**American Academy of Pediatrics**

**Supporting Pediatricians to Improve HPV and Pediatric Influenza Vaccination Rates**

**State Immunization and Strategy Action Team Application**

**Background**

The AAP Supporting Pediatricians to Increase HPV and Pediatric Influenza Vaccination Rates project aims to improve human papillomavirus (HPV) and pediatric influenza vaccination rates and decrease missed opportunities for children across the nation by developing the capacity of the AAP to support pediatricians and other primary care physicians, especially those in rural and underserved areas, through education, resources, and quality improvement projects on vaccines, vaccine recommendations, and other vaccination-related issues rooted in evidence-based/informed best practices.

**Project Design**

To accomplish this goal, the AAP will support a virtual learning collaborative focused on improving HPV and pediatric influenza vaccination in rural and underserved areas where vaccination rates are low and engage key traditional and non-traditional partners that pertain to immunization, rural health, and/or underserved populations. The collaborative will kick off with a virtual State Immunization Strategy and Action Team meeting in September 2020 (broken into three individual sessions) and include subsequent virtual technical assistance meetings through July 2021.

Teams of partners from four states will be identified through an application process to participate in the kickoff meeting series and virtual learning collaborative. Applicants will be asked to identify an interdisciplinary team of up to eight stakeholders from their respective state.

The overarching purpose of the kickoff meeting series is to support state teams in developing a plan to reach rural and underserved populations with immunization strategies. The meeting series will also cover such topics as collaboration on dissemination of immunization educational content and resources, ensuring consistent messaging, and reducing duplication of efforts; and discussion of successes, challenges, and barriers to reaching rural providers and underserved populations with immunization strategies.

**Expectations of State Immunization and Strategy Action Teams**

1. Identify a lead applicant
   * Applications will be accepted from AAP chapters, health departments, immunization coalitions, health care systems, and other organizations working to address rural and underserved populations.
2. Form a core team of representatives from up to eight stakeholder organizations to join the State Immunization and Strategy Action Team
   * Stakeholder organizations should have the capacity and resources available to address low HPV and pediatric influenza rates in rural and underserved areas.
3. Attend the virtual kickoff meeting series in September 2020 as a team
4. Develop a preliminary plan, with related outcomes, to reach rural and underserved populations with immunization strategies (this will be done as part of the virtual kickoff meeting series)
5. Pending future funding, administer a grant award from the AAP after September 2020 to implement the immunization state plan in 2020-2021 and participate in up to five virtual learning collaborative technical assistance sessions.
   * Each state team will submit an award agreement, a state immunization plan, and a detailed budget for implementation of activities related to reaching rural and underserved populations with immunization strategies.
   * Examples of activities that can be incorporated into the state immunization plan include an immunization awareness campaign, implementation of a quality improvement project, and providing educational trainings. Allowable expenses include project staff salary, consultant fees, office expenses/supplies, and other costs associated with engaging rural and underserved populations.
   * Dates for the virtual learning collaborative technical assistance sessions will be determined after funding has been awarded.
6. Demonstrate how outcomes will be tracked and show progress toward outcomes.
7. Submit a final report summarizing accomplishments, successes, challenges, and lessons learned, and submit a financial report detailing budgeted amounts vs actual spending.
   * Templates will be provided for the final reports.

**Eligibility and Selection Criteria**

AAP will accept up to four state applications with each state identifying a team of up to eight stakeholders. Applications will be accepted from AAP chapters, health departments, immunization coalitions, health care systems, and other organizations working to address rural and underserved populations.

Attention will be focused on whether the applicant has:

* Infrastructure in place to address HPV and pediatric influenza rates in rural and underserved areas
* Expressed a strong need to address low HPV and pediatric influenza rates in rural and underserved areas
* Three letters of support from organizations committed to being a part of the core team of stakeholders, such as AAP chapters, health departments, immunization coalitions, or healthcare systems
* Addressed all application questions with great detail

**Application Directions**

Please fill in the requested information below and complete all sections of the application. Include three letters of support from three partner organizations committed to virtually attending the State Immunization Strategy and Action Team Meetings. Return the completed application and letters of support to Melissa Ponce ([mponce@aap.org](mailto:mponce@aap.org)) by 4pm Central on **Monday, July 27, 2020**. *Please note: Late applications will not be accepted*.

Once your application has been submitted, AAP staff will read and score the applications, and AAP staff will follow-up with you after reviewing your application.

**Important Dates**

Application due: July 27, 2020

Organizations notified of decision: Week of August 10, 2020

First virtual meeting: September 2020

Grant award agreement: Fall 2020

Implement state immunization plan: Fall 2020 - July 31, 2021

Virtual learning collaborative sessions: To be determined for 2021

Submit final report: August 31, 2021

**Questions?**

Contact Melissa Ponce at [mponce@aap.org](mailto:mponce@aap.org) or 630/626-6209.

**Application Questions**

**Lead Organization or Institution Name:** Click here to enter text.

**Address:** Click here to enter text.

**Primary Contact Name:** Click here to enter text.

**Title/Position:** Click here to enter text.

**Phone #:** Click here to enter text.

**E-mail:** Click here to enter text.

**1. Describe the HPV and pediatric influenza immunization-related concerns of greatest priority in your state that you would like to address, highlighting any identified pockets of need. Please include your state immunization rates for HPV and pediatric influenza.** (20 points)

Click here to enter text.

**2. Describe the rural and underserved population(s) in your state and any concerns or barriers to immunizing this population.** (15 points)

Click here to enter text.

**3. Describe existing immunization programming, training, education, or other support targeted at health care providers serving rural and underserved communities in your state. Include how you plan to coordinate with or enhance existing state immunization efforts. Address how the concerns and barriers listed above have or have not been addressed by your organization and/or through partnerships with other organizations.** (20 points)

Click here to enter text.

**4. Describe how participating in the State Immunization and Strategy Action Team virtual learning collaborative will benefit your state, including your goals and expected outcomes of your participation.** (20 points)

Click here to enter text.

**5. Name up to eight partner organizations, and the name, position, and email of the point person within each, that have expressed interest in working with your organization during this virtual learning collaborative to address immunization strategies in rural and underserved areas.** (5 points)

Click here to enter text.

**6. Describe how each partnering organization will be involved in addressing immunization strategies in rural and underserved areas in your state.** (10 points)

Click here to enter text.

**7. As the lead applicant, describe your organization’s infrastructure and capacity to successfully spearhead a State Immunization and Strategy Action Team. Provide examples of current or previous initiatives that your organization has led or implemented (may include non-immunization related examples).** (10 points)

Click here to enter text.