



Hypertension in Pregnancy Quality Improvement Mini-Grant Application

Purpose: To implement, support, and develop systems, services, policies, tools, and resources that improve health and care of pregnant patients experiencing or at risk of hypertension in pregnancy.

Eligibility

The Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine (SMFM), through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Million Hearts® initiative, invites **maternal-fetal medicine (MFM) subspecialists and MFM Fellows working in clinical practices in the United States that are engaged in preventing, diagnosing, and/or treating hypertension in pregnancy** to apply for funding to improve the health and care of patients experiencing or at risk of hypertension in pregnancy. This funding is intended to support the expanded use of systems, services, policies, tools, and resources such as those championed in the [Million Hearts® Hypertension in Pregnancy Change Package](#).

Priority will be given to applicants who demonstrate the capacity to implement quality improvement plans within the project timeline. Applicants should have specific and measurable process goals with the intention of generating lasting impacts (e.g., qualitative or quantitative outcomes).

Due Date and Timeline

Application submissions are due December 4, 2026, at 8:00 pm Eastern Time (ET). We intend to fund approximately 20 applicants for up to \$25,000 each. The application process is competitive.

Key dates are outlined below, with a period of performance between January 8, 2027 – August 31, 2027.

By November 2, 2026	Application released Answers to questions posted on FAQ document (see details below)
December 4, 2026	Application closes
By January 8, 2027	Recipients notified Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) initiated Payment initiated upon MOU execution
January 2027	Introductory meeting with SMFM team and Q&A (virtual) <i>Recipients are asked to join one of the following virtual introductory sessions:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thursday, January 21, 2027, 12:30-1:15pm ET• Friday, January 22, 2027, 11:00-11:45am ET• Tuesday, January 26, 2027, 4:00-4:45pm ET• Wednesday, January 27, 2027, 2:00-2:45pm ET

Bi-monthly	Project check-ins with SMFM team, including progress reporting, via email
TBD	Funded recipients' cohort meeting (virtual) <i>Recipients will have the opportunity to give a brief update on their project and hear from other recipients</i>
April 30, 2027	Mid-project summary due
August 31, 2027	Final summary report due <i>Report template will be provided. SMFM will request specific information, including project synopsis, learnings, successes, challenges, types of clinicians involved, and number of OB visits and deliveries in grant timeframe, and any plans for sustainability</i>
Ongoing	Follow-ups as needed

Project Overview

The resources provided through this opportunity are intended to support the use of systems, services, policies, tools, and resources that enhance, optimize, and expand diagnosis, prevention, and/or treatment of hypertension in pregnancy, particularly chronic hypertension. Successful applicants will demonstrate the ability to replicate or expand initiatives ideas from the [Million Hearts® Hypertension in Pregnancy Change Package](#) or otherwise employ creative solutions to improve health and care of pregnant patients experiencing or at risk of hypertensive disorders of pregnancy.

Applicants are encouraged to review the change concepts and change ideas from the [Million Hearts® Hypertension in Pregnancy Change Package](#) for examples of strategies to be implemented, scaled, or spread via this project. Possible projects may include, but are not limited to, implementing low-dose aspirin for preeclampsia prevention, coordinating care for patients with chronic hypertension, analyzing data from remote blood pressure monitoring programs, and supporting accurate blood pressure measurement by equipping examination rooms and educating teams on proper techniques.

Formal research projects cannot be funded. The United States Department of Health and Human Services Office of Research Integrity defines research as “systematic investigation, including research development, testing and evaluation, designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge.”

Awardees will be invited to share lessons learned among participating recipients.

Application Format

Required format for proposals:

- Format: PDF
- Size: 12-point font, Arial
- Spacing: Single-spaced
- Margins: 1-inch; include page numbers

Applicant Contact Information

- Agency / Organization Name:
- Address:
- Primary Program Contact Name:
- Title:
- Email Address:
- Phone Number:

Project Abstract (250-word limit)

Briefly describe the proposed project. Include overarching goals, high-level approach, engaged staff and partners, the intended accomplishments and impact of your project, and any other agencies or organizations that may be included as collaborators in project implementation.

Project Overview (500-word limit)

This section should answer the following questions: 1) What are you planning to do? 2) Which strategies from the [Million Hearts® Hypertension in Pregnancy Change Package](#) and/or other resources will be employed? 3) What is the rationale / unmet need this project fulfills? 4) What populations, if any, are you prioritizing with this project? Why?

Organizational Capacity and Experience (300-word limit)

Describe your organization and core staff responsible for completing your proposed work, and the roles of key partners, if any, who will be involved in implementation. Include: 1) Your organization's past or current hypertensive disorders of pregnancy work, as well as any analogous projects which demonstrate your capacity to execute your proposed project; include hyperlinks where appropriate. 2) History of collaboration with your selected or proposed implementation partners, if any.

Evaluation and Performance Plan (250-word limit)

This section should answer the following questions: 1) How will you measure this project's success? What indicators of progress will you use? 2) While the project timeline likely precludes utilization of traditional outcome measures, please describe how you intend to gauge the success of your projects via process measures and other metrics which align with the goals of the funding and intent. 3) What elements of the project plan may be sustained beyond the timeline for this funding opportunity?

Budget Proposal

Funding is intended to enhance capacity to implement awardees' projects in a short timeframe. As a result, preference will be given to applicants who devote most funding to implementation costs. Please provide a line-item budget as part of your submission.

Total budget cannot exceed \$25,000. There is an indirect cap rate of 20%; any indirect costs must be included in the \$25,000 budget limit.

SMFM reserves the right to negotiate project budgets within the first 45 days of notification for selected awardees.

Review Process

The primary review criteria will align with evidence-based practices for addressing hypertensive disorders of pregnancy, the ability to execute proposed strategy(ies), and the likelihood of achieving intended outcomes. Reviewers may be from SMFM, CDC Million Hearts®, and other external experts, as appropriate. The evaluation process will include individual committee member evaluations and ratings of each proposal, followed by committee discussion and ranking of proposals. After preliminary rating and ranking of proposals, interviews may be scheduled with finalists and/or professional references may be requested, particularly if two or more proposals are closely rated and/or more information is needed.

Submission Instructions & Questions

SMFM will allow and respond to questions about the RFP via email, posting answers on a [FAQ document](#), which will be updated regularly. Please submit questions to hypertension@smfm.org.

Completed applications should be submitted via [this link](#) no later than 8:00 pm Eastern Time (ET), December 4, 2026.

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