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2014 Team Nutrition Training Grants

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

CFDA # 10.574

Application Deadline: May 9, 2014

Letter of Intent is due April 4, 2014



**U.S. Department of Agriculture
Food and Nutrition Service**

This application package is available on-line at <http://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/2014-training-grant-application>

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Tips for Applications

A. Before You Begin

Read this application package carefully and follow all of the instructions, as new information has been included for FY 2014.

B. Preparing Your Application

- Be thorough in your technical proposal. Write so that someone who knows nothing about your organization or your program plan can understand what you are proposing.
- Address each of the selection criteria in your application and respond comprehensively.
- Provide enough detail in your budget narrative (see “budget narrative checklist” in attachment E) about planned expenditures so reviewers can easily determine how the funds will be spent.
- Link your planned expenditures to the goals and objectives of your program, and demonstrate that proposed expenditures are necessary to carry out your project and activities. DO NOT request funds for miscellaneous purposes.

C. Submitting Your Application

- Include all required forms signed by an authorized representative of your organization.
- Include letters of commitment from the Project Director, key staff and their supervisors, and partners (if applicable) in the appendices.
- Your application must be **received** by Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) by the deadline date (May 9, 2014).
- You may submit an application for a competitive grant (up to \$350,000) or a non-competitive grant (up to \$50,000).
- If submitting applications for both competitive and non-competitive grants, State agencies must submit two application packages, not to exceed \$350,000 total.
- Comply with the following page limitations for your application(s):

	<u>Competitive Grant</u>	<u>Non-Competitive Grant</u>
Proposal Summary:	One page	One page
Technical Proposal:	20 pages	10 pages
Budget Narrative:	3 pages	3 pages
Appendices:	15 pages	10 pages

FY 2014 Team Nutrition Training Grants Request for Application (RFA)

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

Purpose

The purpose of this grant is for State agencies to expand and enhance their training programs that incorporate and implement the 2010 *Dietary Guidelines for Americans* and USDA Foods in meals served under the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) or the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). States must apply Team Nutrition's **three behavior-focused strategies** in their proposals:

- Provide ***training and technical assistance*** to child nutrition foodservice professionals to enable them to prepare and serve nutritious meals that appeal to children.
- Provide ***fun and interactive nutrition education*** for children, teachers, parents, and other caregivers.
- Build ***school and community support*** for creating healthy school environments that are conducive to healthy eating and physical activity.

Critical Dates

April 4, 2014	Intent to Submit an Application is due to FNS (see Attachment A)
May 9, 2014	Applications are due to FNS
September 2014	Team Nutrition (TN) Training Grants will be awarded

Who May Apply

State agencies that administer the NSLP and/or the CACFP may apply.

Novice States

Novice States are those that have not received TN Training Grants for the past 3 fiscal years. Applications from novice states will receive an additional 5 points for competitive grants.

Funding and Duration

Up to \$5.5 million is anticipated in Fiscal Year 2014 for TN Training Grants. Approximately \$2.5 million will be set aside to provide non-competitive grants (up to \$50,000) to State agencies that commit to specific strategies to increase the number of schools implementing Smarter Lunchroom strategies. Up to \$350,000 may be requested through a competitive grants process. State agencies wishing to apply for both a competitive and a non-competitive grant may apply for up to \$350,000, cumulatively. For example, a State may apply for a \$50,000 non-competitive grant, but they would then only be eligible to apply for up to \$300,000 in competitive funding; the maximum amount a State may request is \$350,000. The submission of an application for a non-competitive grant guarantees funding, *provided the application meets all the required criteria*. The submission of an application for a competitive grant does NOT guarantee funding for a competitive grant.

Both competitive and non-competitive TN Training Grants will be funded for the period of September 30, 2014- September 30, 2016. Funding for approved TN Training Grants will be provided through the Grant Award/Letter of Credit process, in the same manner as other Federal funds, upon receipt of a properly executed Federal-State TN Training Grant Agreement and subject to availability of funding. All TN Training Grant funds must be obligated and all activities under the TN Training Grant must be completed by September 30, 2016.

Application Due Date

The complete application package **must be uploaded** on **www.Grants.gov** on or before Friday, **May 9, 2014** at 5:00 p.m., Eastern Daylight Time. Applications received after the deadline date and/or time will be deemed ineligible and will not be reviewed or considered. FNS **WILL NOT** consider any additions or revisions to applications once they are received.

Submission of Application

FNS will not accept applications sent via U.S. Mail, email, fax, or those that are hand-delivered.

1) Submit application(s) through Grants.gov

Grants.gov is a government-wide web site designed for electronic submission of applications/proposals. We advise that you allow ample time to familiarize yourself with the system's requirements. In order to submit your application via www.grants.gov, you must have obtained a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number and registered in both the new System for Award Management (SAM) and on grants.gov. All applicants must have current SAM status at the time of application submission and throughout the duration of a Federal Award in accordance with 2 CFR Part 25. Please visit the following websites to obtain additional information on how to obtain a DUNS number (www.dnb.com) and register in SAM (<https://www.sam.gov/portal/public/SAM/>).

