



# Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

## Department of Human Services

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December 14, 2009

The Honorable Peter Courtney, Co-Chair  
The Honorable Peter Buckley, Co-Chair  
Joint Committee on Ways and Means  
900 Court Street NE  
H-178 State Capitol  
Salem, OR 97301-4048



Re: Retroactive Request to Apply – Competitive and Non-Competitive  
Grant Components - ARRA Funded - State Supplemental Funding for  
Healthy Communities, Tobacco Control, Diabetes Prevention and  
Control, and Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System  
(DHS-PH-47)

Dear Co-Chairpersons:

### **Nature of the Request**

The Department of Human Services (DHS) Public Health Division (PHD) is requesting retroactive approval to apply for federal funds of up to \$4.34 million over 24 months beginning December 2009 and ending December 2011. The Joint Committee on Ways and Means was alerted on November 13, 2009 of the Departments intent to seek approval for this grant entitled “State Supplemental Funding for Healthy Communities, Tobacco Control, Diabetes Prevention and Control, and Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System” (Funding Opportunity Announcement CDC-RFA-DP09-90101ARRA09) available through ARRA.

The funding is available through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The request for applications was received on September 29, 2009, with a due date of November 24, 2009. This supplemental grant funding requires no state matching funds or maintenance of effort beyond the grant period.

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## **Agency Action**

The purpose of the Supplemental Funding for Healthy Communities, Tobacco Control, Diabetes Prevention and Control, and BRFSS is to implement evidence-based policy and environmental changes to support physical activity, healthy eating, and tobacco prevention and control throughout the state, reaching a broad population and working to eliminate health disparities.

The grant funds are available in three components. Proposed activities in each component include the following:

### **Component I - Statewide Policy and Environmental Change (Non-Competitive):**

- Provide support for the Governor's Wellness Initiative activities through state and local training opportunities and adoption of public and private worksite policies that support physical activity, healthy food and beverage choices, tobacco cessation, and prevention of exposure to secondhand smoke.
- Evaluate the adoption of physical activity, nutrition and tobacco-related policies by public and private workplaces, including schools and childcare settings, throughout the state through collection and analysis of survey data.

### **Component II - Special Policy and Environmental Change Initiatives (Competitive):**

- Expand the Tobacco Control Integration Project (TCIP) to all DHS Divisions including Addictions and Mental Health, Division of Medical Assistance, Children and Families, Seniors and Persons with Disabilities, and Administrative Services Division. This project would establish policies and environments to reduce tobacco use and exposure to secondhand smoke among DHS clients who have some of the highest smoking rates among the Oregon population.

**Component III - Tobacco Cessation through Quitlines and Media (Non-Competitive):**

- Provide tobacco cessation services to more Oregonians through the Oregon Tobacco Quitline.
- Expand media to motivate quitting.
- Collect detailed data on callers to the Quitline and evaluate quit rates.

The Governor's Wellness Initiative Steering Committee is comprised of public and private business organizations and is involved in planning and implementing the activities for the component focused on worksite policies. DHS Divisions are supportive and involved in developing the grant applications for the competitive component, and the PHD Tobacco Prevention and Education Program staff is coordinating with the Oregon Tobacco Quitline vendor to assure that capacity for increased calls to the Quitline is available.

If we are successful in securing the maximum funding available we estimate the following need for new limited duration position authority:

- Component I - Two FIE will provide leadership and coordination for the Governor's Worksite Initiative with public and private sector employers, including childcare and schools, to adopt worksite policies for tobacco, physical activity, and nutrition.
- Component II Tobacco - Three FTE will provide coordination in DHS divisions for activities to promote tobacco cessation and reduce exposure to secondhand smoke among DHS clients.

Staffing levels will be adjusted based on the final award and negotiation with CDC.

This funding opportunity does not require any maintenance of effort by the state and there is no expectation that the state will fund these activities at the end of the grant period. CDC is requiring that the work funded by these awards be focused on adoption of policies that will be sustainable after the funding ends.

We are aware of two recently mandated Oregon legislative reports related to obesity prevention that recommend substantial investment in evidence-based interventions including worksite health promotion.

Additionally, the statewide tobacco prevention plan recommends increasing tobacco taxes and using significant funding for tobacco prevention. If changes to current policy were adopted and additional state funds were made available, it could conceivably support continuation of one or more of these activities.

**This grant is a result of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).**

**Action Requested**

The Oregon Department of Human Services Public Health Division requests retroactive approval to apply for federal funds available through ARRA for the State Supplemental Funding for Healthy Communities, Tobacco Control, Diabetes Prevention and Control, and Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System grant for federal funding up to \$4.34 million over two years.

**Legislation Affected**

None.

For additional information, please call Katrina Hedberg at 971-673-0982.

Sincerely,



Jim Scherzinger  
Deputy Director of Finance

CC: John Britton, Legislative Fiscal Office  
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Kelly Freels, Department of Administrative Services  
Blake Johnson, Department of Administrative Services