

# Getting to Know the Federal Government and Funding Opportunities

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# Webinar Overview and Objectives

In this webinar, we will:

- Introduce OMHRC and one of its initiatives called HETAP 2015 and some of the information which is relevant to today's webinar.
- Share information from 8 federal agencies including funding opportunities, future funding directions, and what writers can do to strengthen their applications for federal funds.
- Provide information and tools you can employ in conducting a tailored search for federal funding opportunities, agencies and topics which they focus upon.

# OMH Resource Center and HETAP-2015

- The **Office of Minority Health Resource Center** (OMHRC) provides technical assistance and capacity building services to health care agencies and organizations throughout the United States and its territories and jurisdictions.
- The **Higher Education Technical Assistance Program** (HE-TAP) was designed to work with Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs), including Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs).
- A training program of OMHRC, HETAP-2015 sought to help our nation's colleges and universities to become more competitive in securing resources and building partnerships to enhance their role and effectiveness in addressing minority health issues and furthering their research endeavors.

# HETAP Discussed Funding Availability and Resource Development Tips

In 2015, HETAP sponsored five regional trainings around the country. Representative agencies from the federal government participated. We asked each agency to describe:

- Agency Mission
- Strategic Plan
- Funding Opportunities
- Funding Direction



# Research Partners on the HETAP Federal Panels

A number of research oriented centers and initiatives with Federal agencies were highlighted during the HETAP-2015 Regional Trainings.

- National Institutes of Health (NIH),
  - National Libraries of Medicine (NLM)
  - NIH/National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)
- The US Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences (IES)
- National Science Foundation (NSF)

# HHS Federal *Research* Highlights: NIH

- The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has 27 Institutes and Centers.
- It is the nation's medical research agency—making important discoveries that improve health and save lives.
- HETAP sponsored three [National Institutes of Health](#) Institutes and Centers in the 2015 regional trainings. Two are featured in this webinar.
  - Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)
  - National Library of Medicine (NLM)
- Additional information on funding opportunities at NIH and its Institutes and Centers can be found at the **Office of Extramural Research (OER)**
  - NIH Funding Opportunities = <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/oer.htm>

# HHS Federal *Research* Highlights: NIH/National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)

**NICHD's Mission:** the NICHD focuses on women, children, and families.

**Sample Areas of NICHD Research Emphasis:** Infant mortality, reproductive and gynecological health, pediatric and maternal HIV/AIDS prevention, violence prevention.

- **Example of a NIH award category: NICHD-Academic Community Partnerships (R13):** Brings together academic institutions and community organizations to identify opportunities for addressing health disparities through the use of *Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR)*
- **Research Training and Career Development Path:** from institutional training grants to independent scientist awards.
- **Key Suggestions to Prospective Applicants:** Plan early, contact Project Officers, become familiar with the Institute's Strategic Plan, register in the required systems, know the Program priorities and Funding mechanisms, follow publications, participate in hosted conferences and seminars, use the NIHRePort, an online portfolio search tool (<http://report.nih.gov>).

# HHS Federal *Research* Highlights: NIH/National Library of Medicine (NLM)

**Funder's Mission:** NLM maintains and makes available information resources on a wide range of topics, supports and conducts research, development, and training in biomedical informatics and health information technology, and coordinates a National Network of Libraries of Medicine to increase access to health information in communities across the US.

- **Examples of NLM Health Disparity Research Emphasis:** Living Smartly with Diabetes: Using Patient Web Portals and Mobile Phones for Self-Management, Graphics to Enhance Health Education Materials for Underrepresented Populations, Implementing MedlinePlus Connect in Spanish to Address Health Disparities,
- **Example of a NIH award category: NLM Information Resource Grants to Reduce Health Disparities (G08):** Funds projects that will bring useful, usable health information to health disparity populations and the health care providers who care for those populations.
- **Research Training and Career Development Path:** An example is the NLM Mentored Career Development Award (K01) for Junior Investigators
- **Key Suggestions to Prospective Applicant: Learn About the NIH Grants Processes at** [http://grants.nih.gov/grants/grants\\_process.htm](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/grants_process.htm), prior to submission of application, *Learn how your application will be reviewed and write with your audience, the reviewers, in mind* (Link: <http://bit.ly/NIHGrantPeerReviewProcess> ), think about becoming a reviewer as this can make you a stronger applicant in the future. (Link: [How to become a reviewer: http://grants.nih.gov/grants/peer/becoming\\_peer\\_reviewer.htm](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/peer/becoming_peer_reviewer.htm).)