Please be aware that the Grants.gov system provides several confirmation notices; you need to be sure that you have confirmation that the application was **accepted**.

- 2) Late applications will not be considered in this competition. FNS will not consider additions or revisions to applications once they are received.
- 3) Applications submitted without all the required supporting documents, forms, certification, and signatures will not be considered for competition.
- 4) Applications should clearly indicate submission of a competitive or non-competitive application, or both.

All questions regarding the application should be referred to Leslie Byrd at leslie.byrd@fns.usda.gov.

Terms and Conditions of Award

Terms and Conditions of Award for the TN Training Grant are listed in Attachment B.

2014 GRANT REQUIREMENTS

State agencies may apply for a traditional competitive grant described in the first three objectives below, a non-competitive TN-Smarter Lunchrooms grant described further below, or both. If applying for both competitive and non-competitive grants, States must submit separate application packages for each.

Competitive Grant

For a Competitive Grant, activities must include one or more of the following objectives, but not necessarily all of the sample activities under each objective:

1. Develop smarter lunchrooms using environmental cues to increase student choice of whole grains, fat-free or low-fat dairy products, fruits, vegetables, and legumes through the use of behavioral economics.

State agencies must describe how they will use the BEN Center's Self-Assessment Score Card (<http://smarterlunchrooms.org/resource/lunchroom-self-assessment-score-card>) to assist foodservice staff in one or more of the following areas:

- Structure choices in the cafeteria to facilitate student selection of healthier meal options. Suggestions include:
 - i. Fruit is displayed in two locations, one of which is near the cash register, on all lunch lines.
 - ii. Creative/descriptive names are displayed with fruits, vegetables, dry bean/pea items, and combo meals in the lunch line as well as on posters/menu boards.
 - iii. When offered, menu items containing dark-green, red and orange vegetables, and dry beans/peas are displayed first or most prominently in the lunch line.
 - iv. White milk is available in all service areas, represents at least 1/3 of all visible milk in each milk cooler, and is positioned in front of flavored milk whenever possible.
 - v. Creatively named reimbursable or grab and go combo meals are available in all service and dining areas.
- Train cafeteria and school staff members, especially those serving, to dialog with the students in a way that nudges them toward healthier meal options, particularly the daily fruit and vegetable options.
- Enhance the eating environment with positive nutrition education materials and activities promoting fruits, vegetables, whole grains, legumes, and low or non-fat dairy products.

State agencies choosing this option ***will be required*** to participate in a Smarter Lunchrooms webinar, to be hosted by FNS and Cornell University's BEN Center, in October 2014. The impact assessment must include a description of baseline data to be collected prior to implementation, criteria for success, and how success will be measured.

2. Provide training for NSLP or CACFP foodservice staff on implementing the 2010 *Dietary Guidelines for Americans* (DGAs), applying for the HealthierUS School Challenge, maximizing the use of USDA Foods, and meeting the requirements for the new meal patterns for school meals mandated by the Healthy Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010.

State agencies must describe how their plan will assist foodservice staff in one or more of the following areas:

- Increase the amount and variety of high fiber, whole-grain products offered to students.
 - Increase the variety and acceptance of both fruits and vegetables within the meals programs, including the promotion of school or child care center gardens and farm to school initiatives.
 - Promote and increase participation in the School Breakfast Program.
 - Offer fat-free or low-fat dairy products.
 - Reduce sodium from an identified baseline.
 - Reduce saturated fat.
 - Take the HealthierUS School Challenge at both the elementary and secondary levels.
 - Understand the nutritional benefits of USDA Foods, including their contribution to the *Dietary Guidelines for Americans*, and how to maximize the use of those foods in nutritious, low-cost school meals.
3. Provide schools or child care centers with technical assistance to create and maintain a healthier school or child care environment, as well as implement and review their wellness policies to align with the requirements set forth in the Healthy Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010, including those for school or child care meals, competitive foods, nutrition education, nutrition promotion, physical education, physical activity, and other school- or child care program-based activities that promote wellness, as appropriate.

State agencies must describe how their plan will assist schools or child care centers in one or more of the following areas:

- Utilize Team Nutrition curricula and resources to provide fun and interactive nutrition education and/or physical activity for children, teachers, parents, and other caregivers.
- Develop and implement a nutrition promotion plan for the school or child care community.
- Educate children about healthful food choices and how nutrition fuels physical activity and enhances physical and mental performance.
- Increase opportunities for students to participate in efforts to make healthier foods available in schools.
- Provide guidance on how schools can increase opportunities for children to participate in structured physical activity both during the school day and afterschool programs.
- Evaluate compliance with existing local wellness policy and provide training and technical assistance, as appropriate, to ensure compliance.
- Inform and update the public (including parents, students or children, and others in the community) about the content and implementation of the local wellness policy.
- Improve the nutritional quality of foods and beverages sold outside of the school meals program.
- Mobilize parents, teachers, caregivers, school foodservice staff, and others in capitalizing on their role-model potential.

