



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

APR 13 2010

Food and  
Nutrition  
Service

3101 Park  
Center Drive

Alexandria, VA  
22302-1500

Dear Interested Party:

The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is announcing the opportunity for State agencies to submit grant applications for pilot projects that increase Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) participation among Medicare's Extra Help population. FNS will provide interested State agencies with up to 8 million to conduct pilot projects to increase participation in SNAP among the Extra Help population (also called the Low Income Subsidy) by using State Medicaid agency data from Medicare Savings Programs (MSP). FNS invites State agencies to submit applications that will target outreach, simplify eligibility for the Extra Help population, or standardize benefits for the Extra Help population. A copy of the Request for Applications, which provides all of the pertinent details regarding the submission of grant applications, is enclosed.

Any of the 51 State agencies that administer SNAP and MSPs (50 States and the District of Columbia) may apply for one of these grants. The proposal must include a description of partnership between the State SNAP agency and State Medicaid agency, as well as assurance of the legality of the data exchange. Eligible applicants may use the grant funds to cover the administrative costs associated with the pilot project.

Additionally, FNS will award and manage a contract with an independent evaluator for the rigorous evaluation of the selected pilot projects. State agencies conducting these pilot projects must comply with all evaluation requirements.

Interested State agencies must adhere to all the enclosed application material requirements in order to be considered for funding. FNS must receive completed grant applications on or before 5 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST), June 30, 2010. FNS will not accept late applications and will not consider any additions or revisions to the applications once received. Applicants are responsible for meeting the due date. Applicants must submit applications directly to FNS at the address in the Request for Applications or submitted electronically through [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov). FNS will not accept applications submitted through email or fax. FNS strongly encourages State agencies submitting their applications through the mail to use a mail delivery service that guarantees delivery.

State agencies submitting applications through [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) must register online to obtain a Data Universal Number and a Contract Registry Number in order to use the system. FNS recommends that State agencies submit applications through [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) at least two weeks before the due date in case the website experiences problems; this way, the State agency has enough time to decide if it wants to submit its application using a mail delivery service. All State agencies that submit applications through [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) must inform the grant officer, Lisa Johnson, at [lisa.johnson@fns.usda.gov](mailto:lisa.johnson@fns.usda.gov), no later than 5:00 p.m. EST on the due date.

Interested Party  
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State agencies with related to the Pilots to Increase Participation in SNAP among the Extra Help Population or the grant application process should contact the grant officer, Lisa Johnson, at [lisa.johnson@fns.usda.gov](mailto:lisa.johnson@fns.usda.gov) or (703) 305-28248.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lizbeth Silberman". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Lizbeth Silberman  
Director  
Program Development Division

Enclosure