



ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES
Office of Family Assistance

HIMRF
HEALTHY MARRIAGE & RESPONSIBLE FATHERHOOD



Fatherhood FIRE

Family-Focused, Interconnected,
Resilient, Essential

General Overview of the
Funding Opportunity
Announcement

About the Webinar: Logistical Notes

- All participants are automatically muted during the webinar; you will only hear and see the presenters.
- If you have technical issues during the webinar, please type your issue in the Q&A box on the bottom right corner of your screen.
- Please direct all other questions to the points of contact listed in Section VII of the applicable Funding Opportunity Announcement. For the FOA discussed in today's webinar, the points of contact are:
 - Tanya R. Howell, Office of Family Assistance, Tanya.Howell@acf.hhs.gov
 - Bridget Shea Westfall, Office of Grants Management, bridget.sheawestfall@acf.hhs.gov
- To access closed captioning during the webinar, click on the closed captioning link on the bottom right corner of your screen.
- This webinar will be archived at: www.hmrfgrantresources.info

ACF Office of Family Assistance Presenter Introductions



Robin Y. McDonald
Division Director



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Welcome and Agenda Overview

- About the Webinar: Focus and Scope
- About the Responsible Fatherhood Program
- What's really important to know? (key highpoints of the FOA sections)
 - About the program (Key Points from Section I)
 - About award information (Key Points from Section II)
 - About applicant eligibility (Key Points from Section III)
 - About application and submission requirements (Key Points from Section IV)
 - About how applications will be evaluated (Key Points from Section V.1)
 - About what resources are available to you (Key Points from Sections VII and VIII, and the Appendix)

About the Webinar: Focus and Scope

- This webinar *will* cover:
 - High-level general and programmatic elements of Sections I-V of the FOA
 - Clarifications of FOA language
- This webinar *will not* cover or address:
 - Anything beyond language contained in the FOA
 - How/what to write for proposals or make any recommendations regarding whether your proposal will be competitive or will be funded
 - Will not cover the Performance Measure, Continuous Quality Improvement, or Local and Federal Evaluation requirements. Separate webinars are planned to address these issues for all applicants – see www.hmrfgrantresources.info for time/date
- This webinar will be archived at: www.hmrfgrantresources.info

About the Responsible Fatherhood Program

- **A Brief History of the OFA Promoting Responsible Fatherhood Programs**
 - Incorporated into US Law at 42 U.S.C. §603(a)(2); originally authorized in 2005; reauthorized in 2010
 - Appropriation authorized \$150 million for Healthy Marriage and Responsible Fatherhood promotion activities
 - \$75 million set aside for Responsible Fatherhood
 - This current competition is for the 4th cohort of Responsible Fatherhood funding

About the Fatherhood FIRE Program

- **Statutory categories:**
 - *Promote or Sustain Marriage*
 - *Responsible Parenting*
 - *Economic Stability*
- All three broad statutory categories must be implemented in the funded projects
- Each category lists specified activities. Not required to implement all *activities*, but must select one or more activities under each broad category

About the Responsible Fatherhood Programs

- **A Brief Overview of the Responsible Fatherhood Research Base**
 - Involved fathers are essential in raising children and they serve as models for their development
 - In the U.S., one out of every four children (over 19 million) live in a home without their biological father
 - More engaged fathers (including nonresident fathers) can help foster a child's healthy physical, emotional, and social development
 - Children with involved, loving fathers are more likely to (when compared with children with uninvolved fathers):
 - *Do well in school*
 - *Have healthy self-esteem*
 - *Exhibit empathy and pro-social behavior*

About the Responsible Fatherhood Programs

- **The Responsible Fatherhood Research Base (Cont.)**
 - These circumstances, research findings, and the congressional appropriation prompted the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) to fund Responsible Fatherhood programs
 - These efforts are designed to achieve several things:
 - *Strengthen positive father-child engagement;*
 - *Improve social and economic outcomes for fathers and their families;*
 - *Improve healthy relationships (including couple and co-parenting);*
and
 - *Promote or sustain healthy marriage.*