Grant activities should provide instruction to students through a variety of fun and interactive nutrition education lessons and activities, as well as training for teachers and caregivers.

Instruction and training should include USDA Team Nutrition materials, materials from the National Food Service Management Institute (NFSMI), and USDA Foods Toolkit. Grant activities should also provide opportunities for students to taste new foods or menu items, choose healthier foods and beverages outside of school meals, and be physically active both in and outside of school or child care programs.

In addition, all Competitive grant proposals must:

- a. Include a grant impact assessment plan that reflects attainable and measurable objectives. State agencies should describe how they plan to:
 - Assess the effectiveness and usefulness of training approaches, programs, and activities.
 - Document information on targeted audiences (such as number of students, foodservice staff, teachers, caregivers, parents, administrators, etc.) who were reached through the TN Training Grant.
 - Document best practices and lessons learned from implementing these grant activities, as well as document changes to the nutrition environment of targeted schools, if applicable.
- b. Include a plan that describes how activities will be sustained beyond the end of the grant period.
- c. Include the use of USDA or NFSMI-developed materials:
 - Team Nutrition (<http://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/resource-library>);
 - USDA Foods (<http://www.fns.usda.gov/usda-foods/usda-foods-toolkit>);
 - NFSMI (<http://www.nfsmi.org/PageController.aspx?PID=2>).
- d. Include a HealthierUS School Challenge component (State agencies that do not administer NSLP are exempt from this requirement).
- e. Include a Smarter Lunchrooms component (State agencies that do not administer NSLP are exempt from this requirement).
- f. Collaborate and partner with existing State and local organizations, businesses, and local community at large to achieve the goals of the grant.

Non-Competitive TN Smarter Lunchrooms Grant

For a Non-Competitive TN Smarter Lunchrooms Grant, State agencies can receive guaranteed grant funding up to a maximum of \$50,000 for committing to increase the number of schools implementing Smarter Lunchroom strategies. State agencies must show commitment from the specified number of schools to implement Smarter Lunchroom strategies before the end of the grant period. Grant funding amounts will be based on the following:

<u>Number of schools committed to participate</u>	<u>Guaranteed funding amount</u>
50+ schools	\$50,000
40+ schools	\$40,000
30+ schools	\$30,000
20+ schools	\$20,000

These funds may be used to assist the State agency in providing training and technical assistance to school staff in creating Smarter Lunchrooms. In order to qualify for the guaranteed funding, State agencies must describe how they will use the BEN Center's Self-Assessment Score Card (<http://smarterlunchrooms.org/resource/lunchroom-self-assessment-score-card>) to assist foodservice staff in *all* of the following areas:

- Structure choices in the cafeteria to facilitate student selection of healthier meal options
- Train cafeteria and school staff to dialog with the students in a way that nudges them toward healthier meal options.
- Assist schools to enhance the eating environment with positive nutrition education materials and activities promoting fruits, vegetables, whole grains, legumes, and low or non-fat dairy products.

To meet these objectives, State agencies must ensure that schools select 10 action items, with *at least one item from each* of the six focus areas on the Smarter Lunchrooms Self-Assessment Scorecard.

State agencies applying for non-competitive grants *will be required* to participate in a Smarter Lunchrooms webinar, to be hosted by FNS and Cornell University's BEN Center, in October 2014. The impact assessment *must* include a description of baseline data to be collected prior to implementation, criteria for success, and how success will be measured.

Eligible State agencies may choose to apply for these guaranteed non-competitive funds only, or apply for the guaranteed funds in addition to their competitive grant proposal for one or more of the first three objectives beginning on page 6 above. States choosing the latter option *must submit two application packages*, not to exceed a total of \$350,000.

Time Commitment and Responsibilities

A minimum 0.5 full-time equivalent (FTE) is required for the designated Project Director(s) for the Competitive grant (no more than two staff positions can be combined to reach 0.5 FTE). The Project Director(s) should be clearly identified by name with their FTE planned for work on the project. A Project Director must be identified for a Non-Competitive grant, although there is no requirement for minimum time commitment.

The State agency is responsible for overseeing and coordinating grant activities; providing fiscal oversight; and exercising effective internal control of funds that are provided to a sub-contractor, school food authorities, and/or child care centers as sub-grant recipients, including the appropriate use of the “Guidance for Interpreting Cost Principles of Sub-Grant Awards (formerly Mini-Grants)” listed in Attachment C.

