

## FAQ for Applicants Interested in the Tech4Impact Funding Opportunity from the Center for Technology and Aging

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This FAQ has been developed to inform and guide grant applicants interested in the Center for Technology and Aging (CTA) **Tech4Impact Diffusion Grants Program**. This special funding opportunity was announced June 3, 2010 as part of a larger Administration on Aging (AoA) and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) initiative. (For more information, see <http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/Grants/Funding/index.aspx>, Funding Opportunity: HHS-2010-AoA-CT-1026)

### What does “Tech4Impact” mean?

Tech4Impact stands for **T**echnologies for **I**mproving **P**ost-**A**cute **C**are **T**ransitions.

### What is the purpose of the Tech4Impact Diffusion Grants Program?

The purpose of the **Tech4Impact** Diffusion Grants Program is to encourage certain state government organizations to accelerate adoption and diffusion of technologies that improve post-acute care transitions and result in fewer re-hospitalizations.

### What is the target population for the Tech4Impact program?

**Tech4Impact** funds are intended for older adults or persons with disabilities participating in, or who could benefit from, an Evidence-Based Care Transition program (e.g., Care Transitions Interventions, Transitional Care Model, Geriatric Resources for Assessment and Care of Elders, or other evidence-based models).

### Why is it called a Diffusion Grants Program?

The emphasis of the Grant Program is on expanding use (“diffusion”) of technologies that already have a good track record of helping older adults and persons with disabilities. Grant applicants need to design and propose projects that further the use of such proven technologies. Projects that propose to research and test new technologies will not be funded.

### Who is eligible to apply for the Tech4Impact Diffusion Grants Program?

A state agency or instrument of the state who is applying for the *Implementing the Affordable Care Act to make it easier for Individuals to Navigate their Health and Long-Term Care through Statewide Systems of Information- Option D*” component of the AoA/CMS program announcement are eligible to apply for CTA’s **Tech4Impact** Diffusion Grants Program.

### What is “Implementing the Affordable Care Act . . . . Option D”?

In early June 2010, CMS and AoA announced a \$60 million grant funding opportunity called *Implementing the Affordable Care Act to make it easier for Individuals to Navigate their Health and Long-Term Care through Statewide Systems of Information*. Contained in the announcement were four distinct funding opportunities. Option D is one of the four funding opportunities and it is described on page 63 of the Announcement. (see: <http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/Grants/Funding/index.aspx> Funding Opportunity HHS-2010-AoA-CT-1026)

### How do eligible organizations apply for Tech4Impact funds?

On or before July 30th, organizations must address a Letter of Intent to CTA and append it to their AoA/CMS Option D application. The Letter of Intent will be forwarded to CTA for review and consideration. CTA will then invite selected states to submit full applications for the **Tech4Impact** Diffusion Grants Program. The Center will release the guidelines for developing a full application by September 30, 2010. Full applications will be due October 15, 2010.

**Who may receive Tech4Impact awards?**

Grant recipients who are approved by AoA/CMS for Option D funding will become eligible to receive **Tech4Impact** awards.

**Will the award be competitive?**

Yes. **Tech4Impact** applicants that will be given highest consideration include those that 1) have in place the basic elements of an evidence-based care transitions program and understand how technology can complement the program, 2) have demonstrated ability to work collaboratively with local organizations to implement a care transitions program, and, 3) have developed a plan for long-term sustainability.

**How many Tech4Impact awards are available?**

The Center for Technology and Aging will award up to 6 grants through the **Tech4Impact** Diffusion Grants Program. CTA will consider funding up to \$100,000 for each community-based project. Applicant's eligibility and receipt of an award from the CTA for this option is dependent upon receiving an AoA/CMS Implementing the Affordable Care Act grant award.

**Can a state receive more than one Tech4Impact award?**

Yes. The focus of **Tech4Impact** awards is at the community level. If a state has more than one community-based project that merits funding, CTA may consider multiple awards to a state.

**How long is the Tech4Impact grant program?**

12 months. Grantees will be expected to commence **Tech4Impact** project activities on January 1, 2011.

**What are the allowable activities that can be paid for with Tech4Impact Awards?**

**Tech4Impact** funds may be used to support community-based interventions that align with the goals of the **Tech4Impact** program. Example activities or interventions include, but are not limited to, the use of medical devices and computer-based technologies that better enable:

- Medication adherence (e.g., devices that remind patients to take the right medication at the right time and alert caregivers when a medication has not been taken)
- Medication reconciliation (e.g., software that stores medication information and detects potential problems, such as duplicate prescriptions)
- Patient or caregiver access to health records and other important health information
- Home monitoring of a patient's health condition, including technologies that provide an early warning alert when a patient's health condition deteriorates
- Health risk assessments (e.g., to identify pre-discharge patients most at risk of hospital readmission).
- Communications between and among patients and informal caregivers, and formal caregivers

CTA may also consider funding the following technology-enabled activities:

- Training and supervision of personnel implementing one of the care transitions models (e.g., Care Transition Intervention or Transitional Care Model)
- Care transitions program evaluations that will guide and improve program quality

**What can Tech4Impact grant funds be spent on?**

Grant funds may be used for any of the following activities that are related to expanding use of technologies for post-acute care transitions: staff salary and benefits, project consultants and contracts, supplies, meetings, project-related travel, training and education, evaluation and other implementation-related expenses.

**Are there any restrictions on how Tech4Impact grant funds can be spent?**

Yes. Funds may not be used for:

- Current operating expenses or costs currently covered by another agreement, grant, or contract
- Costs for technology or other equipment
- Costs that are not consistent or allowable according to local, state, and/or federal guidelines and regulations

**Why can't I use Tech4Impact grant funds to purchase the technology I want to diffuse?**

The focus of the **Tech4Impact** program is on funding organizational activities that are involved in diffusing proven technologies, e.g., activities involved in planning, training, installing, and overseeing technology expansion and use. Grantees in CTA's other technology diffusion grants programs have successfully accessed technologies by a variety of means, including:

- Leveraging technologies that were already owned by community partners
- Utilizing free technologies (e.g., free software that is accessible via the Internet)
- Asking technology vendors to donate equipment
- Purchasing technology with other financial resources

**What is the due date for applications?**

Notice of Intent to Apply (optional):	July 1, 2010
Submit 1-page Letter of Intent Application	July 30, 2010
Full Grant Application Release Date:	September 30, 2010
Full Grant Application Due Date:	October 15, 2010
Issuance of Notice of Grant Awards:	Prior to December 31, 2010

**Who can I contact if I have questions about the Tech4Impact program?**

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