

REFERENCE TITLE: nurse-home visitor program; appropriation

State of Arizona  
House of Representatives  
Fifty-fifth Legislature  
Second Regular Session  
2022

## **HB 2740**

Introduced by  
Representative Udall

AN ACT

ESTABLISHING THE NURSE-HOME VISITOR GRANT PROGRAM; APPROPRIATING MONIES.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Department of health services; nurse-home visitor  
3 grant program; requirements; annual report;  
4 delayed repeal

5 A. The nurse-home visitor grant program is established in the  
6 department of health services. The department shall award the grant  
7 monies to at least one eligible organization to provide nurse-home  
8 visiting services for a three-year period, including assessments and  
9 screenings, care coordination, case management, preventive education and  
10 counseling, nurse-delivered interventions and referrals to health and  
11 human services, educational or job development resources, and other  
12 appropriate supports, to first-time, low-income, expectant mothers who  
13 voluntarily enroll before the third trimester. The nurse-home visiting  
14 services shall continue through the second birthday of children born to  
15 participating new mothers.

16 B. Organizations that are eligible to receive a grant pursuant to  
17 this section include public or private entities, nonprofit organizations,  
18 county or other local government entities and tribal nations.

19 C. When determining which organizations shall be awarded monies  
20 through the grant program, the department shall give preference to  
21 organizations that:

- 22 1. Are working and providing services in this state.
- 23 2. Can demonstrate either successful delivery of the nurse-family  
24 partnership model as of December 31, 2021, or the capacity to begin  
25 delivery of evidence-based nurse-home visiting services within ninety days  
26 after receiving the grant award.

27 D. An organization that receives monies pursuant to this section  
28 shall submit to the department of health services data prescribed by the  
29 department, which may include client demographic information, regarding  
30 services and referrals that meet performance benchmarks developed by the  
31 United States health resources and services administration for  
32 evidence-based nurse-home visiting that addresses all of the following:

- 33 1. Improvements in maternal and newborn health.
- 34 2. Reduction of child injuries, child maltreatment and emergency  
35 department visits for accidental injuries.
- 36 3. Improvements in school readiness and achievement.
- 37 4. Reduction of crime or domestic violence.
- 38 5. Improvements in family economic self-sufficiency.
- 39 6. Improvements in coordinating and referring other community  
40 resources and supports.

41 E. The nurse-home visiting services delivered under the grant  
42 program shall be delivered:

- 43 1. To voluntary participants with their consent.

1           2. In a location and method preferred by participants, which may  
2 include in the participant's home, via telehealth or in another  
3 nonclinical setting.

4           F. On or before February 1, 2023 and each year thereafter, the  
5 department shall report to the appropriations committees of the senate and  
6 the house of representatives all of the following:

7           1. The number of grants awarded under the program, the recipient  
8 organizations and number of participants expected to be served.

9           2. The number of participants newly enrolled.

10          3. The extent to which each grant recipient made monthly visits to  
11 enrolled participants.

12          4. Other data and information related to measures of health and  
13 well-being of participants and their children participating in the  
14 program.

15          G. This section does not prevent the department from identifying  
16 performance measures consistent with those reported by the department to  
17 the United States health resources and services administration for  
18 delivery of evidence-based nurse-home visiting services supported in whole  
19 or in part by federal maternal, infant and early childhood home visiting  
20 services.

21          H. This section is repealed from and after June 30, 2026.

22          Sec. 2. Appropriations; department of health services;  
23 nurse-home visitor grant program; exemption

24          A. The sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ is appropriated from the state general fund  
25 in each of fiscal years 2022-2023, 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 to the  
26 department of health services for the purposes of administering the  
27 nurse-home visitor grant program for the delivery of evidence-based  
28 nurse-home visiting services. The department may use up to fifteen  
29 percent of the appropriation each fiscal year for training, technical  
30 assistance and evaluation and other costs to administer the grant program.

31          B. The appropriations made in subsection A of this section are  
32 exempt from the provisions of section 35-190, Arizona Revised Statutes,  
33 relating to lapsing of appropriations. Any unspent monies remaining on  
34 July 1, 2026 shall revert to the state general fund.

35          Sec. 3. Legislative findings and intent

36          A. The legislature finds that, in order for new mothers to  
37 adequately care for their newborns and young children, the mothers may  
38 often benefit from voluntarily receiving professional assistance and  
39 information. Without this assistance and information, a young mother may  
40 develop habits or practices that are detrimental to her health and  
41 well-being and to the health and well-being of her child. The legislature  
42 further finds that inadequate prenatal care and inadequate care in infancy  
43 and early childhood often inhibit a child's ability to learn and develop  
44 throughout childhood and may have lasting, adverse effects on the child's  
45 ability to function as an adult. The legislature recognizes that the

1 implementation of the national evidence-based nurse-family partnership  
2 nurse-home visitor program provides educational, health and other  
3 resources for new young mothers from early pregnancy through the first two  
4 years of their infants' lives and has been proven to significantly reduce  
5 the risk of pre-term birth, the amount of drug use, including nicotine and  
6 alcohol use and abuse by mothers, the occurrence of criminal activity  
7 committed by mothers and their children under fifteen years of age, and  
8 the number of reported incidents of child abuse and neglect. The program  
9 has also been proven to reduce the mother's need for other forms of public  
10 assistance and to increase the mother's educational attainment and  
11 employment.

12 B. The legislature finds that the purposes of the evidence-based  
13 nurse-home visitor grant program are to improve pregnancy outcomes,  
14 including reduction of pre-term births, improve infant health and  
15 development, reduce child maltreatment, aid successful parenting and  
16 increase families' economic self-sufficiency. The legislature intends  
17 that the nurse-home visitor grant program in this state conform to the  
18 national nurse-family partnership nurse-home visiting model that meets  
19 criteria developed by the United States department of health and human  
20 services for evidence-based nurse-home visiting services, which is ranked  
21 as "well-supported" in the federal title IV-E prevention services  
22 clearinghouse for in-home parent skill-based services under the family  
23 first prevention services act as of January 1, 2022.