Use of Grant Funds

All costs must be considered as allowable, allocable, necessary, and reasonable in accordance with new OMB Code of Federal Regulations Cost Principles as follows:

Code of Federal Regulations (Cost Principles):

2 CFR, Subtitle A, Chapter II, Part 225: States, Local, and Indian Tribal Governments

2 CFR, Subtitle A, Chapter II, Part 220: Institutions of Higher Education and Hospitals

2 CFR, Subtitle A, Chapter II, Part 230: Non Profit Organizations

Allowable use of funds includes, but is not limited to:

a. Education and Training

- Deliver State conducted training for foodservice personnel, TN school leaders, teachers, and/or school and child care decision-makers
- Provide train-the-trainer workshops
- Establish an instructors' network for State-wide training
- Conduct a grant-impact assessment (shall not exceed 20% of the TN Training Grant)
- Tuition for trainees
- Cost for trainers
- Travel reimbursement (reimbursement may only be paid for travel expenses in accordance with the Federal Travel Regulations 41 CFR 301 and shall not exceed the lesser of State or Federal maximum per diem rates)

b. Local TN Training Grants

- All sub-grant awards must follow the “Guidance for Interpreting Cost Principles of Sub-Grant Awards (formerly Mini-Grants)” (see Attachment C).

c. Personnel Costs

- Percentage of salary and benefits for the Project Director(s) and key staff (must be equal to their time spent on the grant activities)
- Contracted employee salaries (must be equal to their time spent on the grant activities)
- Pay for substitutes while teachers and/or foodservice staff attend training

d. Materials/Resources and Other Supplies

- While USDA requires States to use some of the USDA or NFSMI-developed materials, a portion of grant funds may be used for justified development of needed materials¹ when: 1) no existing materials are available; 2) materials have potential as a national resource; or 3) materials require translation into other languages. Examples include development of an integrated nutrition education curriculum that meets the State's learning standards for appropriate grade levels, compilation of the best practices of TN activities, and/or innovative ideas for delivering nutrition messages through multiple communication channels.
- Purchase of nutrition education materials when no existing, comparable free materials are available. A list of materials should be included in the proposal.
- Printing, duplicating, and disseminating existing materials. A list of materials should be included in the proposal.
- Coordination with existing resource centers and libraries, such as Food and Nutrition Information Center (FNIC), or State TN websites.

e. Technology to Deliver Training

- Procurement of hardware and/or software for the purpose of conducting training on one or more of TN's behavior-oriented strategies (shall not exceed 10% of the TN Training Grant).

Determination of Grant Awards

The grants review panel will provide recommendations for funding to the selecting official. The selecting official will consider panel recommendations and may consider additional factors, such as geographic distribution or specific FNS/USDA priorities, as well as selecting officials' confidence in a prospective grantee's ability to perform grant requirements satisfactorily based on their past TN Grants performance. USDA reserves the right to not fund an application based on any of the above mentioned factors.

Determination of Award Amounts

If a State agency's application has been selected and approved for funding, is well-justified, and the budget submission is realistic and well-supported, the application will be funded at the level requested. USDA reserves the right to fund applications out of rank order and at a lesser dollar amount if it is judged that the application can be implemented with fewer Federal dollars, or if Federal funding is not sufficient to fully fund all applications that merit awards.

¹ Any materials developed with TN Grant funds should be submitted in electronic format and be subject to other requirements specified in the Grant Agreement.

III. SELECTION CRITERIA

For State agencies applying for a combination of competitive and non-competitive funding, the competitive portion of the application will be ranked according to the criteria below. The criteria for the non-competitive funding is similar to that of the competitive funding, but applications will not be scored, just reviewed for completeness.

For a Competitive Grant:

The following selection criteria will be used to evaluate applications under this competition. The maximum score for all criteria is 100 points. Each criterion has a maximum score as indicated in parentheses. Novice State applicants will receive an additional five points. The maximum score a novice application can receive is 105 points.

Soundness or Merit of Project Design: (40 points)

Proposal provides justification of the project(s) and activities being proposed.

Proposal has objectives and goals that are appropriate to the target audience, are measurable, realistic, attainable, assessable, and address one or more focus areas (objectives – see page 6) requested in the 2014 Team Nutrition Training Grants Request for Application (RFA).

Proposals must include a HealthierUS School Challenge component. (State agencies that do not administer NSLP are exempt from this requirement).

State agencies not applying for non-competitive grants must include a Smarter Lunchrooms component (State agencies that do not administer NSLP are exempt from this requirement).

Project activities incorporate one or more of the TN behavior-oriented strategies (see page 4).

Proposal describes State agency's use of USDA-TN or NFSMI-developed materials, and adequate justifications are made if a portion of the grant funds will be used to develop or purchase needed materials.

If sub-grants are to be awarded, proposal includes a description of the sub-grant application criteria, allowable costs, and the State agency's plan for technical assistance, monitoring, and oversight.

Proposal adequately describes the tasks and activities with realistic timelines.

Proposal includes a chronological timeline, not to exceed two pages.

Proposal is written concisely, succinctly, and demonstrates a comprehensive planning process.

Proposal includes a plan for sustainability after the grant period has ended.

Grant Impact Assessment (25 points)

Proposal adequately describes how the State agency will assess the effectiveness and usefulness of training approaches, programs, and proposed activities.

Proposal describes how the State agency will document the number of targeted audiences reached, as well as best practices and lessons learned as result of the grant activities.

Qualification of Project Personnel, Project Management, and Organizational Experiences

(15 points)

Project Director (PD) is clearly identified. Time commitment for the grant is clearly stated as a percentage of a full time equivalent (FTE). If there will be two PDs, each should be clearly identified and percent FTE given for each.

