Questions and Answers

From the STD PCHD Continuation Webinar

June 14, 2019

STD PCHD Funding

1. **Question: Will there be a funding table showing the year to year changes like there was for AAPPS? We aren't sure what that final target number will be.**

Answer: DSTDP is in the process of preparing five-year budget allocations to be released to recipients, similar to AAPPS. If you would like to know your project area's specific funding estimates for the purposes of program planning, please contact your project officer. Please be advised that all funding allocation estimates assume flat funding for all five years, and are subject to funding availability.

2. **Question: Can you please explain more about the funding formula. It now includes 2017, but we received a reduction in funding. If it was based on population and morbidity, neither of which went down for us.**

Answer: Five-year funding estimates for STD PCHD for 2019-2023 are based on finalized 2012-2016 data, and do not include 2017 data. Surveillance data from more recent time periods (e.g., 2017-2018) are not being used to determine funding allocation for current or future STD PCHD funding cycles.

3. **Question: Is there a plan to adjust the formula to consider newer data during the PCHD funding period, or will the 2012-2016 data be used throughout the 5 years?**

Answer: Five-year funding estimates for STD PCHD for 2019-2023 are based on finalized 2012-2016 data. Surveillance data from more recent time periods (e.g., 2017-2018) are not being used to determine funding allocation for current or future STD PCHD funding cycles.

4. **Question: If a project area's funding increased based on the new funding formula, is that increase also going to be applied incrementally each year or was it given all at once in Y1?**

Answer: Funding from year to year may be variable for project areas, based on the minimum funding floor and the 5% cap on funding decreases from year to year. Areas with increases or decreases in one year may not see the same change in subsequent years. Five year estimates are in the process of being released to support STD program planning. If you have any questions about your area's totals, please contact your project officer.

Enhanced Activities

5. **Question: If you do not submit a proposal for enhanced activities, does it preclude a state from applying for funds if they do become available?**

Answer: If recipients do not submit a proposal for enhanced activities, they **will not** be eligible to receive additional funding for these enhanced STD PCHD strategies in 2019, should it become available. However,

this does not preclude the release of supplemental or other funding opportunities for congressionally-specified priorities that fall outside the scope of core STD PCHD work.

6. **Question: Are there any restrictions on how the enhanced funding can be spent? In other words, can we spend on personnel lines or only non-personnel expenses?**

Answer: Funding for enhanced activities is limited to objectives and/or strategies in STD PCHD Strategy Area I: Surveillance and/or Strategy Area II: Conduct Disease Investigation and Intervention, and the budget narrative should reflect budget allocations directly related to proposed work. Both personnel and non-personnel costs can be incorporated into these proposed budgets. The budget narrative for these proposals should be at the same level of detail outlined in the CDC Budget Preparation Guidance, and are subject to the same restrictions outlined in the original NOFO language (p. 43).

PCHD Templates and Reporting

7. **Question: We attempted to "share" the excel work templates, but get error message "unprotected method of worksheet class fail", Are these templates not adaptable to the share workbook feature?**

Answer: In order to protect and maintain template functionality and navigation features, the ability to share workbooks or copy/move individual sheets has been disabled. We recognize that this does present limitations in collaboratively editing or commenting on in-progress Excel files. Due to the variety of Microsoft Office versions and unique IT configurations among applicants, we cannot recommend one particular solution, but potential workarounds include:

- Co-authoring template files through Microsoft OneDrive or SharePoint (To avoid compatibility issues in the web app, DSTDP recommends opening and editing these files in the Excel application)

- Having co-authors complete their portion of the template work plan in separate files, and copying & pasting content into a final merged file. Instructions on how to efficiently consolidate work plan templates have been added to the Excel Work Plan Template User Guide on the STD PCHD website.

- Contacting your Project Officer for an unlocked, Local-Use-Only version of the template to modify as a working version. Please note that unlocked templates will not be accepted as final versions; all final work plan content should be submitted in the locked template provided with your Continuation Materials (see the user guide above for tips of efficiently copying and pasting content from one workbook to another).

8. **Question: Should the TEP and the DMP be separate Grant Notes, or 1 note for both documents?**

Answer: Both documents can be submitted in Grant Solutions as **one** Grant Note in Grant Solutions. Both the TEP and DMP are due by June 30, 2019.

9. **Question: How can we access the online form for PPMR?**

Answer: The online PPMR form is available on the CDC Grants Page (https://www.cdc.gov/grants/index.html), under 'Already Have a CDC Grant?' subsection 'Reporting.' The link to the Annual Performance Progress and Monitoring Report (PPMR) is available under the Progress

Reports Section. The hyperlink to the fillable PDF form is listed below:
https://www.cdc.gov/grants/documents/Performance-Progress-and-Monitoring-Report-PPMR.pdf

10. Is there a formal NOFO available in the GrantSolutions?

Answer: The full text for CDC-RFA-PS19-1901: Strengthening STD Prevention and Control for Health Departments (STD PCHD) is not available in Grant Solutions, but is available online at Grants.gov (https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=304454)

Timely Pregnancy Ascertainment (TPA)

11. How do you define "not pregnant"? Date of last menses? Patient report, medical result? Field pregnancy test?

CDC is not recommending that project areas change the way they currently collect information on 'pregnant' or 'not pregnant' within their surveillance information systems. Many project areas already have guidance to address what the Program is willing to accept when denoting pregnancy status, and this likely differs depending on who is providing the information (e.g., a clinician's office, a case-patient during interview). If your program currently defers to the diagnosing provider to determine 'not pregnant,' it is reasonable at this time to continue doing so. CDC is not recommending that all women be pregnancy tested in order to confirm pregnancy status.