application Technical Assistance for Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 R40 Maternal and Child Health Research Program Funding Opportunity Announcement**

**Romuladus Azuine, DrPH**

**Robin Harwood, PhD**

**Division of Research, Office of Epidemiology and Research**

**Maternal and Child Health Bureau**

**Health Resources and Services Administration**

**U.S. Department of Health and Human Services**

**July 14, 2016**

# Presenters



**Robin Harwood, PhD**  
Health Scientist  
Division of Research



**Romuladus E. Azuine, DrPH, MPH, RN**  
Public Health Analyst / Health Scientist  
Division of Research

# Presentation Outline

- Grant Name Changes
- Eligibility
- Summary of Funding Opportunities
- Application Due Dates & Times
- Eligibility Requirements
- Program Narrative
- Performance Measures
- Budget
- Review Criteria
- Program Contacts
- Questions & Answers



# Name Changes

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- **Name Changes**

- R40 MCH Research (MCHR) grant is now called R40 MCH Field-Initiated Research Studies (FIRST)
- R40 MCH Secondary Data Analysis Studies (SDAS) grant is now called R40 MCH Secondary Data Analysis Research (SDAR)

# MCH Research Program - Overview

- The R40 Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Extramural Research program advances the health and wellbeing of maternal and child populations through applied and translational research on critical issues affecting MCH through the implementation of two unique research programs.



- ❖ *Supports research on Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) /Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB) program populations, and strategically ties to HRSA/MCHB investments and programs.*

# Authorization

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- **The R40 MCH Extramural Research Program is authorized by Title V, § 501(a)(2); 42 U.S.C. 701(a)(2) of the Social Security Act, as amended.**
  - A component of the Special Projects of Regional and National Significance (SPRANS).
  - Findings expected to strengthen and expand topics addressed by the new MCH Block Grant National Performance Measures and priority areas and populations.

# Two Grant Competitions, One Announcement

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- The R40 MCH Extramural Research program Funding Opportunity Announcement solicits applications for two (2) separate competitions.
  1. **HRSA-17-011:** R40 MCH Field-Initiated Research Studies (FIRST) to be funded for three years, pending availability of funds; and
  2. **HRSA-17-012:** R40 MCH Secondary Data Analysis Research (SDAR) to be funded for one year, pending availability of funds.

# HRSA-17-011: R40 MCH Field-Initiated Research Studies (FIRST)

- Supports innovative, translational, and applied research on critical issues affecting MCH, including services for children with special health care needs.
  - Research should advance current knowledge pool, and when implemented in States and communities, should result in health and health services improvements.
  - Demonstrate rigorous scientific methods and address at least 1 of the 4 MCHB strategic research issues.
  - Studies to strengthen and expand topics addressed by the new MCH Block Grant National Performance measures and priority areas and populations they serve.

# R40 MCH FIRST Continued.

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- **R40 MCH FIRST will provide funding for 3 years April 1, 2017 – March 31, 2020.**
  - Funds six (6) recipients annually for 3-year project period.
  - Award ceiling amount up to \$300,000 per year total costs.
  - Subsequent year funding is dependent upon satisfactory performance, availability of funding, and continued interests of the government.

# HRSA-17-012: R40 MCH Secondary Data Analysis Research (SDAR)

- Supports applied MCH research that exclusively utilizes secondary analysis of existing national databases and/or administrative records. Provides funding for 1 year: April 1, 2017 – March 31, 2018. Generally, funded studies:
  - have potential to improve health services and delivery of care for MCH populations;
  - address at least 1 of 4 MCHB strategic research issues; and
  - strengthen and expand topics addressed by the new MCH Block Grant National Performance measures and priority areas, and populations.

# R40 MCH SDAR Continued

- **R40 MCH Secondary Data Analysis Research (SDAR) program will provide funding for one year, April 1, 2017 – March 31, 2018.**
  - Funds 10 recipients for one federal fiscal year.
  - Award ceiling amount up to \$100,000 per year total costs.
  - Funding is dependent on appropriation of funds, performance, and continued interests of the government.

# Is My Proposal A Good Fit?

- In general, proposals of good fit for the two FOAs should demonstrate rigor, innovation, and alignment(s) with:
  - Each grant program's goals and objectives
  - MCH strategic research issues
  - Title V National Performance Domains
  - Relevant and applicable Healthy People 2020 goals
  - Review the FAQs

# Eligibility Requirements: Institutions

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- **Public or nonprofit institutions of higher learning and public or private nonprofit agencies engaged in research or in programs relating to MCH and/or services for children with special health care needs.**
  - Faith-based and community-based organizations, Tribes, and tribal organizations, if they otherwise meet the eligibility criteria.
  - Non-U.S. entities are not eligible to apply.
  - Cost sharing/matching is not required.