Proposal describes the qualifications of PD and other key personnel. Resumes must be provided which demonstrate that they have the appropriate educational, technical, and experiential backgrounds for their proposed roles. A position description must be included for PD and/or key staff to be hired after the grant is awarded. The Project Director, or one of the Project Co-Directors, should have a four-year degree in nutrition/dietetics, public health, health education, or other related field.

Proposal describes the organization's credibility and capabilities to administer the grant.

The organization of the project allows sufficient time for proposed tasks, and clearly discusses and demonstrates that effective communication will exist among staff.

Proposal describes State agency's commitment to provide financial and administrative oversight for the grant. If part of proposal funding is used for local sub-grants to school districts/schools and/or child care centers, criteria for funding and plans for oversight must be provided.

Letters of commitment are provided by project director, project director's supervisor, and key staff.

Budget Appropriateness and Efficiency (20 points)

Budget narrative describes how funds will be spent, by whom and for various categories.

Budget detail sufficiently itemizes costs within each budget category.

Budget demonstrates consistency with project objectives and specific activities/tasks planned. Budget line items are linked to specific grant objectives.

The level of funding requested is economical and reasonable in relation to the proposed scope and effort of the project.

For a Non-competitive Grant:

With the exception of the number of schools agreeing to implement Smarter Lunchroom strategies, descriptions of the following criteria are identical to those under the criteria for the competitive grant. Applications not meeting the criteria listed below will be deemed incomplete and not considered for funding.

Applications must include:

- An identified Project Director (the same reporting requirements apply as for a competitive grant);
- Project Design with measurable goals and objectives, including a timeline for activities such as training, technical assistance, and reviewing Smarter Lunchrooms once implemented;
- Number of schools committing to implement Smarter Lunchroom strategies prior to the end of the grant period;
- Qualifications of Project Personnel;
- Budget; and
- Budget Narrative.

IV. APPLICATION CONTENT

Applicants must organize the information in their application in the following order. All pages should be numbered consecutively.

1. **Cover Sheet.** This is the title page of your application. See Attachment D.
2. **Table of Contents.** Include a one-page table of contents.
3. **Proposal Summary.** Provide a **one-page** summary that describes the proposed activities and intended outcomes.
4. **Application Type.** Indicate if application is for Competitive Grant, or Non-competitive Grant.
5. **Technical Proposal.** For competitive funding, the narrative section must address all the selection criteria. The narrative must be limited to **20 typed pages**, single-spaced, with a one-inch margin. The paper size shall be 8½ x 11 inches. The pages must be numbered consecutively. The font size must be no smaller than 12-point type using Times New Roman. It is in the best interest of the applicants to ensure that the technical proposal section is easy to read, logically developed in accordance with the selection criteria, and fully addresses each rating factor.

For non-competitive funding, the narrative must be limited to **10 typed pages**, subject to the same formatting criteria as the competitive proposals described above.

6. **Budget.** Use the SF 424 and SF 424A forms (see Attachment F) to prepare a complete budget for the project. Provide amounts for all major budget categories. Provide separate budgets for the competitive funded grant and the non-competitive funded grant.
7. **Budget Narrative.** Applicants should provide a detailed explanation for all funds requested on the Budget Form (SF 424A) **in the form of a line item budget** and describe how those costs relate to the project objectives and proposed activities. The budget narrative must be limited to **three typed pages**, single-spaced, with a one-inch margin. The paper size shall be 8 ½ x 11 inches, and the font size must be no smaller than 12-point font using Times New Roman. The budget narrative should provide enough detail for reviewers to easily understand how costs were determined and how they relate to the goals and objectives of the project.
8. **Indirect Cost.** A copy of the State agency's negotiated and approved rate must be attached. Please note that the submission of an approved indirect cost rate plan is required only if indirect costs are charged to the TN Grant.
9. **Assurance and Disclosure.** The following forms must be attached (see Attachment F):
 - Assurances - Non-Construction Programs, SF 424B
 - Disclosure of Lobbying Activities, SF LLL

10. Appendices. This section must include only required supporting documentation that addresses the applicant's capacity to carry out the proposed project. Documentation includes resumes of the Project Director(s) and key staff (limit of 2 pages per resume); letters of commitment from Project director(s) and key staff, as well as their supervisors; and letters of agreement from partners, collaborators, and/or other State agencies. If applicable, also include how much time and resources these partners and collaborators will contribute. Do not include the budget, the technical proposal, or timelines and deliverables in this section. The page limit of the appendices is **15 pages** for a competitive grant, and **10 pages** for a non-competitive grant.

Other attachments will not be reviewed nor returned to the applicant.