About the Responsible Fatherhood Programs

- **Assuring Continued Commitment to Responsible Fatherhood**
 - ACF's decades-long investment in HMRF has helped make its Responsible Fatherhood programs the guiding force to:
 - *Create and sustain stronger families*
 - *Foster or enhance vibrant communities*
 - *Build a strong society*
 - To ensure a continued trajectory to achieve Responsible Fatherhood goals and objectives, it is essential that funded programs:
 - *Make their organizations' leadership and other stakeholders aware of the importance of being committed to achieving all programmatic goals and objectives of this FOA*
 - *Use funds (if awarded) for these established purposes only; funding **is not** an add-on or gap-funding for non-HMRF-related organizational priorities, goals, and objectives*

What's really important to know...

...About the programs? (Key Points from Section I)

- *Section I.* of the FOA is an overview of the Fatherhood FIRE grant program - this is helpful so applicants understand expectations under the Fatherhood FIRE FOA
- The description includes information about:
 - The overall program;
 - The project activities;
 - Grantee responsibilities; and
 - Areas of interest to ACF and OFA

What's really important to know: About the programs? (Key Points from Section I)

PROGRAM PURPOSE AND SCOPE

- **Organizational Capacity**
 - ACF is interested in projects with demonstrated capacity, commensurate with your funding level
 - Large, Moderate, and Smaller Scope Services
 - *Large scope services: from \$1 million to \$1.5 million*
 - *Moderate scope services: from \$750,000 to \$999,999*
 - *Smaller scope services: from \$500,000 to \$749,999*
- **Use of Funds** (the following are key highlights of unallowable usages of program funds):
 - Mental health treatment or substance abuse treatment
 - Developing or implementing an Abstinence Education or Sexual Risk Avoidance Education **program**
 - Implementing a fee-for-Service for proposed activities, which means that program participants **must not pay** for services received under this FOA.
 - *Includes fees that serve as assurance of program attendance, registration fees, sliding-scale payments from participants, refundable or non-refundable deposits, fee for providing service to participants who are otherwise not eligible (e.g., where income is used for program eligibility, but participant does not meet the income requirement)*
 - Other unallowable uses. Funds under this FOA **must not** be used for:
 - *Subsidized housing, providing housing vouchers, or rental assistance; or*
 - *Child support payments*

What's really important to know: About the programs? (Key Points from Section I)

- **Programmatic Outcomes**

- Short-term outcomes include:

- *improved healthy relationship and marriage skills;*
 - *improved parenting and co-parenting skills;*
 - *increased frequency of father/child engagement;*
 - *increased financial responsibility of fathers;*
 - *progress toward greater economic stability, including increased skill attainment and employment; and*
 - *reduced recidivism (as appropriate).*

- Long-term outcomes include:

- *improved family functioning (couple relationships, parenting, and co-parenting);*
 - *improved adult and child well-being;*
 - *increased economic stability and mobility;*
 - *reduced poverty; and*
 - *reduced recidivism (as appropriate).*

What's really important to know: About the programs? (Key Points from Section I)

- **Programmatic Outcomes: Putting It All Together**
 - Logic Model is key
 - *Inputs*
 - *Activities*
 - *Outputs*
 - *Short-term outcomes*
 - *Long-term outcomes*

What's really important to know: About the programs? (Key Points from Section I)

Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Short-/Long-term Outcomes
<i>what resources go into a program</i>	<i>what activities the program undertakes</i>	<i>what is produced through those activities</i>	<i>the changes or benefits that result from the program</i>
e.g., money, staff, equipment	e.g., integrated programmatic-activities, development of materials, training, marketing, recruitment, case management	e.g., number of skills-based sessions held, employment services provided, intake and assessments conducted, case plans developed	e.g. increased skills/knowledge/confidence, leading in longer-term to promotion, new job, etc., across the 3 activities

What's really important to know: About the programs? (Key Points from Section I)

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

- **All three broad categories** must be incorporated into your program design: (1) Promote or Sustain Marriage; (2) Responsible Parenting; and (3) Economic Stability
- **BUT only one or more activities** under each category is required
- Note on Economic Stability
 - The general Economic Stability provision is required (just as Promote or Sustain Marriage and Responsible Parenting are)
 - Job-Driven Employment is an **optional** activity under Economic Stability. While you **must provide Economic Stability**, you are **not required to provide Job-Driven Employment** services.

