



United States
Department of
Agriculture

MAR 31 2005

Food and
Consumer
Service

3101 Park
Center Drive

Alexandria, VA
22302-1500

SUBJECT: Solicitation for Fiscal Year 2005 WIC Special Project Grants

TO: WIC State Agencies

The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is soliciting applications for Fiscal Year (FY) 2005 WIC Special Project Grants. FNS has set aside up to \$1.5 million to support WIC Special State projects. The awards will be made by September 30, 2005 as cooperative agreements.

FNS is using the same model that has been used since FY 1999, with the theme of **"Revitalizing Quality Nutrition Services in WIC (RQNS)."** Combining elements of various approaches used over the years, the model designates a specific focus area in which a range of grant projects will be possible. The RQNS theme for the FY 2005 full grants focuses on implementing and evaluating the effectiveness of participant counseling methods that incorporate health and nutrition-related messages, and include the initiation and/or maintenance of healthy nutrition behavior. Concept Papers funded in FY 2004 are assumed to meet the FY 2005 RQNS theme.

Extensive dissemination of the results of successful projects is expected at the end of each project so that other State agencies will have the opportunity to replicate projects and/or learn from the results.

Concept paper funding, also begun in FY 1999, will continue to be available this year as well. Concept paper funding for FY 2005 will be used to develop a concept paper into a full grant proposal for the FY 2006 solicitation cycle. The theme for the FY 2005 Concept Paper solicitation will be on Childhood Obesity Prevention, with a re-focus on replicating, adapting and/or evaluating materials and outputs developed in the original (FY 1999) Childhood Obesity Prevention Grants (FIT WIC) for effectiveness in specific WIC settings.

Any State agency planning to apply for FY 2005 WIC Special Project Grant funding should submit a Letter of Intent by Friday, April 15, 2005. State agencies that apply for FY 2005 WIC Special Project Grants may also submit applications for FY 2005 Concept Paper Development funding. The Request for Applications can be retrieved from, and submitted directly at, <http://www.grants.gov/>. This is a new government website designed for electronic submission of applications/proposals. We advise that you allow ample time to familiarize yourself with the system's requirements. You will need both a Data Universal Number (DUNS) and a Contract Registry

Number (CCR) to access the system. You may contact Dun and Bradstreet at 1-800-234-3867 to obtain a DUNS number if you do not have one already. Applications submitted by direct e-mail or fax will not be accepted. State agencies are allowed to receive funding for both concept paper development and for WIC Special Project Grants.

Attached are the requests for applications for the FY 2005 WIC Special Project Grants (**Application A**) and the FY 2005 WIC Special Project Concept Paper Development (**Application B**). The submission of an application does NOT guarantee funding. Please read the contents of this package carefully to ensure that all required documents are submitted.

Applications should be submitted to:

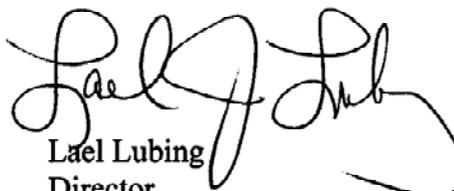
Lisa Johnson, Grants Management Specialist
Food and Nutrition Service, USDA
Grants Management Division
3101 Park Center Drive, Room 738
Alexandria, VA 22302.

Applications for both packages are due **no later than 5:00 p.m. E.D.T. on Wednesday, June 1, 2005**. Faxed copies will not be accepted.

If you have questions or need more information, please contact Lisa Johnson at (703) 305-2848.



Alberta Frost
Director
Office of Analysis, Nutrition, and Evaluation



Lael Lubing
Director
Grants Management Division

Attachment: RFAs