Attachment A - Letter of Intent

If you intend to submit an application for a Team Nutrition Training Grant, please complete the section below and return this form by **April 4, 2014**. This intent does not obligate a State agency in any way, but will provide useful information to us as we prepare for the review and selection process. The intent may be e-mailed or faxed. Thank you for your interest. Please submit your Letter of Intent to:

Anna Arrowsmith, RD
Child Nutrition Division
Food and Nutrition Services, USDA
3101 Park Center Drive, Room 639
Alexandria, VA 22302
Fax 703-305- 2549
anna.arrowsmith@fns.usda.gov

**2014 Team Nutrition Training Grant
Intent to Submit an Application**

Applicant (State agency name and address): _____

Project Director or Contact Person _____

Telephone _____ e-mail _____

State CN Director _____

Telephone _____ e-mail _____

Applying for (check one):

- Competitive Grant
 - Non-Competitive Grant
 - Both
-

Attachment B – Terms and Conditions of Award

This grant will be awarded and administered in accordance with the following regulations and the corresponding cost circular that establishes the principles for cost determination found at OMB Code of Federal Regulations Cost Principles: 2 CFR, Subtitle A, Chapter II, Part 225: State, Local, and Indian Tribal Governments; Part 220: Institutions of Higher Education and Hospitals; and Part 230: Non-Profit Organizations.

- a. 2 CFR Part 170: “Reporting Sub-award and Executive Compensation Information”
- b. 2 CFR Part 25: “Universal Identifier and Central Locator Contractor Registration”
- c. 7 CFR Part 15: “Nondiscrimination”
- d. 7 CFR Part 210: “National School Lunch Program” and Part 220: “School Breakfast Program”
- e. 7 CFR Part 3015: “Uniform Federal Assistance Regulations”
- f. 7 CFR Part 3016: “Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements to State and Local Governments other than Entitlement Programs (Reference OMB Circular A-102 Common Rule)”
- g. 7 CFR Part 3017: “Government-wide Debarment and Suspension (Non-Procurement)”
- h. 7 CFR Part 3018: “New Restrictions on Lobbying”
- i. 7 CFR Part 3019: “Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements with Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, and other Non-Profit Organization”
- j. 7 CFR Part 3021: “Government-wide Requirements for Drug-free Workplace (Financial Assistance)”
- k. 7 CFR Part 3052: “Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations”
- l. 2 CFR Part 175: “Trafficking in Persons: Grants and Cooperative Agreements”

Copies of these documents are available online at <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/cfr/index.html> or upon request, from:

*Leslie Byrd, Grants Officer
Grants & Fiscal Policy Division
Food and Nutrition Services, USDA
Team Nutrition Training Grants
3101 Park Center Drive, Room 738
Alexandria VA 22302
Leslie.byrd@fns.usda.gov*

ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS IN EFFECT FOR FY 2014: TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF AWARD**2 CFR PART 170—REPORTING SUBAWARD AND EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION INFORMATION**

As required by the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) of 2006 (Public Law 109–282), as amended by section 6202 of Public Law 110–252, hereafter referred to as “the Transparency Act,” requirements for recipients' reporting of information on sub-awards and executive total compensation.

Prime Grant Recipients awarded a new Federal grant greater than or equal to \$25,000 as of October 1, 2010 are subject to FFATA sub-award reporting. The prime recipient is required to file a FFATA sub-award report by the end of the month following the month in which the prime recipient awards any sub-grant greater than \$25,000. The grants sub-award reporting data must be entered into the Federal Sub-award Reporting System (FSRS) available at www.fsrs.gov. Specific OMB award terms and conditions will be included in all grant awards.

2 CFR Part 25 UNIVERSAL IDENTIFIER AND SYSTEM FOR AWARD MANAGEMENT REGISTRATION

Effective October 1, 2010, all grant applicants must obtain a Dun and Bradstreet (D&B) Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number as a universal identifier for Federal financial assistance applicants, as well as active grant recipients and their direct sub-recipients of a sub-grant award. To request a DUNS number, visit <http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>.

The grant recipient must register its DUNS number into the System for Award Management (SAM) at <https://www.sam.gov/portal/public/SAM/>. SAM is the Official U.S. Government system that consolidated the capabilities of CCR/FedReg, ORCA, and EPLS. If your agency previously used the Central Contractor Registry (CCR), your registration will not automatically transfer to SAM; your agency will need to create a new SAM User Account before you can submit your application. OMB requires grant recipients' DUNS numbers registered in SAM to be current in order to access the Federal Prime Grant Recipient Reporting website (www.usaspending.gov).

FNS may not make an award to an entity until the entity has complied with the requirements described in 2 CFR 25.200 to provide a valid DUNS number and maintain an active SAM registration with current information.

Attachment C – Guidance for Interpreting “Cost Principles of Sub-Grant Awards (formerly Mini-Grants)”

Use of Team Nutrition Training Grant Funds for Sub-Grants

State agencies that award Team Nutrition (TN) Training Grants in the form of sub-grants are expected to:

- Provide oversight to these sub-grant recipients to ensure that expenditures authorized under the sub-grants are allowable, allocable, and reasonable.
- Ensure that all expenditures are consistent with all local, State, and Federal policies, regulations, and procedures.
- Ensure that the expenditure does not exceed that which would be incurred by a prudent person under similar circumstances and would qualify as a sound business practice.
- Ensure that *schools* that receive sub-grants are enrolled as TN Schools. (Visit <http://teamnutrition.usda.gov/team.html> to enroll)
- Ensure that Team Nutrition sub-grant funds support one or more of the Team Nutrition strategies and deliver Team Nutrition messages of healthy eating and being physically active. Team Nutrition strategies and nutrition messages must be part of the objectives and work plan of the sub-grant recipient.