What's really important to know: About the programs? (Key Points from Section I)

CURRICULA

- Must be evidence-based or evidence-informed, and must be skills-based
- Must be designed to improve outcomes under the *Programmatic Objectives and Outcomes* in *Section I*.
- Must also meet the critical components listed under CURRICULA, particularly that the curricula:
 - Must be father-focused
 - Must be of sufficient intensity:
 - *A minimum of 24 hours*
 - *Delivered in more than two sessions;*
 - *Delivered over more than a single weekend; and*
 - *Delivered over two weeks or more*
- Must be implemented in accordance with curriculum developers' guidelines to ensure curriculum integrity in service provision

What's really important to know: About the programs? (Key Points from Section I)

PROGRAM EXPECTATIONS

- **Program Participation Targets**
 - This is *new* for this cohort to maximize efficiency and cost effectiveness
 - Based on funding level request
 - Applicants must propose (and if awarded must serve) the specified number of clients within the minimum and maximum limits
- **PARTNERSHIPS** (and specific unallowable usage of funds)
 - Housing
 - Child Support

What's really important to know: About the programs? (Key Points from Section I)

SUBAWARDS

If funded, as a grantee (prime recipient), you are **required** to:

- Oversee and monitor all aspects of the award, including:
 - Programmatic;
 - Financial;
 - Administrative matters, including reporting; and
 - All these matters as they relate to subrecipients.
- Maintain substantial involvement in the program. This means you:
 - **Must** conduct activities and/or provide funded services (including attending all required conferences, meetings, and regional events)
 - **Must Not** serve as a pass-through for program funds
 - **Must** ensure that subrecipients meet all eligibility requirements identified in *Section III.1. Eligible Applicants*

What's really important to know: About the programs? (Key Points from Section I)

PARTICIPANT ELIGIBILITY AND TARGET POPULATIONS

- Eligible Participants
 - **Must** be an adult father (age 18 or more)
 - **Must** have a dependent child or young-adult child (the “child” cannot be over the age of 24) and must be actively engaged (see FOA)
 - May be from the general population or may have, or previously had, some contact with the criminal justice system (e.g., currently incarcerated and intend to return, or have returned, to their families and communities following incarceration)

What's really important to know: About the programs? (Key Points from Section I)

POST-AWARD REQUIREMENTS

- **Non-Discrimination in Program Eligibility**

- Protected classes (race, gender, age, disability, or religion)
- Services must be made available to mothers or expectant mothers on same basis as fathers and expectant fathers
- Recruitment activities and materials must comport with non-discrimination rules
- **However:**
 - *Projects must still be father-focused (not gender neutral in activities or curricula)*
 - *Requirements do not change the responsible fatherhood scope of the funded projects or father-focused outreach efforts*

What's really important to know: About the programs? (Key Points from Section I)

- **Domestic Violence**

- The statutory requirement is that applicants:
 - *Describe how the programs or activities proposed in the application will address, as appropriate, issues of domestic violence; and*
 - *Consult with domestic violence experts or relevant community domestic violence coalitions in developing the programs and activities*
- What we provide in this section of the FOA are things that applicants may want to consider in fulfilling those statutory requirements

- **Child Maltreatment**

- Is not a statutory requirement, but it is a programmatic requirement

What's really important to know: About the programs? (Key Points from Section I)

- **Staffing Levels for Key Project Positions**
 - Established four key project staff positions:
 - *Project Director*
 - *Project Manager (optional)*
 - *Data Manager*
 - *Financial Officer*
 - The FTE allocations for these positions must be at a level that is designed to ensure and maintain 100% overall project oversight, monitoring, fiscal and day-to-day management of the funded program

What's really important to know: About the programs? (Key Points from Section I)

