

{ Applying for a Federal FORGE Fatherhood Cooperative Agreement }

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Our Mission and Vision

{ Our Mission }

National Fatherhood Initiative®'s mission is to **transform** organizations and communities by **equipping** them to **intentionally** and **proactively** engage fathers in their children's lives.

{ Our Vision }

National Fatherhood Initiative®'s vision is for every child to grow up with an involved, responsible, and committed father.

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Benefits of the Webinar

- Learn about the FORGE Fatherhood cooperative agreement opportunity
- Learn why you should use NFI's curriculum
- Learn how to integrate NFI's curriculum and complementary resources into your application

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Agenda

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.



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Important Disclaimer

- The Administration for Children & Families/Office of Family Assistance offers this opportunity, not National Fatherhood Initiative®
- For questions about the opportunity, contact Tonya Howell at 202-205-8714 or ofa@grantreview.org

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The FORGE Fatherhood Opportunity

- FORGE Fatherhood stands for Family, Opportunity, Resilience, Grit, Engagement—Fatherhood
- The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Office of Family Assistance (OFA) announces its plan to solicit applications for the competitive award of grants that support "activities to promote responsible fatherhood" under each of the three broad categories of promoting or sustaining marriage, responsible parenting, and economic stability activities authorized under Section 403(a)(2) of the Social Security Act



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The FORGE Fatherhood Opportunity

- This funding will be targeted exclusively to projects designed for adult fathers, defined as fathers that are age 18 and older
 - Eligible fathers (or father figures) must have children who are age 24 or younger
 - Fathers will include those in the general population (or "community fathers"), as well as fathers who are returning, or have returned, to their families and communities, following incarceration.
- ACF is interested in funding a diverse range of projects, including varying project scopes and populations to be served.



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The FORGE Fatherhood Opportunity

- Announcement released on July 15, 2025
- Estimated total program funding is \$55 million
- Award ceiling is \$1.25 million
- Award floor is \$400,000
- Expected number of awards is 66
- Funding type is a “Cooperative Agreement”
- **Application deadline is July 29, 2025**
 - **Submit by 11:59 P.M. EDT**
- FY2025 Funding Opportunity Announcement link is:
<https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/355696>



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The FORGE Fatherhood Opportunity

- Eligible applicants:
 - Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education
 - Nonprofits that do not have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education
 - City or township governments
 - Special district governments
 - Independent school districts
 - Private institutions of higher education
 - Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized)



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The FORGE Fatherhood Opportunity

■ Eligible applicants (continued):

- Public housing authorities/Indian housing authorities
- Public and State controlled institutions of higher education
- State governments
- Native American tribal organizations (other than Federally recognized tribal governments)
- County governments
- Others (see text field entitled "Additional Information on Eligibility" for clarification)



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The FORGE Fatherhood Opportunity

■ Authorized Activities

1. **Promoting Responsible Parenting:** You must provide parenting education and father-child relationship enhancement services. These services must be provided in curriculum-based workshops.
2. **Promoting or Sustaining Healthy Marriage:** You must provide healthy marriage and relationship education and skills-building services. These services must be provided in curriculum-based workshops.
3. **Fostering Economic Stability:** Your project should provide at least three distinct economic stability and employment activities and focus case management on economic stability and employment.



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The FORGE Fatherhood Opportunity

■ Insights/tips

- Requirements nearly identical in this and previous Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)
- Read the NOFO thoroughly to ensure the project you'll propose meets all requirements
- Decide which category of project scope you'll target: large, small, or emerging
 - Scope determines the minimum number of fathers you must serve per year
 - No indication of how many awards in large and small categories
 - The intent is to award 22 emerging projects
- Strong emphasis/requirement on content and activities addressing healthy marriages and relationships



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The FORGE Fatherhood Opportunity

■ Insights/tips

- Don't bite off more than you can chew!
- Craft an approach that creates the best chance the minimum number of fathers (at least) will complete 90% of the primary workshop (program)
 - Plan for attrition
- Don't understaff
 - Ensure they'll have enough time for recruitment and retention activities
 - Plan adequately for data collection and entry
- Budget adequately for staff training on curricula/programs and addressing typical challenges (e.g., recruitment and retention)



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Empowering You with Trusted Solutions to Engage Fathers

- Why you should use NFI's curriculum in your application
 - All NFI curricula are evidence-informed, some are evidence-based
 - 24:7 Dad® is the country's most widely used fatherhood curriculum in human service organizations and in previous FORGE Fatherhood funding cycles
 - InsideOut Dad® is the country's most widely used fatherhood curriculum in corrections-related facilities (e.g., prisons and reentry) and in previous FORGE Fatherhood funding cycles
 - ProFathering15™ is a highly flexible online curriculum that's ideal for reaching fathers who can't or won't participate in other programs (e.g., too far to travel, scheduling conflicts, etc.)



