



the campaign to prevent unplanned pregnancy

Federal Policy Action Center

Evidence-Based Teen Pregnancy Prevention Education Resources

The Teen Pregnancy Prevention (TPP) Program and the Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP) are complementary federal funding streams for teen pregnancy prevention education. They are high quality examples of tiered, evidence-based grant making that use evidence to inform awards as well as continuous improvement.

Click the links below to jump to a particular section. [Click](#) for resources on contraceptive access, including Title X.

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HHS Teen Pregnancy Prevention Evidence Review

The [HHS Teen Pregnancy Prevention Evidence Review](#) is an independent, systematic, and rigorous review of evaluation studies conducted by Mathematica Policy Research and managed by the HHS Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (HHS' evidence and evaluation experts). The evidence review has identified a growing number of evidence-based teen pregnancy prevention program models that represent

a variety of approaches. **Tier 1 TPP Program grantees** and the majority of **State Personal Responsibility Education Program grantees** use models identified by the evidence review.

On April 23, HHS released [updated findings](#) for the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Evidence Review. Four more models have demonstrated positive impacts on at least one teen sexual risk behavior or reproductive health outcome—bringing the list of evidence-based program models to 48. Also, two models already on this list now have evidence of longer-term impacts and/or youth outcomes. Past TPP Program FOAs have referenced the evidence review; [the April 2018 FOAs](#) do not, however this list still represents a valuable source of information on evidence-based programs. You can see a handy summary [here](#).

The Teen Pregnancy Prevention Evidence Review is included in the [Results First Clearinghouse Database](#), a project of the [Pew-MacArthur Results First Initiative](#).

Teen Pregnancy Prevention (TPP) Program

FY 2019 Appropriations

Status: COMPLETE—see our handy [budget chart](#).

Latest Action: On September 28, President Trump signed [H.R. 6157](#) into law (P.L. No. 115-245). The bipartisan spending package provides full funding for Labor, Health and Human Services and Education (LHHS) for fiscal year (FY) 2019, which runs from October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019. The bill includes \$101 million for the evidence-based Teen Pregnancy Prevention (TPP) Program and \$6.8 million for evaluations of teen pregnancy prevention approaches. It also includes \$35 million for Sexual Risk Avoidance (a \$10 million increase from FY 2018).

Prior Actions in the FY 2019 Appropriations Process:

On February 12, 2018, President Trump released his fiscal year (FY) 2019 budget. It proposed to eliminate the TPP Program, just as it did for FY 2018. A President's budget proposal is just that, but it does signal Administration priorities. See Power to Decide's statement on the President's Budget [here](#).

- On June 15, the **House Appropriations LHHS Subcommittee** voted to pass its version of the FY 2019 [LHHS bill](#), via voice vote. Among other things, the bill would have eliminated the evidence-

based TPP Program and the Title X Family Planning Program (see the [subcommittee's press release](#)). The bill would also fund competitive Sexual Risk Avoidance at \$30 million (a \$5 million increase from FY 2018). See Power to Decide's [statement](#) on the subcommittee bill.

- During the week of June 25, both the **Senate Appropriations LHHS Subcommittee** and **full Senate Appropriations Committee** passed their version of the funding bill on a strong bipartisan basis. It continues the TPP Program at the FY 2018 level (\$101 million), along with current legislative language on how the program is to be implemented. The bill would also level fund evaluation of teen pregnancy prevention approaches and fund competitive Sexual Risk Avoidance at \$35 million (a \$10 million increase from FY 2018). See Power to Decide's [statement](#) on the Senate Appropriations bill.
- On July 11, the **full House Appropriations Committee** voted to pass their version of the bill, along party lines (30-22). Like the bill that passed the House LHHS Subcommittee, this one would eliminate the TPP Program and Title X, and fund Sexual Risk Avoidance at \$30 million.
- On August 23, in an overwhelming bi-partisan vote of [85-7](#), the **Senate** passed a FY 2019 spending package that includes among other things \$101 million for the TPP Program and \$6.8 million for evaluation of teen pregnancy prevention approaches.
- On September 13, **Congressional leadership** released a bi-partisan package for FY 2019 that includes among other things, \$101 million in funding for the evidence-based Teen Pregnancy Prevention (TPP) Program. See Power to Decide's [statement](#) on the conference bill.
 - On September 18, the **Senate** overwhelmingly passed H.R. 6157 by a [vote of 93 - 7](#).
 - On September 24, the **House** did the same with a vote of [361-61](#).
 - On September 28, the President signed [the bill](#).

[Latest Action](#)

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What Can You Do to Protect the TPP Program?

- While funding is secure for FY 2019, it never hurts to [educate](#) your members about what your program makes possible in your community.

- Also, consider having your organization [sign on](#) to this opt-out [letter](#) supporting evidence-based teen pregnancy prevention programs.

FY 2018 Appropriations

Status: Complete (previous fiscal year)

On March 23, 2018, the President signed a bi-partisan omnibus spending bill that funds the government through the end of FY 2018, which ends September 30, 2018. The [bill](#) includes level-funding for the following: TPP Program (\$101 million), evaluating teen pregnancy prevention approaches (\$6.8 million), and [Title X](#) (\$286.5 million), and an increase of \$10 million for Sexual Risk Avoidance Education (\$25 million). It also continues existing legislative language for the TPP Program (pg. 960) and Title X (pg. 922). Read Power to Decide's statement on the omnibus appropriations bill [here](#).

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What Happened to the TPP Program in July 2017

In July 2017, OAH notified TPP Program grantees that their five-year projects would end after year three (6/1/17 – 6/30/18). Year three, supported by FY 2017 funding, had already been appropriated.