The three TN behavior-oriented strategies include:

- Provide ***training and technical assistance*** to child nutrition foodservice professionals to enable them to prepare and serve nutritious meals that appeal to children and meet the recommendations of the Dietary Guidelines for Americans.
 - Provide ***fun and interactive nutrition education*** for children, teachers, parents and other caregivers.
 - Build ***school and community support*** for creating healthy school environments that are conducive to healthy eating and physical activity.
- Ensure that all activities and expenses specified in the sub-grants support and promote children’s participation in the child nutrition programs.

Some general guidance for allowability of selected items of cost under the Cost Principles:

Food Cost

Team Nutrition funds may be used to pay for food if the food is part of a specific educational activity. For example, conducting a classroom taste test of specific fruits or vegetables, or demonstrating the making of simple, healthy snacks, is a reasonable request. The use of the food must be related to nutrition education activities specified under objectives of the sub-grant proposal or work plan. Team Nutrition funds should **not** be used to purchase a meal for anyone.

Food and Nutrition Equipment

Team Nutrition funds may **not** be used to purchase foodservice operation equipment, such as salad bar equipment, refrigerators, food processors, etc. However, small mobile kitchen equipment to be used for classroom food preparation demonstration or hands-on food experiences may be permissible if such activities are part of the integrated nutrition education lessons specified under objectives of the proposed sub-grants. Teachers' commitment to teach nutrition in the classroom and share the use of the purchased mobile kitchen equipment among other teachers within the same building, if applicable, should be clearly indicated in the sub-grant proposal. A total expenditure of food and nutrition-related equipment purchases should not exceed 10% of the total sub-grant awarded.

Medical Equipment

Team Nutrition funds may **not** be used to purchase medical equipment or health services related to health assessments, such as obtaining clinical data on nutritional status, chronic disease, or chronic disease risk assessment. Therefore, measurement of height, weight, skin fold thickness, blood pressure, cholesterol, and blood glucose and iron levels are not allowable costs under the TN grant. Although the Body Mass Index (BMI) concept may still be part of the nutrition education component for the age-appropriate students, obtaining the height and weight status should come from the school nurse's office, students' health care providers, or the individual student's knowledge.

Physical Activity

Eating healthy and being physically active are desired behavior outcomes of Team Nutrition. States are encouraged to coordinate with community, youth and recreational organizations, and others whose primary mission is to make regular opportunities for physical activity accessible to children. Educational and program materials developed with TN funds to promote and reinforce physical activity for all target audiences must include messages that link nutrition and physical activity, such as "balance your day with food and play" (Eat Smart. Play Hard.™). It might be permissible to use sub-grant funds to purchase posters, pamphlets, audiovisuals, and small, consumable supplies, such as a few classroom jump ropes or hula hoops, to help teachers promote life-long physical activity habits as part of a classroom nutrition education activity. However, TN funds are **not** intended to purchase pedometers or award pins for everyone, or to subsidize the regular physical education program in the school. The costs associated with physical activities should not detract significantly from funds for promoting healthy eating.

Team Nutrition funds may **not** be used to purchase playground equipment, exercise or sports equipment, or sports lessons (swimming, skating, etc.), or to pay for the services of a for-profit physical fitness organization. Children should not be given the message that they must belong to a health club in order to be physically active. Schools are encouraged to look to other funding sources for physical activity such as forming partnerships with local non-profit organizations such as the YMCA, YWCA, Sierra Club, 4-H, and others in providing the kind of resources that might continue to supplement this type of activity when the Team Nutrition grant dollars are no longer available at the school.

Promotional/Incentive Items

The purpose of the Team Nutrition Grants is to promote Team Nutrition messages, not Team Nutrition, itself. Any promotional item or incentive should promote one or more of the Team Nutrition messages or refer the target audience to a website that provides the Team Nutrition messages. Team Nutrition messages are:

- Eat a variety of foods
- Eat more fruits, vegetables and whole grains
- Eat lower fat foods more often
- Get your calcium-rich foods
- Be physically active.

Any cost associated with such promotions or incentives must be reasonable in comparison to the sub-grant funding. A total expenditure of promotional/incentive items should not exceed 5% of the total sub-grant awarded.

Staff Development and/or Substitute Pay

If adequate funding is available and acceptable to the State agency, Team Nutrition funds may be used to hire a substitute for a teacher, school administrator, or school foodservice staff representative to attend training (including HealthierUS School Challenge training), or participate in planning sessions or other avenues for staff development in nutrition education. For accounting purposes, a record of who attended the session, how long it lasted, and the purpose of the session is required.

Gardening

It is recognized that some of the Team Nutrition materials promote activities related to gardening, and gardening is an excellent way to involve the entire school, parents and the community in a Team Nutrition activity. If the plans submitted by the sub-grant recipient(s) specify a gardening activity, the proposal must include a nutrition education component and show a clear link between the garden and nutrition education activities. The proposal must also describe how the garden will be sustained beyond the grant period.

