



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF  
**CHRONIC DISEASE DIRECTORS**  
Promoting Health. Preventing Disease.

## PREVENTIVE HEALTH AND HEALTH SERVICES BLOCK GRANT APPROPRIATIONS FACT SHEET

FY 2007	President's Budget	FY 2008 Suggested
\$99 million	\$0	\$110 million

### Basic Facts About the Preventive Health & Health Services Block Grant

The Block Grant was established to help states focus on achieving the Health Objectives for the Nation identified in Healthy People 2000. States use funds to provide support to areas where **no federal support exists**, or where **federal categorical funds are grossly insufficient**. For example: California and Pennsylvania along with 15 other states have no categorical funds for heart disease and stroke prevention-Block Grant funds provide the only source of funding. In New York Block Grant funds provide a substantial portion of local initiatives in diabetes prevention, as categorical diabetes funds are grossly inadequate. In several states Block Grant funds support screening of additional women in the Breast and Cervical Screening Program. Categorical funds allow for screening only a small portion of eligible women. The flexibility of this grant allows each state to address its own unique challenges in exciting and innovative ways. The President's budget proposed flexibility for states to transfer funds from inadequate categorical grants in lieu of this funding source. This proposal ignores the reality that categorical grants are already underfunded.

Examples of current funding areas include chronic disease prevention and control, emergency medical services, environmental health, infectious disease prevention and control, community-based education, injury prevention and control, disease and risk factor surveillance, and lead poisoning prevention.

### Preventive Health & Health Services Block Grant Programs

Through the Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant, CDC provides States funding to carry out programs aimed at reducing preventable morbidity and mortality and improving quality of life. Grantees are given flexibility in deciding how funding can be used to meet each State's unique preventive health service priorities. Funds may be used for activities consistent with achieving the Health Objectives for the Nation, as well as for community fluoridation efforts, control of rodents, and emergency medical services systems.

Many states have used this block grant funding to address unanticipated public health emergencies, such as outbreaks of deadly *E. coli* disease or West Nile Virus, and/or to implement heart attack, stroke, and other cardiovascular disease prevention programs, dental health programs, child safety seat or smoke detector programs, and public health education programs designed to deter youth tobacco use and underage drinking, to promote good nutrition and increased physical activity. Funds also have been used to ensure rapid identification and improved response to outbreaks of emerging infectious diseases and to screen for cancers and other life threatening or disabling diseases.

Additional information available at [www.chronicdisease.org/governmentaffairs](http://www.chronicdisease.org/governmentaffairs)

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