# Eligibility: Suspension & Debarment (S&D)

- An Organization that is suspended, debarred, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from eligibility for covered transactions by any Federal department or agency cannot, during the period of suspension, debarment, or exclusion, receive HHS grants or be paid from HHS grant funds.
  - S&D restrictions apply to R40 FIRST and R40 SDAR
  - S&D status will be checked through SAM.gov

# Eligibility Requirements: Investigators

- **A Principal Investigator (PI) cannot have two (2) R40 MCH Extramural Research grants (SDAR and FIRST) in effect simultaneously.**

## **Restrictions include:**

- The PI of a currently ongoing MCH Research award can serve for no more than 10 percent time on a new proposal.
- A PI must wait 3 years before applying for a grant to follow longitudinally the population used in a previous R40 grant.
- The R40 SDAR grant does not fund analysis of secondary data previously collected by the applicant team.
- The R40 MCH FIRST grant does not fund secondary data analysis or analysis of multiple datasets that require linkage or integration.
- The SDAR and FIRST programs do not fund projects on autism; there will be an R40 Autism Research FOA announced this winter.

# Eligibility: Investigators Continued

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- An individual cannot be named as the PI in multiple applications for the R40 MCH FIRST or the R40 MCH SDAR competitions.
- An individual cannot be named as PI on an R40 MCH FIRST and R40 MCH SDAR application simultaneously (i.e., an individual can only be named PI once for this entire FOA).
- All applications that do not comply with these requirements will be deemed non-responsive, and will not be considered for funding under this announcement.

# Eligibility: Suspension and Debarment

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- **An individual who is suspended, debarred, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from eligibility for covered transactions by any Federal department or agency cannot, during the period of suspension, debarment, or exclusion, receive HHS grants or be paid from HHS grant funds.**
  - S & D restrictions apply to R40 FIRST and R40 SDAR
  - S&D will be checked through SAM.gov

# Application: First Things First!

- **Registration with SAM.GOV and GRANTS.GOV is very important and required for submitting your application for these competitions. These are mandatory.**
  - If you have accounts, ensure your **SAM.gov** and **Grants.gov** registrations and passwords are current immediately!
  - If not, register with SAM.gov and Grants.gov.
  - Registrations may take up to one month to complete.
  - Deadline extensions are not granted for lack of registration.

# Application Process – Electronic Submission

- Applications to this FOA must be submitted electronically through Grants.GOV. There are no exceptions.
- Applications must be complete, within the specified page limit, and validated by Grants.gov under the correct funding opportunity number prior to the deadline to be considered under the announcement.
- Download SF-424 Research and Related (R&R) application package associated with this FOA following the directions provided at Grants.gov.
- Contact the Grants.GOV support center for assistance in downloading the application package.
- **Familiarize yourself with SAM.Gov and Grants.Gov and obtain all the requirements that you need to make an application.**

# Application Process - SAM.GOV

[View assistance for SAM.gov](#)



**SAM**<sup>SM</sup>  
SYSTEM FOR AWARD MANAGEMENT

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### CREATE USER ACCOUNT

Your CCR username will not work in SAM. You will need a new SAM User Account to register or update your entity records. You will also need to create a SAM User Account if you are a government official and need to create Exclusions or search for FOUO information.

[Create User Account](#)

### REGISTER/UPDATE ENTITY

You can register your Entity (business, individual, or government agency) to do business with the Federal Government. If you are interested in registering or updating your Entity, you must first create a user account.

[Register/Update Entity](#)

**New!** Use the SAM Status Tracker to: [Check Status](#)

### SEARCH RECORDS

All entity records from CCR/FedReg and ORCA and exclusion records from EPLS, active or expired, were moved to SAM. You can search these records and new ones created in SAM. If you are a government user logged in with your SAM user account, you will automatically have access to FOUO information.

[Search Records](#)

[WHAT IS SAM?](#) [Need Help?](#)

The **System for Award Management** (SAM) is the Official U.S. Government system that consolidated the capabilities of CCR/FedReg, ORCA, and EPLS. There is NO fee to register for this site. Entities may register at no cost directly from this page. User guides and webinars are available under the Help tab.

[NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS](#)[USER GUIDES/HELPFUL HINTS](#)[ATTENTION EXTRACT AND WEB SERVICE USERS](#)

# Application Process - GRANTS.GOV

The screenshot shows the Grants.gov website with a dark blue header. The logo 'GRANTS.GOV' is on the left, and navigation links for 'MANAGE SUBSCRIPTIONS', 'REGISTER', and 'LOGIN' are on the right. A search bar contains 'Grant Opportunities' and 'Enter Keyword...'. Below the header is a menu with options: HOME, LEARN GRANTS, SEARCH GRANTS, APPLICANTS, GRANTORS, SYSTEM-TO-SYSTEM, FORMS, OUTREACH, and SUPPORT.

The main content area features a large image of the US Capitol building. On the left, there is a section titled 'About Grants.gov' with a 'Learn more about Grants.gov' button. On the right, there is a 'Grants.gov Updates' section with several news items, including a 'Grants.gov Scheduled Maintenance Outage' for September 19-21, 2015.

Below the main image, there is a section titled 'Find Open Grant Opportunities' with buttons for 'NEWEST OPPORTUNITIES', 'BROWSE CATEGORIES', 'BROWSE AGENCIES', and 'BROWSE ELIGIBILITIES'. A table of grant opportunities is displayed below these buttons.

Funding Opportunity Number	Opportunity Title	Agency
RFA-367-15-000002	Health and Hygiene Activity	Nepal USAID-Kathmandu
CDC-RFA-PS14-141202CONT16	World Health Organization: Expanding Efforts and Strategies to Prevent and Control TB Including Multidrug-Resistant TB, and TB in Vulnerable Populations	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
N00014-15-R-SN16	Stand-Off and Remote Improvised Explosive Device Detection and Neutralization	Office of Naval Research

# Application Page Limits

- **Total 80 page limit, includes all attachments. Only Standard OMB-approved forms (application package) are not included in this page limit and others as specified in FOA.**
- **Section C. Methodology/Research Strategy/Work Plan/Approach:**
  - Limited to 12 pages in length for R40 MCH FIRST (HRSA-17-011)\*
  - Limited to 6 pages in length for R40 MCH SDAR (HRSA-17-012)\*
- **\*Applications that exceed these page limits will be deemed non-responsive and will not be considered for funding.**
- **Font/Margin requirements: See SF-424 R&R Application Guide:**
  - <http://www.hrsa.gov/grants/apply/applicationguide/sf424rrguide.pdf>

# Project Narrative

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- **A. Introduction: applies to resubmissions only**
- **B. Specific Aims**
- **C. Methodology/Research Strategy (important page limits)**
- **D. Impact and Dissemination**
- **E. Organizational Information/Environment**
- **F. Feasibility**
- **G. Evaluation and Technical Support Capacity**
- **H. Protection of Human Subjects and Data Security**
- **Targeted/Planned Enrollment**

# Budget

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- **Indirect cost rate:** each applicant organization has an indirect cost rate negotiated with HHS. Check with your sponsored programs office.
- **HRSA-16-011 (FIRST):** Cap of \$300,000 total cost/year for up to 3 years.
- **HRSA-16-012 (SDAR):** Cap of \$100,000 total cost for one year
- **Funding restriction:** foreign travel is not allowed
- **Budget Justification**

# Other Information

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- **Abstract**
- **Staffing Plan:** include in budget justification: personnel costs
- **Biographical Sketches of Key Personnel**
- **Attachments:**
  - Letters of Agreement/Support
  - Key Publications/Condensed citations
  - Surveys, Questionnaires, Data Collection Instruments
  - Explanation on Delinquent Federal debt, if applicable
  - Proof of Non-profit status
  - Other Relevant Documents

# Important Changes to R40 FOA

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- **Alignment with new MCH Block Grant National Performance Measures and priority areas (see Appendix A in FOA)**
- **Each Narrative Section aligns with a single Review Criteria**

# MCH Block Grant National Performance Measures and Priority Areas

No.	National Performance Measures	MCH National Performance Priority Areas
1.	Well-Woman Visits and Preconception/Interconception Health	Maternal Health
2.	Low-Risk Cesareans	Maternal Health
3.	Breastfeeding	Perinatal and Infant Health
4.	Perinatal Regionalization	Perinatal and Infant Health
5.	Safe Sleep	Perinatal and Infant Health
6.	Developmental Screening	Child Health
7.	Injury Prevention	Child Health
8.	Physical Activity	Child Health
9.	Adolescent Well-Visits and Preventive Services	Adolescent Health

# MCH Block Grant National Performance Measures and Priority Areas continued

No.	National Performance Measures	MCH National Performance Priority Areas
10.	Bullying	Adolescent Health
11.	Medical Home	Children with Special Health Care Needs
12.	Transition to Adulthood	Children with Special Health Care Needs
13.	Oral Health	Cross-Cutting/Life Course
14.	Smoking	Cross-Cutting/Life Course
15.	Adequate Insurance Coverage	Cross-Cutting/Life Course

## Background Readings

Lu, MC, Lauver, CB, Dykton, C, Kogan, MD et al. Transformation of the Title V Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant. *Maternal and Child Health Journal* 2015; 19(5): 927-931.