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Empowering You with Trusted Solutions to Engage Fathers

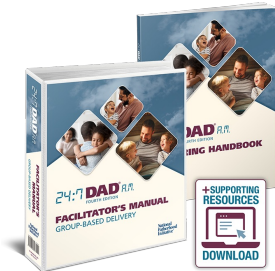
- Why you should use NFI's curriculum in your application (continued)
 - Lots of content addressing healthy marriages and relationships, a major emphasis/requirement of this opportunity
 - Lots of content addressing the required objectives and outcomes (short- and long-term)
 - Ongoing revisions to curricula informed by feedback from independent evaluators, facilitators, and fathers, plus the latest research on effective fathering, parenting, relationships, and adult learning
 - Free one-on-one technical assistance with curriculum implementation
 - Quarterly meetings where facilitators of NFI curricula gather to connect, grow, and learn from each other (peer support)
 - Resources to ensure curriculum fidelity



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Integrating NFI Curriculum



24:7 Dad®



InsideOut Dad®



ProFathering15™

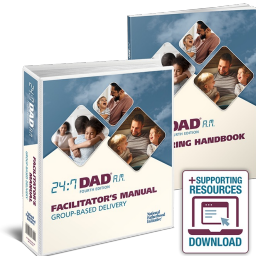
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Integrating NFI Curriculum

- 24:7 Dad®
 - Evidence-based and evidence-informed
 - Independent evaluations show the curriculum increases pro-fathering knowledge, attitudes, and skills in fathers varying in race, age, economic circumstance, living situation, relationship status, and other characteristics
 - Two versions: 24:7 Dad® A.M. (covers foundational fathering skills) and 24:7 Dad® P.M. (covers advanced fathering skills)
 - Two delivery options: group-based and one-on-one delivery (ideal for home visits or case management scenarios)
 - 12 two-hour sessions with optional introductory session in both A.M. and P.M. versions
 - <https://store.fatherhood.org/247-dad-am-4th-ed-facilitators-kit/>



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Integrating NFI Programs

- InsideOut Dad®
 - Evidence-based and evidence-informed
 - Independent evaluations show the curriculum increases pro-fathering knowledge, attitudes, and skills in fathers varying in race, age, economic circumstance, relationship status, and other characteristics; increases father-child contact; improves fathers' well-being and co-parenting
 - Specifically developed for the challenges incarcerated fathers face
 - 12 two-hour core sessions and 6 two-hour optional reentry sessions
 - <https://store.fatherhood.org/insideout-dad-facilitators-kit/>



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Integrating NFI Curriculum

- ProFathering15™
 - Evidence-informed
 - An interactive and engaging online curriculum that focuses on building pro-fathering knowledge, attitudes, and skills
 - 15 important fatherhood topics relevant to any father
 - Flexible uses: self-paced, one-on-one mentoring/case management, group-based
 - Excellent stand-alone or complementary curriculum (e.g., pair with 24:7 Dad®)
 - <https://store.fatherhood.org/profathering15>



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Integrating NFI Curriculum

- Facilitator Training Options for NFI Curriculum
 - For individuals via on-demand training courses
 - For groups via custom webinar or in person at the organization location
 - <https://www.fatherhood.org/solutions/staff-training>
- On-demand certificate training for a comprehensive approach that increases capacity to achieve project objectives and targets:
 - The Father Engagement Certificate™
 - The Effective Facilitation Certificate™
 - The Recruitment and Retention Certificate™
 - <https://www.fatherhoodpractitioners.org/collections/certificates>



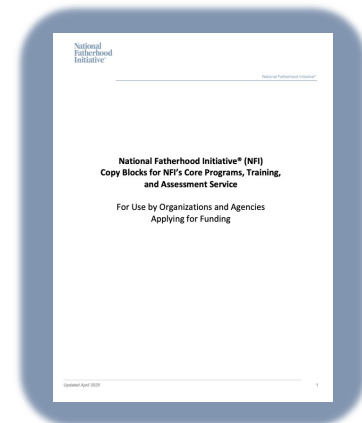
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Integrating NFI Curriculum

- Use NFI's Copy Blocks document to help you save time writing your FORGE Fatherhood proposal
 - This document includes descriptions of NFI resources that you can cut and paste directly into your application
 - Includes links to evaluation studies and curriculum samples
 - Pricing included so you can include in your application budget
 - <https://fatherhood.org/2025-copy-blocks>



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Integrating Complementary Resources

- **24:7 Dad® Power Bundle**
 - Helps build the five traits of a great father taught in 24:7 Dad®: Self-Awareness, Caring for Self, Fathering Skills, Parenting Skills, and Relationship Skills
 - <https://store.fatherhood.org/24-7-dad-power-bundle/>



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Integrating Complementary Resources

- **Home Visitation Bundle**
 - Easily integrates with any evidence-based home visiting program
 - Includes our most popular brochure for fathers and mothers—The Importance of an Involved Father
 - Includes other resources on being a better father, keeping children safe, balancing work and family, money management, creating a peaceful home, effective discipline, communication, and more
 - <https://store.fatherhood.org/home-visitation-bundle/>



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Thank You & Good Luck!

For questions about NFI resources, please contact:

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