



Date: August 24, 2012

From: Clifford Johnson, M.S.P.H.  
Director  
National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey  
National Center for Health Statistics/CDC

Subject: Deadlines for proposals for 2015-16 National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey content

To: Potential Future NHANES Collaborators

NCHS will consider adding new or revised questionnaire material, laboratory assessments, and examination components to the 2015-16 NHANES survey. The ability to add new content to NHANES is limited by time and additional logistical considerations such as other content cycling out of the survey.

There are two stages to the NHANES proposal process. First, proposers should submit a letter of intent describing the proposed NHANES project. The letter of intent should be two pages or less. It should include brief descriptions (3-5 sentences) of the public health significance of the proposal, technical requirements to perform the proposed component, and issues related to the safety and privacy of survey participants. NHANES staff will review the letters of intent. If the proposed survey content seems appropriate for NHANES, then staff from our division will ask proposers for a full research proposal.

There are separate deadlines for letters of intent, for each of the three basic survey areas - the examination, laboratory assessments and questionnaires items.

Examination component deadline: December 31, 2013  
Questionnaire content deadline: March 15, 2014  
Laboratory content deadline: June 1, 2014

Use the earliest deadline if you are proposing additions to more than one area of the survey (such as proposing to add both questions and an exam). Please submit your letters of intent before these deadlines, if possible.

As you prepare your letter of intent, please review NHANES questionnaires, examination components, and laboratory tests that are on the NHANES website. The most recent online information is for NHANES 2011-12. Details for this cycle of data may be found at the following link: [http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhanes/nhanes2011-2012/nhanes11\\_12.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhanes/nhanes2011-2012/nhanes11_12.htm) . If you need information about 2013-14 content, please contact NHANES staff as directed below.

Please include funding source information in your letters of intent or proposals. Proposers must guarantee a minimum of two years (2015-16) of financial support for new survey content, plus provide funding in 2014 for any cognitive, feasibility or pilot testing, or other start up activities that may be needed. We encourage joint proposals both within CDC, with other Federal agencies, and with groups outside the government.

If you are invited to submit a full proposal, the NHANES Planning Branch can help you with the submission process. If you have further questions or would like to schedule a meeting or conference call, please contact Vicki Burt, Chief, Planning Branch at 301-458-4127 or [vburt@cdc.gov](mailto:vburt@cdc.gov) or Natalie Dupree (contact information below).

Send your NHANES 2015-2016 letters of intent or research proposal to:

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Thank you for your interest in NHANES. If you know of others who would be interested in proposing new content, please forward this letter to them as well.