



## MCH TRAINING PROGRAM: NUTRITION

DIVISION OF RESEARCH, TRAINING, AND EDUCATION

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH BUREAU OF THE HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

### ◇ Purpose

Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB) grant funds are awarded to establish and enhance centers of excellence to improve MCH by promoting the healthy nutrition of the mother, child, and family. The MCH Nutrition Training Program develops faculty and student leadership skills. Grantees in this program area are leaders in the development and promotion of innovative practice models in MCH nutrition. Centers focus on long- and short-term training and continuing education.

The particular focus of the MCH Nutrition Training Program is to work closely with the other Title V programs to provide training and to develop MCH-related programs. It focuses on leadership education in public health nutrition and leadership education in maternal and pediatric nutrition.

**The Leadership Education in MCH Nutrition** projects provide long-term graduate education and short-term continuing education in MCH nutrition through graduate programs. Students are trained in leadership skills, core public health principles, epidemiology, environmental approaches to population intervention, and the development and evaluation of nutrition-related, cost-effective interventions for specific populations. Training is also provided in identifying and designing outcome evaluations and in evaluating the potential physiological and biochemical mechanisms linking diet and nutritional status with risk or disease status.

This training focuses on leadership in pediatric and maternal nutrition and is designed to provide both clinical and public health approaches to working with the pediatric and maternal populations. Examples of areas of emphasis include specialized neonatal intensive care training, children with special health care needs, breastfeeding promotion and maternal nutrition, adolescent nutrition and pediatric obesity. ◇



## ◆ Highlights

◆ **Faculty/Trainees.** Faculty who participate in the nutrition training program have demonstrated leadership skills in all areas of MCH nutrition, including establishing professional standards and guidelines in nutrition. Examples of faculty contributions include the development of guidelines and the credentialing test for a pediatric nutrition specialty through the American Dietetic Association, development of competencies for graduate programs in public health nutrition, and working with the Association of State and Territorial Public Health Nutrition Directors to develop: *Moving to the Future: Developing Community-Based Nutrition Services* and the “*Blueprint for Nutrition and Physical Activity: Cornerstones of a Healthy Lifestyle.*” Additionally, faculty and trainees have contributed to *Bright Futures in Practice: Nutrition and Bright Futures in Practice: Physical Activity.* Trainees are primarily from the nutrition discipline but also include nurses, social workers, and physicians. Faculty and trainees provide technical assistance to other Title V programs as well as to the health care/public health community.

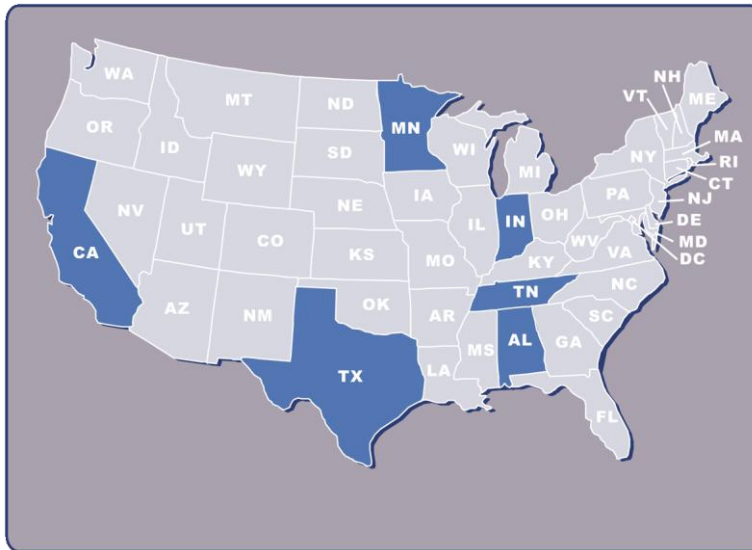
◆ **Continuing Education.** In addition to traditional courses and workshops, grantees provide cutting-edge continuing education through the use of distance education technologies. ◆

## ◆ Program Profile

In FY 2009, MCHB funded six programs with annual grant awards totaling about \$1.1 million. The next competition for nutrition grants is in FY 2013. ◆

## ◆ Program Locations

- ◆ **Alabama**  
University of Alabama at Birmingham
- ◆ **California**  
University of California at Los Angeles
- ◆ **Indiana**  
Indiana University, Indianapolis
- ◆ **Minnesota**  
University of Minnesota, Minneapolis
- ◆ **Tennessee**  
University of Tennessee at Knoxville
- ◆ **Texas**  
Baylor College of Medicine, Houston



For contact information and project abstracts: <http://www.mchb.hrsa.gov/training/projects.asp?program=12>  
and <http://nutrition.mchtraining.net/>



◇ **Bibliography**

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Maternal and Child Health Bureau. 2008. *Leadership Education in Maternal and Child Health Nutrition: Application Guidance*. Rockville, MD.

◇ **Contact**

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FOR CURRENT INFORMATION ON ALL TRAINING PROGRAM GRANTS.