



March 5, 2018

Summary of Maternal, Infant & Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) Program in the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018

Congress reauthorized the Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) program for five-years at level-funding of \$400 million annually in the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018. The following is a summary of the provisions reauthorizing MIECHV:

- ❖ **Reauthorization Term:** Reauthorizes MIECHV from FY 2017 through FY 2022 at level-funding of \$400 million annually.
- ❖ **Performance Progress:** Requires eligible entities to continue to measure improvement in applicable benchmark areas, and not more than 30 days after the end of FY 2020, and every three years thereafter, eligible entities must demonstrate improvements for eligible families participating in the program in at least 4 of the benchmarks.
 - Entities failing to demonstrate progress in at least 4 of the benchmarks shall develop and implement a corrective action plan with continued oversight by the Secretary of Health and Human Services. If the eligible entity fails to make improvements, the Secretary shall terminate the grant.
- ❖ **Statewide Needs Assessment:** As a condition of receiving grants, states must conduct a statewide needs assessment, which shall be renewed and updated by the state no later than October 1, 2020.
- ❖ **Pay for Outcomes:** States have the authority to use up to 25 percent of grant funds for outcomes or success payments related to pay-for-outcomes initiatives provided they do not result in a reduction of funding or services delivered under a childhood home visiting program.
- ❖ **Data Exchange Standards:** The head of a department charged with administering MIECHV funding, in consultation with an interagency work group established by the Office of Management and Budget shall designate data exchange standards.
- ❖ **Allocation of Funds:** Requires the Secretary to make grant awards to entities based on the most accurate federal data available. This provision corrects past practices of awarding grants to territories based on inaccurate or outdated information regarding the size of their populations and relative determinations of population and poverty considerations.