



Missouri is required to prepare an annual application and report as part of the State MCH Block Grant program as well as undergo an annual federal review.

The State MCH Services Block Grant requires states to prepare an annual application and report as well as undergo a federal review. The federal review focuses on state accountability through annual progress reports, five-year needs assessments, and performance measure tracking, ensuring states use funds for maternal child health services appropriately while adhering to federal guidelines for accountability.

MCH Leadership met virtually with leadership from the MCH Bureau (MCHB) at HRSA, along with other federal partners from across HRSA, on December 12th for a comprehensive review of Missouri's MCH system and Title V MCH Services Block Grant. The reviewers, representing HRSA, the MCH Workforce Development Center, and the University of Alabama-Birmingham (past Alabama MCH Leadership), lauded the "remarkable breadth and depth" of Missouri's Title V annual application and report, clear and strategic use of partnerships, evidence-based and system-level strategies, and diverse efforts to support workforce development. Multiple innovative examples from Missouri's MCH efforts were highlighted by the reviewers and recommended for submission to the AMCHP (Association of MCH Programs) Innovation Hub and/or presentation at national conferences. The reviewers described Missouri's MCH efforts as "laudable, notable and an example for other states".

The federal fiscal year 2026 application and federal fiscal year 2024 annual report can be found here: <https://health.mo.gov/living/families/mch-block-grant/pdf/mch-ffy-2026-application-ffy-2024-annual-report.pdf>



January is National Human Trafficking Prevention Month

January is the dedicated month to raise awareness about human trafficking and to educate about how to identify and prevent this crime. Help the Missouri Network Against Child Abuse, MO-NACA, share communications on this important topic, using the [Community Partnership Guide](#).



Can LPHAs use a regional approach for the FFY2027-2031 contract work plan?

Agencies may work collectively in groups to address needs across a larger geographical area. In such cases, funding will be based on the total available to the geographical area working in such a collaborative relationship. Multi-geographical area proposals must address the same selected priority health issue(s) and must describe how this joint effort is to be delineated between all included jurisdictions. One of the partner LPHAs must be designated as lead, and the lead agency will be the Contractor or Contracting Agency. Letters of agreement with the Contracting Agency are required. Letters of agreement between partner LPHAs must be included as part of the proposal. The requirements for joint submission contract proposals as mentioned above, do not apply to local public health agencies of multiple geographic areas with combined governance (i.e., Columbia/Boone County, Phelps/Maries, and Tri-County [Worth, Gentry, DeKalb]).



Reminders

- January 2026 (FFY26) Invoicing tool/DA-38 due February 15, 2026
- FFY2027-2031 MCH Services Contract Work Plan, Priority Health Issue Meetings:
 - **January 8th, 2026**- Medical Home, Family-Centered Care, Child, Proposed Work Plan Meeting, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., virtual
 - **January 15th, 2026**- Preventive Dental Visit, Child, Proposed Work Plan Meeting, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., virtual
 - **January 22nd, 2026**- Adult Mentor, Adult Transition, Proposed Work Plan Meeting, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., virtual
 - **January 29th, 2026**- Family Strengthening, Proposed Work Plan Meeting, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., virtual

Upcoming Conferences that may be of interest:

- **33rd Annual Missouri Coordinated School Health Conference: Roots of Resilience: Growing Healthier Schools and Communities**
February 25-27, 2026, Lodge of Four Seasons, Lake Ozark, MO
<https://www.healthykidsmo.org/conferences/index.php>

- **2026 Maternal & Infant Health Convening
Navigating Pathways Forward**
March 4-5, 2026, Chesterfield, MO
<https://eventmobi.com/website/2026convening>
- **2026 Conference on the Young Years: Ignite Curiosity & Inspire Possibilities**
March 5-7, 2026, Osage Beach, MO
<https://dese.mo.gov/childhood/prof-dev/conference-young-years>
- **2026 Missouri Oral Health Policy Conference**
March 5-6, 2026, Jefferson City, MO
<https://www.oralhealthmissouri.org/2026-conference-information>
- **Disaster Behavioral Health Conference**
March 17-18 2026, Wyndham Executive Center, Columbia, MO
<https://katiehorst.wufoo.com/forms/wnxga7m1b28n1m/>
- **AMCHP 2026 Annual Conference**
March 7-10, 2026, Washington, DC
Sign up for the newsletter here for conference updates:
<https://amchp.org/amchp-conference/#conference-subscribe>
- **2026 Maternal SUD and NAS Summit, Save the Date**
March 31-April 1, 2026, Columbia, MO
- **2026 Missouri Crisis Intervention Team Conference**
April 9-10, 2026, Osage Beach, MO
<https://web.cvent.com/event/5c2ac99f-b0d0-4d1c-bbeb-ccf3371828d0/summary?environment=P2>
- **Spring LPHA Regional Meetings, 2026**
For more information, please contact Mary Blevins at mary.blevins@health.mo.gov
 - April 22- Northeast Region
 - April 23 – Northwest Region
 - April 28 – Central Region
 - April 29 – Southeast Region
 - April 30 – Southwest Region
- **Society for Public Health Education (SOPHE) 2026 Annual Conference, Save the Date**
April 22-24, 2026, Portland, OR
https://www.sophe.org/conferences_events/annual-conference/2026-annual-conference/
- **10th Annual Charting the Life Course Showcase 2026
A Framework. A Community. A Movement.**
May 5-7, 2026, Kansas City, MO
https://secure.touchnet.net/C20067_ustores/web/product_detail.jsp?PRODUCTID=6512&SINGLESTORE=true

- **9th National Cribs for Kids Conference**
Safe Sleep: Rooted in Evidence, Branching into Action
September 29-October 2, 2026, Pittsburgh, PA
<https://cribsforkids.org/conference/>



"Start this year knowing that each day brings a chance"