Kogan, MD, Dykton, C, Hirai, AH, Strickland, BB et al. A New Performance Measurement System for Maternal and Child Health in the United States. *Maternal and Child Health Journal* 2015; 19(5): 945–957.

# Submission Deadline

- **All applications are due on: 11:59 PM ET, August 19, 2016**
- Apply days before the deadline.
- Extensions are not allowed.
- Sign-up for alerts on Grants.gov
- **Submit your application to correct announcement number**
  - HRSA-17-011 –MCH FIRST
  - HRSA-17-012 – SDAR



# Review of Applications

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- **HRSA has instituted procedures to provide for an objective scientific review of applications.**
- Procedures allow for independent assessment of the scientific merit and potential impact of applications.
- Applications are reviewed by HRSA's Division of Independent Review using rigorous peer-review mechanisms.
- Applicants should understand the standards of evaluation and follow these as guidelines while preparing applications.

# Review Criteria

Criteria	Description	Evaluative Points
Criterion 1	Need	10 points
Criterion 2	Response	20 points
Criterion 3	Evaluative Measures	20 points*
Criterion 4	Impact	20 points**
Criterion 5	Resources/Capabilities	10 points
Criterion 6	Support Requested	10 points
Criterion 7	Program Assurances	10 points

These criteria are the basis upon which reviewers will evaluate the application during objective review.

*\*Previously 30 points*

*\*\*Previously 10 points*

# Crosswalk between Narrative and Review Criteria

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- **Critical indicators have been developed for each review criterion to assist the applicant in presenting pertinent information related to that criterion and to provide the reviewer with a standard for evaluation.**
- Crosswalk between narrative and review criteria assists applicants to submit applications that address each of the standards for evaluation.

# Crosswalk between Narrative and Review Criteria

Criteria	Corresponding Program Narrative Section
1: Need	Section B - Specific Aims: Needs and Alignment
2: Response	Sections B - Specific Aims: Goals and Hypotheses; and Section C - Methodology/Research Strategy: Significance
3: Evaluative Measures	Section C - Methodology/Research Strategy: Work Plan/Approach
4: Impact	Section C - Methodology/Research Strategy: Scientific Innovation and Importance; Section D - Impact and Dissemination

# Crosswalk between Narrative and Review Criteria

Review Criteria	Corresponding Program Narrative Section
5: Resources/Capabilities	Section E – Organizational Information /Environment Staffing Plan in Budget Narrative; Biographical Sketches
6: Support Requested	Budget and Budget Justification
7: Program Assurances	Section F - Feasibility; Section G - Evaluation and Technical Support Capacity; Section H - Protection of Human Subjects; and Section I - Targeted/Planned Enrollment

# Outcome Notifications

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- All applicants will receive email notice regarding the outcome of their proposals as soon as HRSA makes final funding decisions. This should occur before the project start date of April 1, 2017.
- Review critique (summary statement) will be provided following the project start date of April 1, 2017.
- Outcome notification is sent to both the PI and Authorizing Official identified in the application. If you do not receive your outcome notification by April 1, 2017, please check with your Authorizing Official.

# Summary

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- Review the entire Funding Opportunity Announcement
- Review the eligibility requirements
- Get ready to apply
- Register with SAM.gov
- Familiarize yourself with Grants.gov
- Plan to apply early – do not wait for the last minute
- Program staff are here to assist

# Resources

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- [www.Grants.gov](http://www.Grants.gov)
- [www.Sam.gov](http://www.Sam.gov)
- Frequently Asked Questions
- [www.HRSA.gov](http://www.HRSA.gov)
- [www.mchb.hrsa.gov](http://www.mchb.hrsa.gov)
- [www.mchb.hrsa.gov/research](http://www.mchb.hrsa.gov/research)

# Contacts

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## Programmatic Questions

- Robin L. Harwood, Ph.D; [rharwood@hrsa.gov](mailto:rharwood@hrsa.gov)
- Romuladus E. Azuine, DrPH, MPH, RN; [RAzuine@hrsa.gov](mailto:RAzuine@hrsa.gov)

## Budget/Financial Questions

- Marc Horner, [mhorner@hrsa.gov](mailto:mhorner@hrsa.gov)

## Issues Downloading/Submitting Applications

- Grants.gov Support Center 1-800-518-4726  
E-mail: [support@grants.gov](mailto:support@grants.gov)



# Questions

