Developmental Monitoring in WIC Project: Supported State/Local Agency Information Sheet

Application Due: December 15, 2026
Project Dates: January 15, 2027 – August 31, 2027

Funding Overview

The Association of State Public Health Nutritionists (ASPHN), in partnership with the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and on behalf of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) *"Learn the Signs. Act Early."* (LTSAE) Program, invites state, territory, ITO, and local WIC agencies to apply for funding and technical assistance to integrate or expand developmental monitoring within WIC clinics.

- Total Funding Available: $29,000 (in materials and technical assistance)
- Expected Awards: 3–5
- Eligible Applicants: State, territory, ITO, or local WIC agencies
- Funding Structure: ASPHN will manage funds directly and purchase materials on behalf of selected agencies. No direct monetary awards will be issued.

Purpose of the Award

To strengthen and expand the systematic implementation of LTSAE within WIC clinics through tailored materials, training, and technical assistance that promote early identification of developmental milestones and concerns.

Awarded agencies will:

- Implement LTSAE in at least two WIC clinics.
- Pilot new implementation, expand existing efforts, or enhance current programs (e.g., virtual checklists or staff training).
- Participate in a supportive learning network with individualized guidance and resources.

Benefits of Participation

Selected agencies will receive:

- Supplies and materials to integrate LTSAE into at least two WIC clinics. Potential costs could include:
  - WIC Customized Milestone Checklists
  - Wall and Floor Graphics for each clinic (1 set of each per clinic)
  - LTSAE posters, milestone tracker app flyers, brochures, etc.
  - Resources available on ASPHN's DM for WIC project webpage (Including Milestones in Motion, Pregnancy & Development, Supporting DM in WIC Clinics, and Cultural Sensitivity in Developmental Monitoring)
  - Desk Side Reference Guide
  - Children's Coloring Books

    - Supplies (folders, file boxes, etc.)
    - Costs to train WIC staff (in person or virtually)
    - Creating state specific online milestone checklists (See NV's online checklists for an example)
- Individualized technical assistance from ASPHN and CDC
- Mentorship from experienced WIC programs already implementing LTSAE
- Access to monthly online trainings and expert Advisory Team support
- Connection to peers through the LTSAE Learning Collaborative
- A shared library of practical tools, templates, and success stories

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Participation Requirements

Awardees will:

- Implement LTSAE in at least two WIC clinics (pilot, expand, or enhance).
- Establish a state/agency team to guide project activities. The team must include:
    - State WIC Director, State WIC Nutrition Coordinator, or Agency Director
    - State/Agency Team Point of Contact to serve as the program coordinator and primary contact person for ASPHN (WIC Staff person)
    - Act Early Ambassador in your state, if available.
    - Clinic managers from each clinic
    - Other team members to consider include:
        - Clinic or State Level Nutritionists
        - Pediatrician or other Healthcare Professional
        - Part C/Early Intervention/Child Find coordinator or other staff
        - Evaluation/Data specialists
        - Help Me Grow or similar entity that provides care coordination for children with developmental concerns
        - Other programs that incorporate "Learn the Signs. Act Early." in your state
        - IT Professionals involved with WIC technology platforms in your state
        - University affiliates
- Meet monthly (30 minutes) with the ASPHN project manager.
- Attend monthly Learning Collaborative webinars (recordings available).
- Submit brief progress reports (March, June, August).
- Track and report on implementation outcomes (e.g., checklists distributed, completed, referrals made).
- Develop a plan for sustainability/expansion beyond the project period.
- Complete a feedback survey or interview to inform future efforts.

About the Developmental Monitoring for WIC Project

The Association of State Public Health Nutritionists (ASPHN), in partnership with the AAP and on behalf of CDC's LTSAE Program, manages the WIC Developmental Monitoring Project.

Since 2018, ASPHN has supported WIC agencies in integrating LTSAE milestone checklists into clinic workflows by providing materials, training, and technical assistance. A learning collaborative of 29 state WIC programs continues to share strategies, lessons learned, and innovations to strengthen developmental monitoring and promote early identification of

developmental concerns.

To support both in-person and remote WIC service delivery, ASPHN has also developed a range of virtual tools and resources, including:

- Online milestone checklists
- A developmental monitoring training for WIC staff
- Participant education modules (available on WIChealth.org, WIC-ed.com, and WICSmart)
- Social media messages and outreach materials

Advisory Team

The project's Advisory Team includes representatives from ASPHN, CDC, AAP, Act Early Ambassadors, Missouri WIC Staff, National WIC Association (NWA), and previous awardees, offering expert guidance and implementation support.

Learn More

Visit the Developmental Monitoring for WIC Project webpage to explore resources and an infographic showcasing seven years of project impact.

Visit CDC's "Learn the Signs. Act Early." Website to explore developmental monitoring resources for WIC.

Contact:

Amber Brown RD at amberbrown@asphn.org for more information.

**For those applying as an agency, you can also apply as a group of agencies within your state.*

**If you are selected to receive funding, ASPHN member dues would need to be paid for 2027 before products can be purchased on behalf of your state/agency. Info on member dues can be found here: https://asphn.org/become-a-member/. Please contact AmberBrown@asphn.org with any questions.*

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