



VA's NewSTEPS 360 Grant Project

**Electronic data exchange for Newborn
Screening orders and results**

NewSTEPS 360

Funding Opportunity Announcement: Improving Timeliness in Newborn Screening Timeline:

Technical Assistance Webinars:

October 6, 2015 at 1:00 pm ET and October 15, 2015 at 1:00 pm ET

Application Deadline: November 9, 2015

Notification of Awards: December 1, 2015

In Person Meeting: Tentatively scheduled: January 2016

BACKGROUND

State newborn screening (NBS) programs are encouraged to identify areas to improve timeliness in the NBS system. **NewSTEPS 360** aims to support states through technical and financial means to achieve timely reporting of results in 95% of newborns that receive dried-blood spot (DBS) NBS.

In alignment with the [recommendations from the Secretary's Advisory Committee on Heritable Disorders in Newborns and Children \(ACHDNC\)](#), responsive proposals must be able to demonstrate the potential to impact timeliness in one of the following categories:

1. Presumptive positive results for time-critical conditions should be communicated immediately to the child's healthcare provider but no later than the fifth day of life.
2. All presumptive positive results for all other conditions should be communicated to the child's healthcare provider as soon as possible but no later than seven (7) days of life.
3. All NBS results should be reported within seven (7) days of life.
4. Initial NBS specimens should be collected in the appropriate time frame for the baby's condition but no later than 48 hours after birth.
5. NBS specimens should be received at the Laboratory as soon as possible; ideally within 24 hours of collection.

Focus Areas

- **Focus Area 1:** Developing **education** in the hospital, birthing facilities, and/or with midwives (out of hospital births) regarding timely and appropriate collection and shipment of samples.
 - **Focus Area 2:** Identifying and/or strengthening **courier system** to deliver newborn screening dried blood spots.
 - **Focus Area 3:** Expanding **operating hours** to provide more uniform coverage for newborn screening throughout the week and across holidays.
 - **Focus Area 4:** Evaluating the efficiency of **laboratory processes** and/or workflows.
 - **Focus Area 5:** **Communicating results** with provider and clinical specialists and ensuring timely diagnostic work-up. *(Note: If you select Focus Area 5, you must select an additional focus area related to ACHDNC's recommendations on timeliness).*
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- **Focus Area 6:** Using **Health Information Technology** to improve timeliness through electronic demographic and order submission and result reporting.