- **Voluntary Participation**

- It is a statutory requirement
- Applicants will need to describe how they will ensure that participation is voluntary and how they will inform participants of same.
- Example of Involuntary participation:
 - *Court mandated participation (e.g., as a condition to avoid adjudication, probation or parole, a child visitation order, or child support order)*
 - **But**, *if the services you provide are on a list of organizations from which a participant may choose, then their participation is deemed voluntary even if court ordered*

- **Entrance Conference, Biennial Peer Meeting, and Regional Meetings**

- **Planning Period**

- **Post-Award Performance Measure, Continuous Quality Improvement, and Evaluation Requirements** (will be addressed in separate webinars; see www.hmrfgrantresources.info for dates and times)

What's really important to know: About award information? (Key Points from Section II)

Section II. Federal Award Information

- 60-month project period (annual appropriation)
- Non-competitive continuation (criteria for continued funding); funding will not exceed the amount awarded in the 1st year.
- Disqualification Factors - applicants should pay attention to *all* disqualification factors, and not just those highlighted in this overview:
 - Award ceiling disqualification is standard language in all ACF FOAs
 - Award floor disqualification (also referenced in *Section III.3. Other*)
 - One additional disqualification factor (Project Design Disqualification—Participant Age) is under *Section III.3 Other*; we will address it at that point

What's really important to know: About award information? (Key Points from Section II)

Section II. Federal Award Information (cont.)

- Local Evaluation Cost
 - For Fatherhood FIRE, specific allocation of funding for evaluation, based on the amount of funding you are requesting:
 - **Local Evaluation Required:** *If your funding request is from \$1,000,000 and \$1,500,000, you are **required** to propose a rigorous impact evaluation for post award review and approval. You must allocate 15%-20% of total budget per year for evaluation.*
 - **Optional (Descriptive OR Impact):** *If you **choose** to propose a local evaluation for post-award review and approval, and your funding request is from \$750,000 to \$999,999, then you have two options: (1) if you choose to conduct an impact evaluation, then you must allocate 15%-20% per year; or (2) if descriptive, then you must allocate 5%-10% per year for evaluation per year.*
 - **Optional (Descriptive Only):** *If you **choose** to propose a local evaluation for post-award review and approval, and your funding request is from \$500,000 to \$749,999 per year, then you can only propose a descriptive evaluation, and must allocate 5%-10% for evaluation per year.*

What's really important to know: About applicant eligibility? (Key Points from Section III)

Section III.1 Eligible Applicants

- Two categories
 1. Public (government) entities (states, territories, Native American tribes and tribal organizations)
 2. Public and non-profit community entities (including FBOs, and public or **private nonprofit** institutions of higher education)
- **For-profit entities**, including for-profit colleges or universities, **are not eligible** to apply for or receive funds under this FOA
- Review the eligibility definitions:
 - Public Institution of Higher Education
 - *For example, state colleges and universities (including community colleges), tribal, territorial, or [some] land grant colleges and universities [e.g., some HBCUs]*
 - Public or Private Nonprofit Community Entity (including **private nonprofit** institutions of higher education)
 - *Examples of Private Nonprofit Institutions of Higher Education include: private religious-based colleges/universities (e.g., BYU, Baylor, Catholic University); even large, private non-profit colleges and universities (e.g., Georgetown, University of Miami, Harvard); some HBCUs are also private nonprofit colleges and universities*
 - Accreditation for Institutions of Higher Education

What's really important to know: About applicant eligibility? (Key Points from Section III)

- Review the additional eligibility documentation requirements (see *Section IV.2, Project Description, Additional Eligibility Documentation*)
 - There is additional documentation required for organizations applying as a public institutions of higher education; and
 - There is additional documentation required for all organizations applying as public or private non-profit community entities.

