

Fatherhood and Marriage Funding Provisions in TANF Reauthorization Bills

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Responsible Fatherhood Funds in House and Senate Finance Bills

Responsible Fatherhood Funds: House Bill

\$20 million per year authorized but not appropriated for:

- Competitive grants for full-service projects.
- Competitive grants for limited-service projects.
- 2 multi-state demonstration projects.
- National fatherhood project.
- HHS evaluations.

Fatherhood Projects: House Bill

- Preference for projects serving low-income fathers.
- Service grants available to public entities, non-profit community entities, tribes, and tribal organizations.
- Full-service projects must meet 4 objectives.
- Limited-service projects (under \$25,000) must meet 1 objective.
- 15% set-aside for multi-state demonstrations, national clearinghouse, and evaluations.

Project Objectives: House Bill

- **Parenting** (e.g., counseling, mentoring, parenting education, skills, positive involvement)
- **Providing material support** (e.g., coordination and outreach to assisting unemployed and low-income fathers to take advantage of job training, search, education; child support)
- **Managing family business affairs** (e.g., household management, budgeting, banking, home maintenance)
- **Marriage** (e.g., premarital education, skills, divorce education and reduction, family violence)

Collaboration: House Bill

Grantees must coordinate with:

- state and local protective service and domestic violence programs;
- state and local TANF, child support, child welfare, and WIA one-stop agencies;
- health service providers addressing substance abuse and sexually-transmitted diseases including HIV/AIDS.

Family Violence: House Bill

Grant applicants must describe “how the entity will assess for the presence of, and intervene to resolve, domestic violence and child abuse and neglect, including how the entity will coordinate with State and local child protective service and domestic violence programs.”

Responsible Fatherhood Funds: Senate Finance Bill

- \$20 million per year: Demonstration grants to up to 10 states.
- \$30 million per year: Demonstration grants to local public and private entities.
- \$20 million per year: State media campaign block grants.
- \$5 million per year: National clearinghouse and media campaign.

State Demonstration Projects: Senate Finance Bill

HHS to award demonstration grants to 10 states:

- \$20 million for FY 2004-2008 authorized but not appropriated.
- Projects must address 2 out of 3 purposes.
- Preference for states demonstrating need or progress.
- No funds may be used for court proceedings related to child visitation or custody or for legislative advocacy.

Local Demonstration Projects: Senate Finance Bill

HHS to award demonstration grants to public and private entities:

- Local governments; local public agencies; community-based or nonprofit organizations; private entities, including charitable or faith-based; and Indian tribes.
- Projects must address 2 out of 3 purposes.
- \$30 million for FY 2004-2008 authorized but not appropriated.
- No funds may be used for court proceedings related to child visitation or custody or for legislative advocacy.

Project Participants: Senate Finance Bill

- Demonstration projects must target low-income participants.
- 50% of participants must be:
 - Parents of a child who is or has been a TANF, child support, foster care, Medicaid, or Food Stamp recipient within the last 24 months, or
 - Parents with incomes that do not exceed 150% poverty.

Project Purposes: Senate Finance Bill

- **Marriage** (e.g., counseling, mentoring, marital inventories, marriage education, relationship skills, family violence, financial planning, home maintenance, divorce education, divorce reduction, mediation)
- **Parenting** (e.g., counseling, mentoring, mediation, skills, encouraging child support)
- **Economic stability** (e.g., work first, subsidized employment, job search, job training, subsidized job retention, encouraging career-advancing education, coordination)

Media Block Grants: Senate Finance Bill

- \$20 million for FY 2004-2008 authorized but not appropriated.
- States must coordinate media campaigns with domestic violence programs.
- States must use media grants to promote the formation and maintenance of healthy 2-parent married families, strengthen fragile families, and promote responsible fatherhood.
 - Produce broadcast advertisements
 - Establish airtime challenge program
 - Other media campaigns

Collaboration: Senate Finance Bill

Grantees must:

- describe how “the State will coordinate and cooperate with State and local entities responsible for carrying out...jobs programs and programs serving children and families”;
- consult with domestic violence experts.

Domestic Violence: Senate Finance Bill

Grantees must:

- consult with experts in domestic violence or community domestic violence coalitions in developing programs or activities;
- describe “how the programs or activities proposed to be conducted will address, as appropriate, issues of domestic violence”;
- describe what the grantee will do to ensure that and inform participants that their involvement is voluntary.

Marriage Promotion Funds in House and Senate Finance Bills

Marriage Funds: House Bill

- **\$200 million per year:** \$100 million per year in state competitive grants for healthy marriage promotion, with an additional \$100 million in federal TANF funds made available for state matching funds.
- **\$100 million per year:** HHS funds for research, demonstration, technical assistance “primarily” for marriage promotion activities.
- Federal funds appropriated for FFY 2003 through 2008.

Marriage Funds: Senate Finance Bill

- **\$200 million per year:** \$100 million per year in state competitive grants for healthy marriage promotion, with an additional \$100 million in federal TANF funds made available for state matching funds.
- **\$100 million per year:** HHS funds for research, demonstration, technical assistance; 80% earmarked for marriage promotion activities.
- Funds appropriated for FFY 2004 through 2008.

Healthy Marriage Grants: House and Senate Finance Bills

- Competitive grants available to states, territories, tribes, and tribal organizations.
- 50% state match requirement.
- States can match federal marriage funds with federal TANF funds.

Healthy Marriage Activities: House and Senate Finance Bills

- Public advertising campaigns
- High school education
- Marriage education and skills for expectant couples
- Pre-marital education for couples interested in marriage
- Marriage enhancement and skills for married couples
- Divorce reduction
- Marriage mentoring
- Programs to reduce the disincentives to marriage in means-tested aid programs (if offered with another activity)

Domestic Violence: Senate Finance Bill

Grantees receiving competitive funds must:

- consult with experts in domestic violence or community domestic violence coalitions in developing programs or activities;
- describe “how the programs or activities proposed to be conducted will address, as appropriate, issues of domestic violence”;
- describe what the grantee will do to ensure that and inform participants that their involvement is voluntary.