# Other Federal *Research* Highlights: National Science Foundation (NSF)

**Funder's Mission:** To promote the progress of science; to advance the national health, prosperity, and welfare; to secure the national defense.

- **Examples of Areas of NSF Research Emphasis:** support for all fields of fundamental science and engineering, *building the science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) workforce of tomorrow and a STEM literate public by improving STEM learning*
- **Examples of NSF Funding Areas:** Centers of Research Excellence in Science and Technology (CREST), Promoting Research and Innovation in Methodologies for Evaluation (PRIME), EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Improvement Program Track-3: Building Diverse Communities, Facilitating Research at Primarily Undergraduate Institutions: Research in Undergraduate Institutions (RUI) and Research Opportunity Awards (ROA)
- **Research Training and Career Development Path: Examples:** ADVANCE: Increasing the Participation and Advancement of Women in Academic Science and Engineering Careers, Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP), Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation (LSAMP), Dear Colleague Letter NSF 15-063: Announcement of Effort to Broaden the Participation of Students in Two-Year Hispanic Serving Institutions in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)
- **Key Suggestions to Prospective Applicants:** [National Science Foundation \(NSF\)](#): Search engine and e-mail notification system allowing end user to customize searches (notification when matches arise), for Funding Opportunities, please go to: [www.nsf.gov/funding](http://www.nsf.gov/funding), Broader Impacts: [www.nsf.gov/pubs/gpg/broaderimpacts.pdf](http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/gpg/broaderimpacts.pdf),

# Other Federal *Research* Highlights: Department of Education/Institute of Education Sciences (IES)

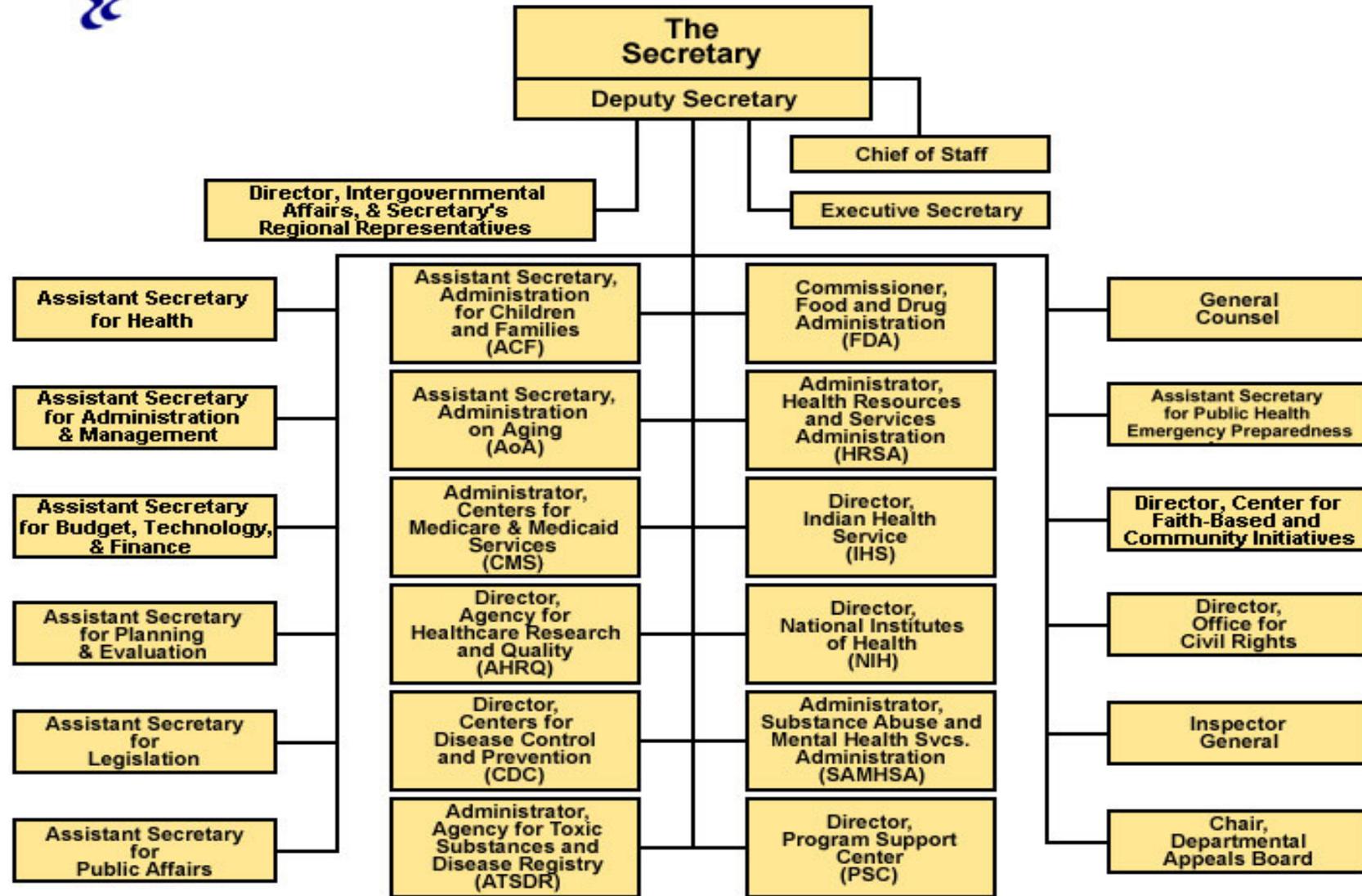
**Funder's Mission:** The [Institute of Education Sciences \(IES\)](#) is part of the [US Department of Education](#), a partner with HETAP since 2014. IES supports research that contributes to school readiness and improved academic achievement for all students, particularly those whose education prospects are hindered by inadequate education services and conditions.