What's really important to know: About applicant eligibility? (Key Points from Section III)

Section III. 2. Cost sharing or matching: No

- ACF is not requiring cost sharing or matching funds, **BUT**
- If applicants **choose** to include, you will be held to them if awarded

Section III.3. Other, OFA Disqualification Factors (additional)

- Applications under this FOA must be designed for adult fathers (age 18 or older)
- If project designs include minors (ages 17 and younger), they will be deemed non-responsive and removed from the competition; your application will not be reviewed
- If you're interested in providing parenting education/skills for fathers who are minors, then you should look to the READY4Life FOA

What's really important to know: About application and submission requirements? (Key Points from Section IV)

Section IV.2 Content and Form of Application

- Applicants must strictly adhere to these guidelines
- *2-File Requirement* (this requirement is standard for all FOAs funded by our agency); one file should be titled Project Description; the other Appendices
- Page limits: combined total of 100 pages in the **two** files.
Note: Any additional pages (**beyond the 100 page limit**) will **be removed from review**, which may result in a lower score
 - Standard forms do not count against the 100 page limit
 - Follow file name, titling and page limit guidelines

What's really important to know: About application and submission requirements? (Key Points from Section IV)

- **Remember:** Reviewers will be assessing your proposal against published criteria. Following the file naming and titling can make it easier for them to find, assess, and score your application.

Section IV.2. Content and Form of Application Submission

- Required Forms, Assurances and Certifications
 - Make sure to include all standard forms listed in the table

What's really important to know: About application and submission requirements? (Key Points from Section IV)

Section IV.2 Content and Form of Application Submission (cont.)

- The Project Description, Additional Eligibility Documentation

Additional eligibility documentation is required for:

- Applicants that are applying as Public Institutions of Higher Education (e.g., state (including public community colleges), tribal, or territorial college/university); or
- Applicants that are applying as Public and Private Nonprofit Community Entities, including public or **private nonprofit** institutions of higher education (e.g., HBCUs, private religious colleges and universities, or even large, private non-profit colleges and universities)

What's really important to know: About application and submission requirements? (Key Points from Section IV)

- The *Section IV.2. Project Description* is the applicant's primary instruction manual. Applicant's should also take into consideration items referenced in *Section I* and the specified evaluation criteria of *Section V.1 Criteria* when preparing their proposals.
- Each bold heading under *The Project Description* header is a separate component and each must be addressed.
- Key terminology: "Must" means must!
 - "Must include...describe....discuss....submit...incorporate" – what is being requested is required
 - "Must include, but is not limited to..." – elements that are being requested are required, but applicants may add others
 - "Must describe....include...(etc.)...one or more..." or "Which of the following..." – at least one listed element is required
 - "Where 'X' is included....proposed (etc.)...." – optional; applicant's discretion
 - "May also propose....." – optional; applicant's discretion

What's really important to know: About application and submission requirements? (Key points about Section IV)

Approach

- Plan of action that describes the scope and detail of the proposed project
- Must account for all functions or activities identified in the application
- Unless specified, all components under Approach are required
- Must be designed for the full 5-year project period
- Must identify and propose strategies designed to address potential obstacles and challenges

What's really important to know: About application and submission requirements? (Key points about Section IV)

The **Approach** section is comprised of several sub-headings. Applicants should consider each of the following as components of Approach:

- *Promoting or Sustaining Healthy Marriage*
- *Responsible Parenting*
- *Economic Stability (including optional Job-Driven Employment)*
- *Curricula*
- *Program Participation Targets*
- *Large Scope Services*
- *Intake, Enrollment, and Assessment of Needs*
- *Case Management*
- *Grant-Funded Participation Supports*
- *Partnerships*
- *Domestic Violence Requirement*
- *Child Maltreatment*
- *Voluntary Participation*

All components (including optional components that the applicant chooses to implement) must be addressed—especially since they align with the evaluation criteria. Applicants will want to use these headings so that it is clear to reviewers that these components are included in your proposals.

What's really important to know: About application and submission requirements? (Key points about Section IV)

Address the 3 broad statutory categories

- Promote or Sustain Marriage
- Responsible Parenting
- Economic Stability
 - Job-Driven Employment (optional)

What's really important to know: About application and submission requirements? (Key points about Section IV)

Curricula (see also *Section I Curricula*):

- Must propose and include a description of an evidence-based or evidence-informed curriculum(a) that clearly and directly align with all the provisions listed
- Must identify other skill-based curriculum
- Must include a justification for selecting the curriculum, how it aligns with the target population, how it aligns with the overall program model
- Any curriculum adaptations, applicants must address:
 - *proposed adaptations from original curricula*
 - *provide a rationale for the adaptations*
 - *provide an explicit written approval from the curriculum developer or state that written approval will be sought post-award*

What's really important to know: About application and submission requirements? (Key points about Section IV)

Program Participation Targets

- Applicants must clearly describe their target population, including demographic and geographic information.
- Applicants must describe how they will recruit, enroll, and retain all participants in primary workshops.
- Applicants must propose and describe a sufficiently intensive primary workshop, or set of workshops together.
- Applicants must detail their strategies for engaging participants so that they complete the program (completion is at least 90%), including any make-up sessions.

