



INVESTING IN TEXAS FAMILIES:

A Step-by-Step Curriculum for Home Visiting Providers

Created by:

TexProtects



ABOUT TEXPROTECTS

TexProtects, the state chapter of Prevent Child Abuse America, is a statewide, nonprofit organization dedicated to creating a Texas where all children are safe, healthy and thriving. We champion evidence-based policies and programs that prevent child maltreatment before it occurs, recognizing that investing in prevention is far more effective and cost-efficient than reacting to abuse after it has happened. Our work is driven by a deep commitment to the well-being of Texas children and families, and we strive to build a strong network of advocates, community partners and policymakers to create lasting change.

We recognize the pivotal role that home visiting programs play in supporting vulnerable families and preventing child abuse and neglect. These programs provide vital resources, education and support to parents in their own communities, empowering them to create nurturing and stable environments for their children. We firmly believe that investing in home visiting is an investment in the future of Texas. As such, TexProtects is committed to providing comprehensive guidance, resources and support to organizations seeking funding. We understand that an application process can be complex and challenging, and we are dedicated to equipping you with the knowledge and tools you need to succeed.

Learn More About TexProtects at TexProtects.org



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Module 1:

Getting Started

Embark on your journey to securing public funding with this introductory module. We'll start by getting acquainted with the Texas Home Visiting (THV) grant program, then guide you through a self-assessment to determine if THV is the right fit for your organization. You'll discover which components make up the THV RFAs and how to maximize this curriculum as you take on the task of applying for funding.

Topics:

- ☐ What is the Texas Home Visiting (THV) Grant Program?
- ☐ Do You Qualify for THV Funding?
- ☐ Understanding the THV RFA
- ☐ How to Use this Curriculum

Recommended Staff:

- ☐ Executive Director/CEO
- ☐ Home Visiting Program Manager(s)
- ☐ Financial Manager



► What is the Texas Home Visiting (THV) Grant Program? | 1.1

Learning Objective: Participants will be able to articulate the fundamental components of the THV program, including its purpose, funding structure and eligibility criteria, to establish a foundational understanding for their THV application.

Welcome to the first step in your THV journey. Before we dive into the application specifics, it's crucial to establish a solid understanding of what THV is, its origins and its goals. This section will provide you with a clear overview of THV, including its purpose, funding structure and eligibility criteria. By understanding the foundational principles of THV, you'll be better equipped to frame your application in a way that aligns with the program's objectives.

□ THV: The 5 W's

What

- THV is the acronym used for the Texas Home Visiting program.
- It is a grant program that supports pregnant women and parents of young children through voluntary and evidenced-based home visiting programming.

Where

- THV is funded through the federal Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) grant program.
- MIECHV is the largest federal source of funding for home visiting. It flows to all 50 states and several territories, but is managed somewhat differently in each state.
- In Texas, MIECHV funding is managed by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC), whose Family Support Services (FSS) department administers the five-year grant, making grant awards to community-based organizations to serve families directly.
- Note: Each state is required to produce a needs assessment that determines which counties are eligible for funding.

When

- MIECHV was created in 2010 and reauthorized in 2022 at the federal level. The next round of THV funding will be available to Texas in 2027.

Who

- At the federal level, MIECHV uses the Home Visiting Evidence of Effectiveness or HomVEE (Learn more here: <https://homvee.acf.hhs.gov/>) to measure home visiting models' evidences of effectiveness. As of the spring of 2025, 24 different evidence-based home visiting models meet HomVEE qualifications for MIECHV funding.

- ▶ Texas follows HomVEE, meaning only programs that meet the MIECHV and HomVEE criteria are eligible for THV funding.

Why

- ▶ Depending on the model, evidence-based home visiting programs can meet a range of unique family needs and community goals, including maternal health, child development and school readiness. The approved programs have evidence-based outcomes that improve families' lives in 6 key areas:
 1. Improved maternal and newborn health
 2. Reduced child injuries, abuse and neglect
 3. Improved school readiness and achievement
 4. Reduced crime and domestic violence
 5. Improved family economic self-sufficiency
 6. Improved coordination and referrals for community services

Bonus: Watch!

To hear directly from the Health Resources & Services Administration about MIECHV, scan the QR Code below and watch their 5.5 minute video.



