

EDVI | Early Detection of Vision Impairments for Children Act

IN GENERAL.
Amends the Public Health Service Act to improve children's vision and eye health through grants to states, territories, and Tribal organizations and the provision of technical assistance.

SECTION 1. Short Title
Names the legislation as the "Early Detection of Vision Impairments for Children Act of 2025."

SECTION 2. Statewide early vision detection and intervention programs and systems related to children's vision and eye health
Amends Part Q of Title III of the PublicHealth Service Act (42 U.S.C.280 et seq.) with addition of: "Sec. 399Z-3. Statewide early vision detection and intervention programs and systems related to children's vision and eye health."

SECTION 2 (a)(1). Grants or Cooperative Agreements
Authorizes the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Administrator of the Health Resources and Services Administration, to make available awards of grants or cooperative agreements to eligible entities to develop and implement statewide early detection and intervention programs and systems related to children's vision and eye health.

SECTION 2 (a)(2). Eligibility
Establishes that, to receivea grant or cooperative agreement as authorized under Section 2(a)(1), an entity shall be a state, territory, Indian tribe or Tribal organization, or Urban Indian organization including a state or community department of children and families, health or public health, or a state educational agency and shall apply.

SECTION 2 (a)(3). Use of Awards
Outlines that amount provided through grants or cooperative agreements shall be used for three or more of the following activities:

- Implementing early detection practices (such as vision screening) and intervention initiatives for the purpose of identifying vision concerns in children as they engage in the medical, home, public educational, or early learning setting, promoting referrals to eye care, and promoting the use of evidence-based and age-appropriate standards guided by nationally recognized and uniform guidelines.
- Developing an integrated approach to State-level data collection and management to advance State-based performance improvement systems and uniform children's vision and eye health guidelines across relevant and appropriate State-level jurisdictions.
- Identifying strategies to improve eye health outcomes, expand access to care, and reduce health disparities for the detection, diagnosis, and treatment of ocular disease and eye conditions in children who experience barriers to eye care from rural and underserved populations.

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- Raising awareness by providing the public, including families, guardians (permanent, legal, or temporary), family or community caregivers, and early learning settings with children's vision and eye health information that is accurate, accessible, culturally and linguistically competent, comprehensive, up-to-date, and evidence-based or evidence-informed.
- Establishing a coordinated public health system for vision care and eye health, including early detection, referral to eye care, diagnosis and intervention, and follow-up for children.
- Providing referrals to wrap-around vision services, as necessary, for a future of independent living.

SECTION 2 (a)(4). Collaboration with Necessary Community and State Partners
Provides that an eligible entity that receives amounts shall, for the purpose of program and policy development, collaboration, and improvement, consult necessary community and state partners, including state agencies responsible for the administration of title V of Social Security Act (the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant Program), title XIX of such Act (the Medicaid Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment Program), title XXI of such Act (the State Children's Health Insurance Program), and parts B and C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, the Indian Health Service, and consumer groups.

SECTION 2 (a)(5). Evaluation and Report
Instructs that the eligible entity having received an award or grant shall submit an annual report to the Secretary describing activities carried out with award during the period of performance including outcomes of such activities, and a demonstration of whether funding recipients have met project goals. These reports shall be publicly available.

SECTION 2 (b)(1) Technical Assistance
Technical assistance shall be provided to states, territories, and Tribal organizations.

SECTION 2 (b)(2) Grants
The Secretary, acting through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, shall award grants or cooperative agreements to provide technical assistance to eligible entities to:

- Develop, maintain, and improve data collection systems related to children's vision screening, evaluation, diagnosis, and intervention services,
- Disseminate information for stakeholders, including States and local governments, Indian Tribes, Tribal organizations, Urban Indian organizations, public health departments, and nonprofit organizations, to launch effective strategies and interventions in preventing and treating childhood vision disorders,
- Conduct applied research related to early vision screening and intervention programs and outcomes,
- Ensure quality monitoring of vision screening, evaluation, and intervention programs and systems; and
- Assist eligible entities in coordinating best practices and maintaining national goals related to vision and eye health.

SECTION 2 (b)(3) Evaluation
An entity, having received an award or contract, shall within 4 years after enactment of the Act evaluate activities conducted and submit a report to the Secretary on outcomes, costs, and program effectiveness and other information as requested by the Secretary. This report will also be submitted to Congress.

SECTION 2 (b)(4) Eligibility
Establishes the eligibility criteria for an entity to receive a grant or cooperative agreement to carry out technical assistance activities to be a public or nonprofit private organization or institution with expertise, or demonstrated proficiency, in developing systems-based approaches to children's vision and eye health.

SECTION 2 (c) Coordination and Consultation
Establishes that the Secretary of HHS shall coordinate with the Health Resources and Services Administration, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, the Administration for Communities and Families, the Indian Health Service, and the Department of Education and including stakeholder engagement at federal, state, and tribal levels, the private sector including consumer groups, medical, and other health or education or child-serving nonprofit organizations.

SECTION 2 (d) Definitions
Provides definitions for purposes of the Act for Indian Tribe, State educational agency, tribal organization, and urban Indian organization.

SECTION 2 (e) Authorization of Appropriations
Authorizes $5,000,000foreach fiscal years 2026 –2030 related to grants and cooperative agreements and $5,000,000 for each fiscal years 2026 – 2030 for activities related to technical assistance.

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