

Tuberculosis (TB) Elimination Alliance Mini-Grants Program 2025 Request for Funding Proposal (RFP)

INTRODUCTION: The TB Elimination Alliance (TEA) is offering Mini-Grants to organizations serving communities at increased risk for TB. Mini-Grant proposals must align with priority areas and activities that reflect community engagement and education, provider education, and/or quality improvement. **The deadline to apply is Friday, June 20, 2025, by 5:00 p.m. PT.**

ELIGIBILITY: In order to qualify for this award, applicants must be from or working directly with organizations that serve communities at increased risk for TB. Community-based organizations and community health centers will receive higher priority. High priority will also be given to organizations that have the capacity and existing relationships to provide services to these populations. Funds up to \$10,000 will be provided to up to 10 selected organizations.

Applicants should review/consider existing TB educational materials published by <u>CDC's</u> <u>Centers of Excellence</u> (COEs) and <u>CDC's Think. Test. Treat TB campaign materials</u> into their activities where appropriate. Eligible applicants must have the capacity to directly implement the proposal, collect evaluation data as required, provide written reports, and manage the funds appropriately. Applicants must submit a project narrative, budget, and work plan that will be evaluated by a grants committee.

PURPOSE: The main purpose of this RFP is to enhance community engagement and education, provider education, and quality improvement on latent TB infection (LTBI) and/or TB. The population of focus is on communities at increased risk for TB and supporting activities at the local level to advance the U.S. TB prevention and elimination goals.

FUNDING DISCLAIMER: Funding for this Contract is contingent on the availability of funds and continued authorization for program activities and the Contract is subject to amendment or termination due to lack of funds, reduction of funds and/or change in regulations.

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This RFP focuses on the TB Elimination Alliance's priority areas:

- 1. Raise awareness about the link between LTBI and TB disease, address misperceptions, decrease stigma, and encourage and facilitate testing and treatment for LTBI and TB;
- 2. Increase awareness of the recommended shorter treatment regimen for LTBI;
- 3. Encourage providers to test and treat LTBI among populations at increased risk;
- 4. Create culturally and linguistically responsive LTBI and TB education, training and community engagement resources and activities that resonate with communities; and
- 5. Develop and implement a comprehensive outreach and education campaign focused on reducing the rates of TB disease among communities at increased risk.

The TB Elimination Alliance Mini-Grants program for 2025-2026 will include opportunities for all priority areas.

PROPOSAL: All applicants are to address one or more of the five TB community engagement priority areas listed above and develop related activities to support community engagement and education, provider education, and/or quality improvement to increase or facilitate access to LTBI/TB testing and treatment.

Mini-Grant activities can include, but are not limited to:

- Raising awareness of LTBI/TB in communities at increased risk
- Coordinating with state/local LTBI/TB programs and the four TB Centers of Excellence (COEs)
- Identifying and developing systems for innovative strategies to increase LTBI/TB education
- Identifying and developing systems and strategies to improve or implement policies and procedures to test and treat LTBI/TB populations at increased risk
- Identifying and addressing specific local barriers to LTBI/TB community education and engagement, provider education, and quality improvement
- Developing strategies for reaching specific, hard-to-reach populations in your communities
- Developing provider awareness and encouragement tools to test and treat LTBI/TB populations at increased risk

Applicants may frame their proposed activities in the following categories. Additional example activities are noted below within each category.

Community Engagement and Education

- Conducting culturally and linguistically responsive public education/outreach on LTBI/TB risk, testing and treatment (e.g., traditional and non-traditional outreach methods)
- Developing local partnerships to increase visibility and dissemination of messages regarding stigma related to LTBI/TB in the community

Provider Education

- Training clinical and/or non-clinical staff on testing and treating of LTBI and the shorter courses of LTBI treatment
- Addressing misconceptions of TB blood test versus TB skin tests
- Raising awareness of local populations at increased risk for LTBI/TB

Quality Improvement

- For community health centers: Developing or modifying Electronic Health Record system templates to identify patients at risk that require LTBI/TB screening
- For community health centers and/or community-based organizations: Standardizing data collection for LTBI/TB testing and treatment
- For community-based organizations: Developing policies, and procedures for outreach

PROJECT SITES: Project sites receiving a mini-grant award will be offered ongoing support and technical assistance throughout the 8-month project period. Technical assistance will focus on providing key resources to support proposed activities (i.e., CDC's recommended communication strategies to amplify LTBI/TB testing and treatment; resources on data collection and management, technology platforms). Technical assistance and support will also allow project sites to make use of best practice models and existing educational tools and resources for communities at increased risk.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Designate a lead point of contact to provide ongoing communication with the Association
 of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations (AAPCHO), including quarterly briefing
 calls (schedule will be determined at a mutually convenient, regular date) with all grantees.
- Participate in the Mini-Grants training webinar.
 - The training webinar will cover: Key information about TEA, program grantees and expectations, and important dates.
- Participate in a spotlight/feature on the TEA website.
- Participate in monthly TEA Network meetings (if applicable) and training webinars.