Can't scan the QR Code? See the video here: bit.ly/3SVBJw4

Reflection Question:

How does the mission and goals of THV align with your organization's existing work and values? _____

► Do You Qualify for THV Funding? | 1.2

Learning Objective: Participants will be able to assess their organization's eligibility for THV funding through a self-evaluation process.

To qualify for THV funding, organizations must utilize a HomVEE-approved model and be located in a community identified in the state's most recent Community Needs Assessment. (For more information on the Community Needs Assessment, check out Module 3 of this curriculum.)

Additionally, applicants must meet several operational and financial requirements. Eligible organizations may include nonprofit organizations, local government entities, school districts, educational institutions, healthcare providers, tribal organizations and collaborative partnerships with experience in delivering evidence-based home visiting programs.

☐ Activity: Self-Assessment

While TexProtects cannot guarantee any organization's eligibility for funding, the self-assessment below can help organizations determine if they may qualify.

QR code to the [self-assessment survey](#)



Can't scan the QR Code? See the self-assessment here: bit.ly/43wCdy9

Reflection Questions:

Based on your self-assessment, what are your organization's key strengths that align with THV requirements? _____

Are there any areas you'll need to address? _____

► Understanding the THV RFA | 1.3

Learning Objective: Participants will be able to outline the required documentation and paperwork needed to complete the THV application process.

Requests for Applications (RFAs) issued by Texas' Family Support Services (FSS) are formal announcements inviting organizations to apply for funding to provide services like home visiting, family support and child abuse prevention programs. RFAs outline the available funding, eligibility criteria, program requirements and application instructions.

These RFAs are typically posted on the Texas Health and Human Services (HHS) website and the Electronic State Business Daily (ESBD), which is the state's official platform for procurement opportunities.

RFAs are usually open for 30 to 60 days, though the specific timeline can vary depending on the program and funding availability. The application documents are organized into exhibits that provide detailed information. For example, the last THV RFA included 20 different exhibits that took a varying amount of time to complete.

Common exhibits include:

- ▶ **Administrative and Applicant Contact Information:** Applicants will need to fill out a variety of exhibits that help FSS understand their organizational structure and operating procedures. Some are simple, like a list of key staff, and others will take more time to create, like an organizational chart.
- ▶ **Budget and Financial Requirements:** The primary form applicants will need to fill out is Form 2030 (see module 4 for more information). Other financial forms will ask simple questions about the organization's financial management and internal controls.
- ▶ **Program Narrative Performance Measures and Reporting Guidelines:** A majority of the application will include short-answer questions. Questions vary from program summary, how you partner with community allies and how you track program efficacy.
- ▶ **Legal and Contractual Requirements:** A complete application for state funding will include a variety of legal documents, from Solicitation Affirmations to Terms, Conditions, and Special Conditions. These documents, presented as exhibits, are key for funding. Don't let these legalities be an afterthought! It is strongly recommended that your organization's leadership team review each document meticulously, ensuring everyone understands the legal commitments you're about to make.

► How to Use this Curriculum | 1.4

We understand that the prospect of applying for THV funding can feel daunting. The application process involves multiple components, detailed information and strict requirements, which can easily lead to feeling overwhelmed. **We want to assure you that you are not alone in this, and that's precisely why we've designed this comprehensive curriculum.**

This curriculum is a structured, step-by-step guide to help you navigate the THV application process with confidence. It's designed to break down the complex requirements into manageable modules, providing clear instructions, practical exercises and valuable resources along the way.

Think of this curriculum as your personal application coach. By diligently working through each module, you'll systematically address each aspect of the application. You'll not only learn what information is required but also how to effectively present it to demonstrate your organization's capacity and commitment to serving families.

Here's how this curriculum will help you:

- **Structured Approach:** It provides a clear, logical progression through the application process, preventing you from feeling lost or overwhelmed.
- **Practical Activities:** Hands-on exercises and templates allow you to actively apply the concepts and develop the necessary application components.
- **Clarification and Support:** We address common questions and concerns, providing explanations and guidance to eliminate confusion.
- **Time Management:** By completing the curriculum before the RFA launch, you'll save valuable time and reduce stress during the actual application period.
- **Comprehensive Coverage:** It ensures that you address all required aspects of the application, minimizing the risk of errors or omissions.

By the time you complete this curriculum, you will have all the pieces needed to apply for funding. You will have a well-organized application, a clear understanding of the process and increased confidence in your organization's ability to secure THV funding. We are here to support you every step of the way!