- **Examples of Areas of IES Research Emphasis:** Main Grant Programs
  - 84.305A: Education Research Grants
  - 84.324A: Special Education Research Grants
- **Examples of IES Funding Opportunities:** *324A Special Education Research*
  - **Research Training and Career Development Path:** Training Grant Programs (84.305B & 84.324B), for example, Pathways to the Education Sciences Research Training Program
- **Key Suggestions to Prospective Applicants:** Find IES funding opportunities at <http://ies.ed.gov/funding> (**Note: FY16 RFAs are FYI only. FY17 RFAs will be announced in 2016** ), Discuss your ideas with a program officer, Email a synopsis and schedule a time for a call, MSIs are highly encouraged to apply for Education Research and Special Education Research grants and training grants, To receive emailed announcements about IES funding opportunities, sign up for the IES News Flash at <http://www.ies.ed.gov/newsflash/>.

# Non-Research Federal Partners on the HETAP Panels

A number of non-research program oriented Federal agencies were highlighted during the HETAP2015.

- Office of Minority Health (OMH),
- Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)



# Highlights from HHS: Office of Minority Health (OMH)

**Funder's Mission:** To improve the health of racial and ethnic minority populations through the development of health policies and programs that will help eliminate health disparities.

- **Examples of Areas of OMH Emphasis:** Translating core minority health and health disparities programs into strategic activities and policies at the federal, state, tribal, territorial, and local levels. Specific efforts directed to Blacks/African Americans, Hispanics/Latinos, American Indians/Alaska Natives, Asians/Pacific Islanders.
- **Examples of OMH Grant Programs and Cooperative Agreements:** Partnerships to Increase Coverage in Communities Initiative (PICC Initiative); Minority Youth Violence Prevention (MYVP) *Integrating Public Health and Community Policing Approaches*, American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) Health Disparities Program, Curbing HIV/AIDS Transmission Among High-Risk Minority Youth and Adolescents (CHAT).
- **Suggestions to Prospective Applicants:** Visit OMH's resources in the areas of cultural, health literacy, and linguistic competency tools, capacity building technical assistance to community and academic based organizations, up-to-date data on health disparity populations, and its Knowledge Center data base so helpful to researchers. Link to OMH resources at: [www.minorityhealth.hhs.gov](http://www.minorityhealth.hhs.gov)

# Highlights from HHS: Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

**Funder's Mission:** To improve health and achieve health equity through access to quality services, a skilled health workforce and innovative programs.