What's really important to know: About application and submission requirements? (Key points about Section IV)

Program Participation Targets (Continued)

- Applicant must identify program participation targets for each full project year that align with the funding levels requested
- Year 1, includes a 6-month planning period, applicants must describe how they will serve one-half (50%) of the clients per selected funding level
- **Applicants must provide a table** that includes year-by-year numbers of clients who enroll and attend:
 - at least one primary workshop
 - at least 50%, 90%, and 100% of primary workshops
 - if serving couples/co-parents/parenting pairs where both members enroll and attend at least one primary workshop, and 50%, 90% and 100% of primary workshops

What's really important to know: About application and submission requirements? (Key points about Section IV)

Large Scope Services

Applicants requesting funding from \$1 million to \$1.5 million must detail the need for and expected effects of large scope services on their communities:

- Applicants who propose to **serve large numbers of clients** must provide a justification (including a cost per client summary) and explain how the applicant can feasibly recruit the expected number
- Applicants who propose **high intensity services** must describe the full scope of services and specify how the intensive services will be provided (by the applicant organization itself and/or by other organizations)
- Applicants proposing to both **serve large numbers of clients** and provide **high intensity services** must provide significant justification, including the need for large scope services within the community and the capacity to provide intensive services

What's really important to know: About application and submission requirements? (Key points about Section IV)

Partnerships (including MOU requirements)

- Applicants must describe partnerships with any federal, state, local, tribal, and/or community-based collaboration
- For each partner, applicants must specify whether it is:
 - a source of recruitment of program participants;
 - an implementer of programming itself; and/or
 - referral agency for services needed but not available through the program
- Applicants must include a signed performance-based MOU between the applicant and each partner agency in accordance with *Third-Party Agreements* provisions of the FOA.
- For projects that include services to incarcerated and reentering adults, applicants must document partnerships with state, county, and local criminal justice

What's really important to know: About application and submission requirements? (Key points about Section IV)

Organizational Capacity

Capacity for Large Scope Services

- Applicants requesting funding from \$1 million to \$1.5 million:
 1. Must ensure financial statements/audit reports reflect an operational budget of at least \$900,000 per year for the two most recent years.
 2. Must describe commensurate past service provision (detailed in FOA).
 3. Must describe evaluation capacity (detailed in FOA).

Capacity for Moderate Scope Services

- Applicants requesting funding from \$750,000 to \$999,999:
 1. Must ensure financial statements/audit reports reflect an operational budget of at least \$500,000 per year for the two most recent years.
 2. Must describe commensurate past service provision (detailed in FOA).
 3. For those proposing impact evaluation, must describe evaluation capacity (detailed in FOA).

What's really important to know: About application and submission requirements? (Key points about Section IV)

Organizational Capacity (cont.)

Capacity for Smaller Scope Services

- Applicants requesting funding from \$500,000 to \$749,999
 1. Must ensure financial statements/audit reports reflect an operational budget of at least \$100,000 per year for the two most recent years.
 2. Must describe commensurate past service provision or current capacity (detailed in FOA).

Program Performance Evaluation Plan and Funded Activities Evaluation Plan will be addressed in the separate webinars.

