

encouraged to collaborate with joint proposals under this solicitation that is focused on bringing environment and health departments together to address environmental triggers of childhood asthma.

L. Eligible Expenses

- (1) Salaries/fringe;
- (2) Travel;
- (3) Communications;
- (4) Equipment rental;
- (5) Indirect overhead;
- (6) Public outreach efforts (workshops, public forums, meeting expenses);
- (7) Office expenses;
- (8) Printing and copying;
- (9) Conference and promotional materials; and
- (10) Web site dissemination of information related to the project.

M. Ineligible Expenses

- (1) Capital improvements;
- (2) Construction projects;
- (3) Lobbying or political activities;
- (4) Formal education;
- (5) Entertainment;
- (6) Remediation and removal ;
- (7) Provision of medical equipment and supplies;
- (8) Air sampling; and
- (9) Grants solely for equipment purchases.

Section V. Funding Priorities

N. Solicitation Phases

All states have a long history of working on childhood asthma. However, asthma has been seen traditionally as a health issue alone. In the course of the ECOS/ASTHO work with the states, states have become increasingly aware of the need for state environment and health agencies to develop collaboratively state strategies and actions to minimize environmental factors that contribute to asthma in children. Applicants are strongly encouraged to review the ECOS/ASTHO state draft action agenda, *Catching Your Breath*, at <http://www.astho.org/pubs/CatchingYourBreathReport.pdf> to gain a full understanding of the work to date by the states.

To help states progress regardless of where they are on the continuum, OCHP has divided this solicitation into two parts or "Phases," one for those states that are in the planning stages and one for states that are prepared to conduct demonstration projects to explore approaches to addressing the issues. These Phases are described below.

O. Funding Priorities and Sample Outcomes for Phase A Planning Projects

Note: States Receiving Planning Funding from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC): In order to be eligible for EPA planning funds, you must demonstrate that the activities you propose represent gaps in your current CDC work plan. For example, you might discuss how EPA funds will substantially enhance your ability to address the environmental components of the planning process.

(1) Guiding Principles

(a) Ensure that planning activities incorporate environmental factors relating to asthma.

(b) Ensure that the results are presented in terms that are sensitive and appropriate to the diverse languages and cultures of their audience.

(2) Funding Priorities

All planning proposals should include a strategic planning element that bridges state environment and health departments. Proposals may also focus on achieving results in one or more of the other Initiative areas listed below:

(a) *Strategic Planning:* Draft a statewide plan for addressing the environmental components of childhood asthma. This may be accomplished via a state Asthma Summit, a statewide series of participatory local forums, and/or any other process that results in a detailed statewide plan. Explicitly outline how official approval of this plan will be achieved.

Note: This strategic planning may be accomplished as a component of a larger state planning process to comprehensively address asthma. If the applicant is a CDC planning grant recipient, the strategic planning activities must substantially enhance the CDC-funded process and address environmental factors.

(b) *Surveillance:* Design a state level system to understand and uniformly track the burden of childhood asthma *as it relates to the environment*. This may include collection of environmental data as well as collection of health data. The surveillance plans could include a systematic evaluation of existing tracking mechanisms to identify data needs, best practices, information sharing opportunities, etc.

(c) *Coalition Building:* Build effective partnerships and/or coalitions to communicate, coordinate, and share resources. These coalitions of groups could include coordinated outreach to targeted communities; economic development including access to funds for building renovations that promote

healthy indoor environments for schools or child care centers, etc.

(d) *Institutionalize Environmental Management of Asthma:* Develop a state policy/plan that integrates environmental management of asthma into asthma disease management programs offered to children covered under Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program.

(3) Sample Outcomes/Results for Phase A Planning Projects

(a) An Asthma Strategic Plan is developed and adopted by the state environmental and health organizations.

(b) Coalition "Charter" is developed, detailing: membership responsibilities, bylaws, vision or mission statement, leadership responsibilities, and a budget (funding sources secured and allocated.)

(c) An integrated tracking system is established that can be used meaningfully by both health professionals and environmental agencies.

(d) A coalition is formed that facilitates the procurement of low cost materials for building renovations.

P. Funding Priorities and Sample Outcomes for Phase B Demonstration Projects

Note: Phase B Demonstration Project funding is intended for the development and evaluation of new approaches and is expressly NOT to be used to execute ongoing state programs.

(1) Guiding Principles

(a) Ensure that education, training, and outreach efforts are sensitive to and appropriately address the diverse languages and cultures of their audiences.

(b) Data should be gathered, analyzed, and presented at the "smallest" level possible—smallest geographic area, shortest possible time frame, smallest age range, etc.

(c) Consider utilizing existing programs and materials from EPA and other sources prior to developing new tools. Examples of existing resources include: EPA's IAQ Tools for Schools, Smoke-free Home Pledge Campaign and public service announcement (PSA) and Asthma brochures, PSAs and media campaign.

(2) Funding Priorities

Proposals should focus on achieving results in one or more of the Initiative areas listed below:

(a) *Collection, Integration and Use of Health and Environmental Data:* Eligible activities include but are not limited to: Implementing new asthma surveillance system(s); designing/