

Project to Expand the ProFathering15™ Program in the United States

Request for Applications (RFA)

Submission Deadline: Friday, January 30, 2026 at 2:00 P.M. EDT

Introduction

[National Fatherhood Initiative®](#) (NFI) seeks applications from organizations that want to start or expand the [ProFathering15™](#) program with fathers in the community or communities they serve. NFI seeks applications from organizations that:

- Provide services to fathers in the community or communities they serve.
- Have experienced success or have the capacity to enroll at least 100 fathers in their program.
- Have a designated staff or volunteer and a backup in place to implement ProFathering15™.
- Have the ability to work collaboratively with community partners to recruit fathers.

Background

NFI's mission is to increase father involvement by equipping communities and human service organizations with the father-engagement training, programs, and resources they need to be father-inclusive. In pursuit of its mission, NFI builds the capacity of human service organizations that seek to begin or enhance fatherhood programs to improve the well-being of the communities they serve.

Partners face several challenges in assisting fathers that can cause them to reduce or stop that assistance, including a lack of staff to deliver fatherhood programs, serving hard-to-reach fathers (e.g., in rural areas), and funding costly programs. NFI designs resources, training, and technical assistance to address these challenges.

ProFathering15™ is NFI's newest resource and is the only online fatherhood program available nationwide in English and Spanish. It provides partners with a cost-effective educational tool that is easy to implement and sustain with minimal staff involvement and cost.

ProFathering15™

ProFathering15™ is an interactive, engaging, and comprehensive program filled with topics that build pro-fathering attitudes, knowledge, and skills. The program is useful for any father or father figure, including biological, step, or adoptive fathers, grandfathers raising grandchildren, or male relatives or caregivers raising children.

It includes 15 topics relevant to any father or father figure: Family History, Being a Man and Dad, Handling Emotions, Grief and Loss, Your Health, You and Mom, Talking with Mom, Co-Parenting, Fathering Skills, Child Development, Child Discipline, Sexuality, Intimacy, Work-Family Balance, and Managing Money. The content in each topic is evidence-informed, some unique to this program and some drawn from other NFI programs and resources (e.g., the evidence-based 24:7 Dad® program).

As a result of the ProFathering15™ program's growing popularity and flexibility, **NFI has acquired funding to expand the use of the program.**

Opportunity for Organizations

NFI will equip 10 human service organizations throughout the country to start or expand use of the ProFathering15™ program. **The organizations must meet the four criteria identified in the Introduction section of this RFA.**

NFI will provide each selected organization with up to 100 ProFathering15™ enrollments for a designated staff member to administer the program. NFI will provide organizations with **free training and technical support** to effectively run the program and will provide \$500 at the end of the project for organizations to acquire other NFI resources that support their fatherhood programming. NFI **will not provide funds** to hire staff, pay stipends to volunteers, or for use in acquiring or using other resources to run the program (e.g., a facility in which to facilitate groups).

To equip the selected organizations to run the program, NFI will:

- Conduct a live ProFathering15™ **Kick-Off webinar** on Tuesday, February 17, 2026, from 2:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M. EST.
- Provide each organization with ProFathering15™ access instructions.
- Provide each organization with up to 100 ProFathering15™ enrollments.
- Require each designated staff member to attend mid-project and final-review meetings with NFI staff.
- Require each designated staff member to collect participant demographic information.
- Provide designated staff with free, ongoing, technical assistance via phone and email as they implement the program.

Eligibility

Eligible organizations can be any human service entity that provides programs or direct services to families, such as secular and faith-based nonprofits, community-based organizations, and city or county government agencies. **Organizations that are based outside of the United States are not eligible.**

Organizations **must have** the following capacities and abilities:

- The capacity to begin running the program (i.e., administer ProFathering15™ enrollments) no later than February 23, 2026. This deadline will be approximately one week after attending the Kick-Off webinar.
- To develop and propose a timeline for when organizations expect to have reached the 100 fathers.
- The ability to report on process measures associated with running the program (e.g., the number of dads who complete the program, demographic information, etc.) by the end of the two reporting periods (February 19, 2026, and August 15, 2026). **NFI created a simple online form to ease the submission of the first and final reports.**

Application Deadline

Applications are due to NFI by **2:00 P.M. EDT on Friday, January 30, 2026.**

Selection Process and Emphasis

After receipt and review of applications to determine whether organizations are eligible for selection, NFI staff will:

- Discard applications from organizations that fail to meet the criteria specified in the Introduction section of this RFA.
- Review applications from eligible organizations and select 10 to participate in the project. NFI plans to select organizations during the week of February 2, 2026, and inform the selected organizations no later than the week beginning February 9, 2026.

NFI will place an emphasis on selecting organizations that most convincingly show they have:

- An existing relationship with community fathers and families or partners who serve them to enroll fathers into the program.
- The ability and capacity to start administering ProFathering15™ enrollments by February 23, 2026.
- The ability to recruit and enroll 100 fathers or father figures (biological, step, adoptive, grandfathers, or male caregivers) by October 23, 2026.
- Designated staff to oversee participation, attend the launch webinar, and share feedback via check-ins, webinars, and evaluations.

In determining your organization's ability and capacity to succeed if selected, keep in mind that organizations will have approximately nine months after selection to recruit dads to participate in the program and complete it before the deadline to serve at least 80 dads (August 28, 2026).

Please note that NFI will not inform organizations not selected to partner in this project of the reason they were not selected (e.g., application deemed ineligible or not as strong as those of selected organizations).

Questions

If you have any questions about this RFA, please email the NFI Program Success Director, Antoine Johnson, at ajohnson@fatherhood. **Do not email or call anyone else on NFI's staff.** To ensure the best chance of a same-day response, the ideal time to email your questions to Mr. Johnson is Monday–Friday, 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. EDT.

If you would like to participate in this exciting opportunity, we welcome your application for this project!