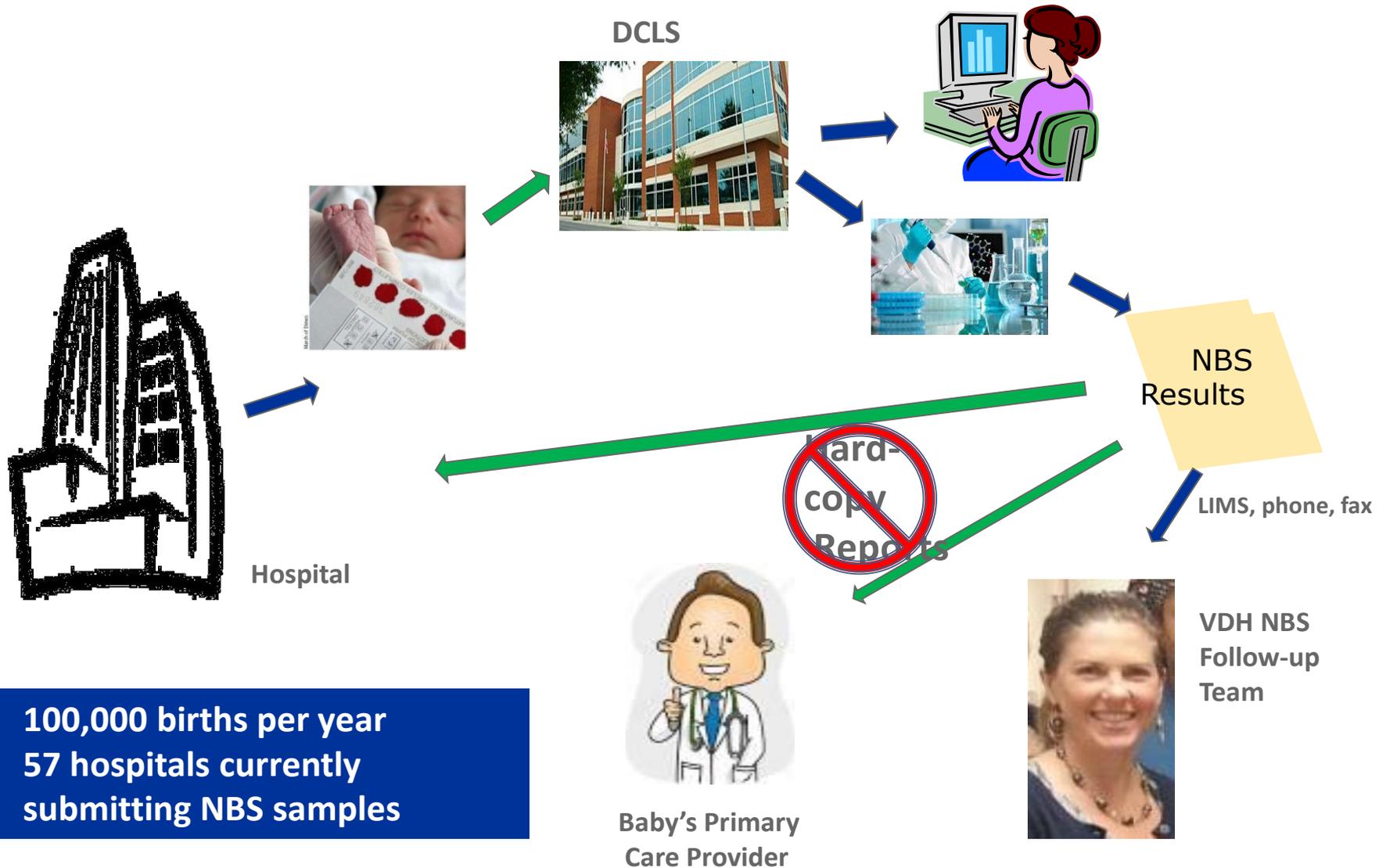
Applicant Requirements

- State teams must include 5 members / Group teams require 1 representative from each state on the team.
- One team member will act as the primary contact for the proposal
- In-person meeting January 2016
- Engage in CQI activities (monthly calls, coaching, in-person meetings)
- Provide monthly timeliness Quality Indicator data (this will require an MOU signed with NewSTEPS within the first year of funding).

360 Grant Award

- \$40,000 in year 1
- \$50,000 in year 2
- \$30,000 in year 3

Current NBS Process Flow -



High level Project timeline -

Year 1 –

- Conduct fact-finding meeting with each hospital system
- Provide education/information, as needed
- Establish plan and begin development of order transmissions
- Test connectivity with pilot hospitals

Year 2 –

- Establish order transmissions with all pilot hospitals
- Establish plan and begin development of result transmissions
- Build infrastructure for result messaging

Year 3 –

- Complete implementation of order transmission with pilot hospitals
- Establish sustainability plan for implementation beyond pilot hospitals
- Begin on-boarding additional hospital facilities

Current Status/Next Steps

- Hold Virginia's Project Kick-off Meeting
 - Identify project team and their roles
 - Share project goals/objectives
 - Get input from interested hospitals
- Confirm commitments from “pilot” hospital partners
 - Grant funding covers \$2000 as an *incentive* per facility per year for our pilot hospitals
 - Three “free” NBS collection device Kits = \$2340
- Develop an implementation schedule for team(s) to work with pilot hospitals
 - Set up calls to report on progress, report issues, etc