Schools are encouraged to partner with local gardening supply sources for creating sustainability of the gardening project after the TN Training Grant period. Schools may also contact their local Cooperative Extension office to see if there is a Master Gardener program that can provide assistance with the gardening project. The FNS Farm to School web page contains several resources, including links to funding opportunities to supplement the TN funds used for school or child care gardens.

Team Nutrition funds may be used to purchase a reasonable amount of supplies (e.g., seeds/seedlings, grow lights, potting soil and starter pots) for classroom gardening projects. Applicants whose proposals clearly show a strong indication of sustainability beyond the grant period may receive start-up funds for moderately sized, in-ground gardens, including structural supplies for building the garden. Proposals that describe activities that will not be sustained beyond the grant period may only be funded for smaller, classroom-sized, container gardens.

Summary

There is limited funding to accomplish Team Nutrition's important goal of improving children's lifelong eating and physical activity habits. State agencies will want to ensure that the best use of the limited funding is achieved. In approving sub-grant requests, a positive answer should always be sought to the following questions:

1. Is the cost applicable to my grant and the sub-grant's objectives?
2. Is the cost allowable according to program cost principles?
3. Is the cost reasonable?

Attachment D – 2014 Team Nutrition Training Grant Application Cover Sheet

**2014 Team Nutrition Training Grant
CFDA 10.574**

State: _____

Applying for (check one):

- Competitive Grant
 Non-Competitive Grant

State Child Nutrition Director(s): _____

E-mail address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Grant Contact Person/Project Director: _____

E-mail address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

The complete application package **must be uploaded** on **www.Grants.gov** on or before Friday, May 9, 2014, no later than 5:00 PM Eastern Daylight Time. Applications received after the deadline date and/or time will be deemed ineligible and will not be reviewed or considered. **FNS WILL NOT** consider any additions or revisions to applications once they are received. ***FNS will not accept mailed or hand-delivered applications.***

Attachment E: Budget Narrative Checklist – This checklist will assist you in completing the budget narrative portion of the application. Please review the checklist to ensure the items below are addressed in the budget narrative.

NOTE: The proposal project description (statement of work) must capture the bona fide need. The budget and budget narrative must be in line with the proposal project description. FNS reserves the right to request information not clearly addressed.

	YES	NO
Personnel		
Did you include all key employees paid for by this grant under this heading?		
Are employees of the applicant’s organization identified by name and position title?		
Did you reflect percentage of time the Project Director will devote to the project in full-time equivalents (FTE)?		
Fringe Benefits		
Did you include your organization’s fringe benefit amount, along with the basis for the computation?		
Did you list the type of fringe benefits to be covered with Federal funds?		
Travel		
Are travel expenses itemized? For example: origination/destination points, number and purpose of trips, number of staff traveling, mode of transportation, and cost of each trip.		
Are the Attendee Objectives and travel justifications included in the narrative?		
Is the basis for the lodging estimates identified in the budget? For example, include excerpt from travel regulations.		
Equipment		
Is the need for the equipment justified in the narrative?		
Are the types of equipment, unit costs, and the number of items to be purchased listed in the budget?		
Is the basis for the cost per item or other basis of computation stated in the budget?		
Supplies		
Are the types of supplies, unit costs, and the number of items to be purchased reflected in the budget?		
Is the basis for the costs per item or other basis of computation stated?		
Contractual: (FNS reserves the right to request information on all contractual awards and associated costs after the contract is awarded.)		
Has the bona fide need been clearly identified in the project description to justify the cost for a contract or sub-grant expense(s) shown on the budget?		
A justification for all Sole-source contracts must be provided in the budget narrative prior to approving this identified cost.		
Other		
Consultant Services. – Has the bona fide need been clearly identified in the project description to justify the cost shown on the budget? The following information must be provided in the justification: description of service, the consultant’s name and an itemized list of all direct cost and fees, number of personnel including the position titles (specialty and specialized qualifications as appropriate to the costs), number of estimated hours x hourly wages, and all expenses and fees directly related to the proposed services to be rendered to the project.		
For all other line items listed under the “Other” heading, list all items to be covered under this heading, along with the methodology on how the applicant derived the costs to be charged to the program.		
Indirect Costs		
Is the amount requested based upon a rate approved by a Federal Agency? If yes, a copy of the negotiated rate agreement must be provided along with the application.		
If no negotiated agreement exists, the basis and the details of the indirect costs to be requested should also be reflected in the budget.		

FOR GRANT APPLICANT USE ONLY. DO NOT RETURN THIS FORM WITH THE APPLICATION

Attachment F-- Application for Federal Assistance Package

Application For Federal Assistance Package

Complete and sign the following information that is included in this section:

- Application and instructions for federal assistance (SF 424)
- Budget information and instruction (SF 424A)
- Assurances – non-construction programs (SF 424B)
- Disclosure of lobbying activities (SF LLL)

These federal forms are in an electronic version at <http://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/2014-training-grant-application>