- **Examples of Areas of HRSA Program Emphasis:** Maternal Health, Community Health Centers, HIV/AIDS, Organ Donation, Workforce Development, Rural Health
- **Examples of HRSA Projects: Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program, Maternal and Child Health Secondary Data Analysis Studies (SDAS),**
- **Examples of Workforce Development/Strengthening Efforts:** Strengthen the Health Workforce: Native Hawaiian Scholarship Program; NURSE Corps Scholarship Program
- **Key Suggestions to Prospective Applicants: attention to addressing the Need section,** attention to incomplete data, **visit** HRSA's Grants Webpage at [www.hrsa.gov/grants](http://www.hrsa.gov/grants), registered with Grants.gov, watch out for missing or incorrect DUNS on application, renew SAM registration,

# Highlights from HHS: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

**Funder's Mission:** SAMHSA leads public health efforts to advance the behavioral health of the nation and reduce the impact of substance abuse and mental illness on America's communities.

- **Examples of Areas of SAMHSA Program Emphasis:** SAMHSA Strategic Initiatives help provide treatment and services for people with mental and substance use disorders, support the families of people with mental and substance use disorders, build strong and supportive communities, prevent costly behavioral health problems, and promote better health for all Americans.
- **Examples of SAMHSA Grant Programs:** [Statewide Consumer Network Program \(Consumer Network Grants\)](#), Primary And Behavioral Health Care Integration (PBHCI) RFA, MSI Partnership with Community-base Organizations Grant, Garrett Lee Smith Campus Suicide Prevention Program,
- **Suggestions to Prospective Applicants:** Funding announcements are posted online: [samhsa.gov/grants](http://samhsa.gov/grants) and [grants.gov](http://grants.gov), Sign up for SAMHSA email updates at [samhsa.gov](http://samhsa.gov), complete the registration requirements as soon as you know you want to apply for a grant, use agency contacts for each RFA, these are listed in the RFA.

# Highlights from Non HHS Federal Agencies: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

**Funder's Mission:** The mission of EPA is to protect human health and the environment. EPA's purpose is to ensure that: all Americans are protected from significant risks to human health and the environment where they live, learn and work.

- **Examples of Areas of EPA Program Emphasis:** climate change and improving air quality, protecting America's waters, cleaning up communities and advancing sustainable development, safety of chemicals and preventing pollution, enforcing environmental laws.
- Research Training and Career Development Path: Examples include: Research & Training & Fellowships, Greater Research Fellowships for Undergraduate Environmental Study
- **Examples of EPA Projects:** National Environmental Information Exchange Network Grant Program, College/Underserved Community Partnership Program, Health Watershed Consortium Grants, , Healthy Communities Grants, Environmental Collaborative Problem Solving Cooperative Agreement.

**Suggestions to Prospective Applicants:** please go to the following link for grants and fellowships information:  
<http://www2.epa.gov/grants>

# *Major Reminders from the Federal Funders*

The development of effective strategies and methods in identifying funding opportunities takes time, requires practice, and needs patience.

1. Insure that your organization/institution's research/programmatic interests are in alignment with the Federal program's interests.
2. Don't take a non-funded application as a failure: the funding environment is very competitive, and there are many outstanding proposals not funded due to the level of funding availability.
3. Remember the 3 Rs: Review, Revise, and Resubmit, always with *attention to the comments of reviewers, making sure to address these in your resubmission.*
4. The HHS Regional Offices can be of assistance to potential applicants and information on these can be found at: <http://www.hhs.gov/iea/regional/>.

# Additional Suggestions made during HETAP-2015:

- Federal agencies hold annual, biannual, and sometimes regional conferences - these provide a opportunity to interact with Federal program staff, learning about the emerging trends they are tracking, and future funding priority areas.
- Don't forget the value of **collaborations** – future successful Federal funding may start from partnerships “on the ground” established with other local organizations, colleagues, etc.
- Follow what **data** and their **sources** are featured on Federal sites in order to properly report new research and program areas of Federal interest/funding.
- Follow what is published in major publications, papers, and articles, and who is acknowledged, in the subject area/field of your interest.

# Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA)

- The availability of Federal funds is made publicly known through the issuance of a FOA.
- Through this announcement, a Federal Agency makes known its intentions to award discretionary grants or cooperative agreements, usually as a result of competition for funds.
- Federal funding opportunity announcements may be known as program announcements, requests for applications, notices of funding availability, solicitations, or other names depending on the Agency and type of program.
- Funding opportunity announcements can be found at specific agency website and through other sponsored websites.

# 4 Types of Funding Mechanisms

- **Grants:** When the sponsor does not expect substantial programmatic involvement with recipient during performance period
- **Cooperative Agreements:** When there is substantial programmatic involvement of, or coordination with, sponsor
- **Contracts:** When the principal purpose is a prescribed service or “good” that is of direct benefit or use of sponsor. Find opportunities at: <https://www.fbo.gov/>
- **Sub-award/Sub-contracts:** When a substantive portion of research/program effort of prime award is transferred to another institution or organization

# Eligibility Requirements for Federal Grants/Cooperative Agreements

- Each type of Federal grant program has its own set of eligibility requirements;
- Applicants can find eligibility information in the FOA section that describes the applicant institutions targeted for the announced grants;
- Eligibility for most grant types include:
  - Individual/Organizational Eligibility
  - Tribal/ Territorial/Institutional/Governmental Eligibility
  - Foreign Eligibility



# Find Information: Sponsored Federal Sites

- There are a variety of sponsored sites – meaning sites supported in this case by the Federal government.
- Each site provides a different type or level of information on funding availability important to prospective applicants.
- Many can be used in tandem to help prospective applicants plan strategically and chart where funding is in the short and long term.
- Other sponsored sites provide prospective applicants with funding history, including geographic funding patterns, types of agencies, and specific awards made.

# Sponsored Federal Sites: Grants.gov

- A governmental central storehouse of information where prospective applicants can locate and apply for Federal grants on funded programs
- On [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) you will find funding opportunities from all [26 federal agencies that award grants](#);
- Open grant opportunities can be searched by newest opportunity, funding category, agency, and eligibility;
- Sign up for email notifications to receive information on new FOAs;
- When potential applicants have identified an opportunity they must register with Grants.gov in order to validate their organizational role.

# Sponsored Federal Sites: HHS Grant Forecast

- A database of planned grant opportunities proposed by its agencies;
- Each Forecast record contains actual or estimated dates and funding levels for grants that the agency intends to award;
- Forecast opportunities are subject to change based on enactment of congressional appropriations;
- Link: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/hhsgrantsforecast/>

# Sponsored Federal Sites: Tracking Accountability in Government Grants System (TAGGS)

- The database is a central repository for grants awarded by the eleven HHS Operating Divisions (OPDIVs).
- Tracks obligated grant funds at the transaction level;
- Can provide potential and current grant recipients information on what types of funding specific agencies have issued, to whom, amount of award, and where geographically;
- Link: <http://taggs.hhs.gov/>

# Where to go from here

- This webinar presented the many sources of Federal funding, providing some specific examples, and highlighted many useful tools to use in your search for funding opportunities.
- OMHRC is working on its HETAP webpage which will house the HETAP2015 PowerPoints, and feature new training events, webinars, funding information available to you in the coming year.
- Another OMHRC resource is its *FYI Weekly Health Newsletter*, published every Wednesday, includes a Funding section that promotes Federal and non-Federal grant opportunities, as well as scholarships, fellowships, mentoring, and loan repayment opportunities for students and young professionals in health-related fields. To subscribe, please send an e-mail to [info@minorityhealth.hhs.gov](mailto:info@minorityhealth.hhs.gov) or call us at **1-800-444-6472**
  - Please plan to stay connected with us as we launch HETAP-2016!!

# In Closing

- Thank-you for participating in today's **presentation** of **GETTING TO KNOW THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES!**
- For more information about copies of this presentation please go to our website, <http://minorityhealth.hhs.gov>  
Or call us at 1-800-444-6472

Are there any questions at this time?