



Frequently Asked Questions

HRSA 19-061 Notice of Funding Opportunity

Innovations in Care Coordination for Children and Youth with Autism Spectrum Disorders and Other Developmental Disabilities Program

Technical Assistance Webinar Recording: [HERE](#)

- **Where can I find the Innovations in Care Coordination for Children and Youth with ASD/DD NOFO?**

To access and apply for the Innovations in Care Coordination for Children and Youth with ASD/DD, please visit www.grants.gov and search for the funding opportunity number, HRSA-19-061. Additionally, the NOFO is accessible on the Maternal and Child Health Bureau's Funding Announcement website, accessible [here](#).

- **Who is eligible to apply for this notice of funding opportunity (NOFO)?**

Eligible entities include any domestic public or private entity. Domestic faith-based and community-based organizations, tribes, and tribal organizations are also eligible to apply. Foreign entities and/or programs to support foreign populations are not eligible for this funding opportunity.

- **Are there states that are exempt from competing?**

There are no states that are exempt from competing.

- **Is it a requirement to be a former grant award recipient of the HRSA-16-048 or the HRSA-13-207 program to apply for this funding opportunity?**

It is not a requirement to be a former HRSA grant award recipient. Eligible entities include any domestic public or private entity. Domestic faith-based and community-based organizations, tribes, and tribal organizations are also eligible to apply.

- **Are the applicants submitting competitive continuation applications (current grantees) given preference for this funding opportunity?**

No, current grantees do not receive preference for this funding opportunity.

- **Is this funding opportunity solely for children with autism spectrum disorder? Is there a definition HRSA uses to define developmental disabilities?**

This funding opportunity is for programs that serve children with autism spectrum disorder and children with other developmental disabilities. HRSA does not have a specific definition to define developmental disabilities.

- **Do children that fail a developmental screen only in the language/communication area qualify as being at-risk for ASD/DD?**

For the purposes of this NOFO, children at-risk for ASD/DD are children who did not pass a developmental or autism-specific screening.

- **This funding opportunity serves children and families in medically underserved areas and populations. How is a medically underserved area or population defined for this NOFO? How can I identify medically underserved areas or populations in my state?**

For the purposes of this NOFO, medically underserved areas (MUAs) and medically underserved populations (MUPs) can be identified as geographic areas and populations with a lack of access to primary care services. MUPs are specific sub-groups of people living in a defined geographic area with a shortage of primary care health services. These groups may face economic, cultural, or linguistic barriers to health care. More information can be found at:

<https://bhw.hrsa.gov/shortage-designation/muap>. Populations that are deemed as a Governor's Exception Population are also eligible to apply. MUAs/MUAPs can be identified by the HRSA Data Portal: <https://data.hrsa.gov/hdw/Tools/DataPortal.aspx>.

- **Do the primary care sites have to be in medically underserved areas and populations?**

Per the NOFO, the primary care sites must SERVE children and families with/at risk for ASD/DD. There should be sufficient evidence to support that the target population served by the primary care sites serve MUAs/MUPs.

- **How does HRSA define a child at-risk for ASD/DD?**

At risk for ASD/DD can be defined as children who have been identified through primary care developmental surveillance as needing further screening or evaluation for ASD/DD.

- **Based upon the objectives, this NOFO emphasizes serving children under three years of age. Is it okay, if some of the children/families receiving family navigation services are older than three years of age?**

There is not a requirement per the NOFO to solely provide services to children under three years of age. But two of the objectives do focus on increasing the percentage of children under the age of three in receiving referrals for comprehensive evaluation screenings, enrollment into early intervention services and enrollment into community-based services. Applicants should provide methodology to support the achievement of all objectives outlined in the NOFO.

- **Will the minimum of 500 families identified to receive family navigation services in the targeted MUAs/MUPs need to have an autism diagnosis.**

The minimum of 500 families targeted to receive family navigation services do not need to have an ASD/DD diagnosis. The child should have an ASD/DD diagnosis OR be at-risk for ASD/DD.

- **Will the memoranda of understanding or agreements (MOU/MOA) need to be provided in the application, or can they be submitted post-award?**

A memoranda of understanding/agreement (MOU/MOA) should be included in the application to describe how the identified primary care sites will partner with the applicant in the implementation of family navigator services.

- **Can the primary care sites be in multiple states?**

The NOFO does not have a requirement that the primary care sites be only in one state.

- **What if the applicant is unable to meet the minimum of 500 families with children with/at risk for ASD/DD due to small population sizes in some of the MUAs/MUPs?**

Recognizing that some medically underserved communities may be very dispersed, if you are unable to meet the minimum of 500 children with/at risk ASD/DD combined at primary care sites, provide a justification of how you will otherwise serve at least 500 children with/at risk for ASD/DD. Please note, this could impact the review of your application.

- **Can children with other developmental disabilities be part of the 500 children in baseline?**

Applicants should identify a combined minimum of 500 families with/at risk for an autism spectrum disorder OR developmental disabilities in the targeted medically underserved areas and populations.

- **If the awarded entity is not awarded the full amount, does the stipulation of 500 families still apply?**

If there are funding changes once the awards are made, additional guidance will be provided.

- **Should the applicant recruit 500 the first year and then over the course of the project increase up to 25% more than 500?**

Yes, there should be an increase of a minimum of 25% over the four year period.

- **Are the 500 families receiving services across the 4 year period or annually?**

There should be a minimum of 500 families receiving services annually. The expectation is not for the same 500 families to receive services across the four year period.

- **Is there an area to find summaries of past awards and awardees? Or past proposals for this competition?**

Information on Autism CARES programs and previous evaluation reports can be found on the HRSA's Maternal and Child Health Website: <https://mchb.hrsa.gov/maternal-child-health-initiatives/autism>.

- **With only one grant per state being awarded, will the organization be required to provide services for all counties in the awarded state?**

The awarded entity will not be required to provide services to all counties in the awarded state.

- **Is it expected that the learning community be made up of the five primary care sites? Can it be open to a broader community of stakeholders, and/or determined via the grantee?**
- The learning community should consist of the five primary care sites. It should also include specialty and community-based providers, families, and other stakeholders that may serve children with/at risk for ASD/DD in the targeted medically-underserved areas and populations.
- **Can the money specifically fund salaries for speech language pathologists, occupational therapists, and applied behavioral analyst therapists to provide services?**

You may request funding for a period of performance of up to four years, at no more than \$372,000 per year. There are no funding restrictions prohibiting funding salaries for therapists. The purpose of this funding opportunity is to improve access to a coordinated and integrated care for children with/at-risk for ASD/DD. The budget should be reflective of the purpose of this NOFO. The reviewers will be assessing the reasonableness of the proposed budget in relation to the objectives of this NOFO.