What's really important to know: About application and submission requirements? (Key points about Section IV)

Project [Line-item] Budget and Budget Justification

- Note that there is one budget requirement, but five general areas that must be reflected:
 - General (listed in FOA after “Facilities”; personnel, fringe benefits, equipment, supplies, contractual, other, indirect charges)
 - Budgeting for Performance Data Operations
 - Local Evaluation Costs
 - Staffing Levels for Key Project Positions
 - Facilities
- Line-item budget and the budget justification must be clear, itemized, and specific (avoid use of “miscellaneous”); must be each year for full 5-year project period
- Line-item budget and the budget justification must be submitted in *Project Description* file

What's really important to know: About application and submission requirements? (Key points about Section IV)

- Funding restrictions, specified in Section IV.6, specify costs that cannot be applied to the grant as well as required specific allocations of costs.
 - For example, any costs incurred for preparing your grant application are not allowable costs. They cannot be included in your budget or budget justification, nor can they be otherwise reimbursed.
- Local Evaluation Costs
 - Remember: Impact evaluation required for funding requests of \$1 million to \$1.5 million
 - Pay attention to specific evaluation percentage allocations for each
- Linkages to Services that are not Fundable under this FOA
- Non-Supplanting

What's really important to know: About how applications will be evaluated? (Key points about Criteria in Section V.1)

5 Overarching Criteria

- Project Approach
- Organizational Capacity and Experience
- Project Management and Staffing
- Performance Measurement, Continuous Quality Improvement, and Evaluation
- Budget and Budget Justification
- Bonus Points (for eligible previously-funded HMRF grants of the 2015-2020 cohort)

Criteria Is Basis for Evaluation and Scoring

- Reviewers will evaluate and score an application based on the documents presented in the application and will not refer to, or access, external links or other documents during the review.
- Reviewers will only use published criteria (no materials that are not part of the Funding Opportunity Announcement; no websites via hyperlinks whether or not they are imbedded in the FOA).

Applicant Tip: Be sure to address **every** applicable (i.e., non-optional) criteria in your application.

What's really important to know: About how applications will be evaluated? (Key points about Criteria in Section V.1)

Criteria Highlights

- Project Approach has several sub-criteria (bold text), including:
 - Project design and approach (including incorporation of all three broad Responsible Fatherhood categories) – will apply to all
 - Case management – will apply to all
 - Domestic violence and child maltreatment – will apply to all
 - Services to incarcerated fathers – will apply to all who propose to serve this population
 - Job-Driven Employment Services – will only apply to applicants who choose to provide these services.
- Organizational Capacity
 - (Among other sub-criteria) description and verification of the organization's past service provision – will apply to all
- Project Management and Staffing
 - (Among other sub-criteria) description of all collaborations, partnerships, and MOUs or other third-party agreements with organizations and stakeholders – will apply to all

What's really important to know: About how applications will be evaluated? (Key points about Criteria in Section V.1)

Criteria Highlights (cont.)

- Performance Measurement, CQI, and Evaluation (also has sub-criteria)
 - Performance Measurement and CQI – will apply to all applicants
 - Local Evaluation criteria – will apply to (1) applicants that are **required** to propose local evaluations (i.e., \$1 million - \$1-5 million); and (2) applicants that **choose** to conduct local evaluations (based on their funding level requests).
- Budget and Budget Justification
 - First sub-criteria (General) will apply to all applicants
 - Second sub-criteria (Local Evaluation) – will apply to all applicants required based upon funding level or that choose to conduct local evaluations.
- Bonus Points
 - **Not** subject to peer review
 - Only applies to previous HMRF grantees awarded under the 2015-2019 cohort
 - Eligibility will be assessed post-review by OFA under the criteria listed

What's really important to know: About what resources are available to you? (Key points about Sections VII and VIII, and the Appendix)

Additional Resources

- See *Section VIII* and *Appendix* of the FOA for additional resources and tools that may be of interest.

Contacts for Fatherhood FIRE FOA:

- OFA: Tanya Howell at Tanya.Howell@acf.hhs.gov
- Grants Management (OGM): Bridget Shea Westfall at Bridget.Sheawestfall@acf.hhs.gov

Webinar Schedules and Updates

- HMRF Performance Measures and CQI Webinar; and HMRF Evaluation Webinar: time/date posted on www.hmrfgrantresources.info
- All webinars will be archived and posted on www.hmrfgrantresources.info

Thank You!

Together, we will work to support fathers and build stronger families!