The notices of shortened project periods were *highly* unusual, and in response, many members of Congress expressed concern about the abrupt decision to cut off TPP Program grants and highlighted a number of key questions about this decision. See letters from [37 Senators](#) and [149 Representatives](#), a letter from [9 members](#) of the Texas delegation, and our [statement](#) on these letters. Several Senators also raised questions about the decision to shorten grants period for the TPP Program (and the Pregnancy Assistance Fund grantees received one year grant awards instead of three as was indicated in the original funding announcement) during a [confirmation hearing](#) for the Assistant Secretary for Health. See updated key points on the TPP Program [here](#) and a [list](#) of national and local articles about the shortening of TPP Program grants.

In 2018, eight lawsuits ([including a class action suit](#)) were filed on behalf of TPP Program grantees. Five of the lawsuits, in courts in [D.C.](#), [Baltimore](#), [Spokane](#), [Seattle](#), as well as a [class action lawsuit](#) filed in D.C., were decided in favor of the grantees. The June 1 decision in the class action suit covers the remaining grantees, including the three who had pending lawsuits. These rulings order HHS to accept

and process any noncompeting continuation applications submitted by grantees included in these lawsuits, as if the agency had not shortened their awards. Note, this applies to all Tier 1A, 1B, 2A, and 2B projects. While the government filed notices of appeals in all five suits in August 2018, it subsequently dropped these appeals. For a summary of the litigation (as of mid-October 2018), check out this [brief](#). You can always check [here as well](#).

HHS Releases New TPP Program FOAs in April 2018

Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOAs): On April 20, HHS released two new FOAs for the TPP Program (see Power to Decide's statement [here](#)). The [Tier 1](#) and [Tier 2](#) FOAs raise a number of questions and concerns.

In June, three suits were filed against HHS over the changes to the FOAs. This includes a suit on behalf of Multnomah County filed in Portland, Oregon, and two suits on behalf of Planned Parenthood affiliates (one filed in Spokane and the other filed in New York City). At the end of August, federal judges in both circuits found that the Trump Administration's Tier 1 FOA violated Congressional appropriations language (as well as other laws). Both judges ordered HHS not to proceed with awarding TPP Tier 1 funds under that FOA. The government filed notices of appeal in both of those cases, which are currently pending.

The judge in the New York case, which included a challenge to Tier 2, allowed HHS to proceed with the Tier 2 FOA, and at the end of September 2018, [OAH awarded \\$5.2 million in Tier 2 grants](#).

Please contact your project officer if you have questions about any grants. For a helpful summary of the litigation (as of mid-October 2018), check out this [brief](#). You can always click [here as well](#).

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Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP)

Status: Funded through FY 2019—see our handy [budget chart](#).

On February 9, 2018, Congress passed and the President signed the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 that among other things, extended the current funding level for PREP (\$75 million annually) for two years. PREP is now funded through the end of FY 2019 (September 30, 2019). See our statement [here](#).

The bill makes two changes to PREP: 1) continues existing competitive PREP grants awarded for FY 2015 - 2017 through FY 2019, and 2) adds victims of human trafficking as a priority population. To read the PREP language, see p. 164 (Title V, sec. 50503) of the [bill](#).

It also funds the Title V state abstinence education program for two years (\$75 million), with significant changes including renaming it as Sexual Risk Avoidance Education. See p. 161 (Title V, sec. 510) of the [bill](#).

Note, the President's FY 2019 [budget](#) proposed policy changes to PREP and Title V, as well as shifting these programs from mandatory to discretionary programs (meaning they would have to be funded every year). However, since Congress just extended PREP and Title V (renamed SRAE), these changes are unlikely to occur. See our handy budget [chart](#) for more.

What's Next: Funding for PREP is secure through FY 2019 (though for questions about how this affects individual grants, please contact HHS/FYSB). In the meantime, we want to be able to continue to tell the story of PREP and the work that it supports around the country. [Please submit your short story to us](#).

Additional Resources

- [FY 2017 to FY 2019 Budget Chart](#) for teen pregnancy prevention programs and Title X
- NEW: [The Trump Administration Deals a Blow to Evidence-Based Policy](#), [brief](#) by Ron Haskins and Andrea Kane, published by the Evidence-Based Policymaking Collaborative. Read the summary blog post [here](#).
- The final [report](#) from the Bipartisan Commission on Evidence-Based Policymaking cites the TPP Program as an example of a federal program “developing increasingly rigorous portfolios of evidence” (see page 94).
- Power to Decide's [FY 2019 Appropriations Request Letter](#)
- State-specific resources: [profiles](#) with state policy information and federal grants; [state data](#) portal; and [public savings data](#) resulting from the decline in teen pregnancy
- Summary [polling data](#) that demonstrates widespread support for the TPP Program and PREP.

- PREP Resources: [PREP at a Glance](#) & [PREP at a Glance: Pregnancy Prevention Among Youth in Foster Care](#)
- Key Messages to Use in Your Outreach
 - Since the TPP Program and PREP began in 2010, the teen birth rate has **[declined by 41%](#)**, more than double the decline in any preceding six-year period.
 - Due to the 64% decline in the teen birth rate between 1991 and 2015, the U.S. saved \$4.4 billion in public spending in 2015 alone. If all teens were able to avoid unplanned pregnancy and childbearing, the U.S. could save an additional \$1.9 billion each year. (Find state specific information [here](#))
 - 85% of adults (including 75% of Republicans and 89% of Democrats) favor maintaining federal funding for the TPP Program and PREP.