- Establish and maintain a system for tracking activities, outreach, and project outcomes
 and submit regular progress reports to TEA and AAPCHO throughout the grant period at
 both the midpoint and end of the grant period.
- Provide a "Lessons Learned" presentation on a TEA Network meeting.
- Ensure availability and willingness to attend in-person conferences, summits, and other
 national outreach and educational campaigns hosted or sponsored by TEA, if invited or if
 such events are scheduled during the grant period.
- Engage local/state TB program officials on activities for awareness and support as needed.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: All items must be submitted online at https://bit.lv/2025-26teamqprfp by Friday, June 20, 2025, by 5:00 p.m. PT.

PROPOSAL FORMAT: The application, which is to be submitted online, should also include additional documents (listed below) and should be submitted in the form of PDF documents.

- Budget Proposal (please use the provided Budget Template)
- 1-page detailed timeline of activities
- At least one letter of support from an individual/organization.

Project Narrative: Include a detailed description of the proposed project.

Section 1: Description of Organization

- 1. Please provide an overview of your organization including your history, mission, membership, and priorities. (250 word limit)
- Please describe your organization's experience working in collaboration with other community-based organizations, health agencies, or local government entities to engage communities that experience systemic barriers to care. (250 word limit)
- 3. Please describe your organization's experience serving and addressing communities at increased risk for LTBI/TB. (250 word limit)
- 4. If available, please describe any data that has been collected within your organization related to TB with communities at increased risk (e.g., geographic incidence rates, sex, age, demographics, country of origin, risk factors, assessments, etc.). (250 word limit)
- 5. Please describe any innovative or unique strategies your organization has implemented to increase LTBI/TB testing, treatment, and adherence among populations at increased risk. (250 word limit).
- 6. Is your organization currently receiving funding for LTBI/TB activities? If yes, please describe how your proposed activities will be complementary and not duplicative. (50 word limit)

7. Is your organization currently receiving funding from TEA? If yes, please describe how your proposed activities will be complementary. (50 word limit)

Section 2: Description of Project Goals, Activities, and Evaluation

- 1. Please describe your project goals and activities. (500 word limit)
- 2. Please describe how your project goals and activities meet the <u>needs</u> of your community and/or organization. (250 word limit)
- 3. Please describe or list expected project outputs/outcomes (e.g., # of persons reached/educated about TB, change in skills, knowledge, attitudes, behavior), and your evaluation plan for meeting your project goals. The evaluation plan must include baseline measures (e.g., initial measurement data collected prior to the project activity). (500 word limit)
- Please describe your internal resources or organization structure (e.g., staffing roles and responsibilities) that will support implementation of the project and goals. (250 word limit)
- 5. Please describe any potential challenges or barriers your organization anticipates in implementing the proposed activities and how you plan to address them. (250 word limit)
- 6. Please describe how your organization plans to sustain and build upon the proposed activities beyond the grant period. (250 word limit)
- 7. Please attach a 1-page detailed timeline of your project activities.

Section 3: Budget

1. Please attach an itemized budget for your project with detailed justification for proposed activities in an 8-month time period. (please use the provided <u>Budget Template</u>).

Section 4: Letter of Support

1. Please attach at least one letter of support (required for "Community Engagement and Education", "Provider Education" and "Quality Improvement" proposals) from an individual/organization.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Please email the Tuberculosis Elimination Alliance at tea@aapcho.org with any questions.

APPLICATION TIMELINE AND PROCESS:

Activity	Date	
Application Submission Period	May 21 - June 20, 2025	
Application Deadline	June 20, 2025, by 5:00 p.m. PT	
Award Status Notification	July 2025	
Award Contract Process	August 2025	
Grant Period	September 1, 2025 - April 30, 2026	

INFORMATION SESSION AND WORKSHOPS:

Activity	Date	Time	Registration Link
Information Session	May 29, 2025 May 30, 2025	10:00 a.m. HT / 1:00 p.m. PT / 4:00 p.m. ET 6:00 a.m. ChST / 8:00 a.m. Marshall Islands	Register Here
*One-on-one Technical Assistance Support Session	May - June 2025	Please email tea@aapcho.org to schedule.	

^{*}One-on-one technical assistance is on a first come basis. Interested applicants should submit their interest, and will receive more information within two (2) business days.

All questions and answers will be posted on the TB Elimination Alliance webpage at http://tbeliminationalliance.org. Those interested in applying are strongly encouraged to email questions beforehand to tea@aapcho.org.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

- <u>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Division of Tuberculosis Elimination</u> <u>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Find TB Resources</u>
- Centers of Excellence TB Training and Education Products
- National Tuberculosis Coalition of America Resources