

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

For

Positive Parenting Program – Triple P (Level 4)

Learning Collaborative for Louisiana Medicaid Behavioral Health Agencies



Issued by

LSUHSC Center for Evidence to Practice



Application Release Date: Monday, April 1, 2024

APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY TUESDAY, APRIL 30, 2024

All applicants will be notified by Tuesday, May 7, 2024

Please direct questions to the Center for Evidence to Practice at

EvidencetoPractice@lsuhsc.edu

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1. TRAINING OVERVIEW

A. INTRODUCTION

The Center for Evidence to Practice (Center for E2P) has written this Request for Application (RFA) in order to identify behavioral health practitioners in Louisiana who are equipped to successfully participate in **Positive Parenting Program – Triple P (Level 4)** training.

Due to the identified need for Medicaid behavioral health services specific to children and their caregivers, Triple P has been selected by the Office of Behavioral Health (OBH) as an evidence-based program that will be expanded statewide. OBH has published a Medicaid service definition for Triple P in their [LA Behavioral Health Services Manual](#), which demonstrates their support for this EBP model.

Through this Request for Applications (RFA), the Center for E2P along with Triple P America look forward to identifying a strong cohort to participate in this training and learning collaborative opportunity.

The **goal of this RFA** is to help providers determine if this EBP is a good fit for their clinicians, organization, and the youth, families, and adults they serve. *It should also help providers determine if they are able to commit to the expectations of participating in this training opportunity and of delivering the EBP.* The application requests information about the providers' qualifications, the services they provide to Medicaid-insured children and families, and their readiness to participate in the training and to deliver the EBP. Triple P America and the Center for E2P staff will be reviewing applications based on the **Application and Selection Process (Section 3) to select providers that are best able to take advantage of this training opportunity and to sustain delivery of the EBP.**

B. INFORMATION ABOUT THE LOUISIANA CENTER FOR EVIDENCE TO PRACTICE

The Center for E2P is a partnership between the Louisiana Department of Health – Office of Behavioral Health and the Louisiana Health Sciences Center – School of Public Health, which is tasked with improving access to evidence-based behavioral health practices for Louisianan children and families insured by Medicaid. Our mission is to support the state and its agencies, organizations, communities, and providers in selecting and implementing evidence-based interventions to promote youth and family well-being, improve behavioral health outcomes, and address challenges related to sustaining quality practice. For more information on E2P please visit our [website](#) and [subscribe](#) to our newsletter for updates.

C. CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS

The Center is a social work pre-approval organization through the Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners (LABSWE). Additionally, the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC) approved the Center to become an NBCC Approved Continuing Education Provider (ACEP). Pending completion of training, complying with training guidelines, meeting the required amount of training minutes, and completing the end-of-training evaluation, participants should receive a CE certificate for their participation in this training opportunity. For those whose credentials are outside of the LABSWE and Center for E2P: Positive Parenting Program – Triple P (Level 4) RFA

NBCC; upon receiving the CE certificate, the Center encourages participants to submit the certificate to their licensing board for approval.

D. TRAINING COMMITMENT EXPECTATION AND FORM

Dedication and commitment to this training is of the utmost importance to participating in this training opportunity. *These trainings are typically very costly and would be a significant financial investment for practitioners if they were to participate on their own, however, if an agency/practitioner team is chosen for this opportunity, it is provided at no cost to them.* With that in mind, **for each entity that is chosen for this training opportunity, we emphasize the necessity of completing all the training components as intended.** Should an entity drop out of this opportunity, it can impact its selection in a future training opportunity offered through E2P.

All chosen applicants are required to commit to participating in the training in its entirety. Upon selection, all applicants will be required to complete a [TRAINING COMMITMENT](#) between the applicant and E2P. ***As this is a free, state-funded training, all participants must demonstrate their commitment to participate in ALL training days and to actively use the training approach with clients.***

E. TRAINING COSTS

There will be no cost to agencies for the course itself; however, agencies must financially commit to the time and effort required to complete the training and the delivery of the EBP. Agencies and clinicians must set aside the allotted training time to fully participate in this training opportunity, including any expectations outside of training (e.g. reading training manuals and related materials, completing web-based training, changing operations to accommodate delivery of the EBP). That means that agencies and clinicians must set aside each of the required training days and times to fully participate in this training opportunity. For in-person training, the provider is responsible for covering the cost of travel and travel time. Training manuals will be provided by the Center for E2P.

2. SCOPE OF WORK

A. INFORMATION ABOUT POSITIVE PARENTING PROGRAM – TRIPLE P (LEVEL 4)

The Triple P Positive Parenting Program is a parenting and family support system designed to prevent and treat behavioral and emotional problems in children. It aims to prevent problems in the family, school and community before they arise and to create family environments that encourage children to realize their potential. The “Triple P System” includes a suite of interventions with different intensity levels and delivery methods, to meet the individual needs of youth and parents.

Triple P – Standard Level 4 is designed to be delivered to the parents of children with moderate to severe behavioral difficulties. It is available for parents of children from birth to 12 years old and covers Triple P's 17 core positive parenting skills that can be adapted to a wide range of parenting situations.

Triple P – Standard Level 4 is a model used within the service “Outpatient Therapy by Licensed Practitioners.” Therefore, it follows the requirements set out in the “Outpatient Therapy by Licensed Practitioners” section of the [LDH Behavioral Health Services Provider Manual](#) from pgs. 425-432.

Target Population Characteristics

The target population includes children ages 0-12 with their parents/primary caregivers. The program is used as an intervention with the parents of children with social, emotional, or behavioral problems. Triple P Standard Level 4 is recommended for children with diagnosed social, emotional, or behavioral concerns.

Philosophy and Treatment Approach

Triple P draws on social learning, cognitive behavioral and developmental theories, as well as research into risk factors associated with the development of social and behavioral problems in children. It aims to equip parents with the skills and confidence they need to be self-sufficient and to be able to manage family issues without ongoing support.

Triple P - Standard Level 4 helps parents learn strategies that promote social competence and self-regulation in children and decreases problem behavior. Parents are encouraged to develop a parenting plan that makes use of a variety of Triple P - Standard Level 4 strategies and tools. Parents are then asked to practice their parenting plan with their children.

During the course of the program, parents are encouraged to keep track of their children’s behavior, as well as their own behavior, and to reflect on what is working with their parenting plan and what is not working as well. Parents then work with their practitioner to fine-tune their plan. Triple P - Standard Level 4 practitioners are trained to work with parents’ strengths and to provide a supportive, non-judgmental environment where a parent can continually improve their parenting skills.

Goals

The goals of Triple P- Standard Level 4 treatment are improved child behavior, improved parenting skills, increased parent confidence, and decreased parent stress.

Specific Design of the Service

The Triple P - Standard Level 4 service typically consists of 10 individual sessions with a family. The first two sessions have an assessment component, which involves: parent completion of standardized self-report measures of child adjustment as well as parenting styles; interviews with the parent; interviews with the child when that is appropriate; and behavioral observation of parent/child interactions. Based on information from these multiple sources, clinicians

gather information relevant to diagnosis and functional impairment to determine medical necessity and fit of services.

The child's presence during the session is critical during the assessment phase, as well as during the observation practice sessions. During certain session components, the therapist's intervention is directed towards the parent (such as coaching the parent in fine-tuning their implementation of the parenting skills in their parenting plan). During parent-directed interventions, it is recommended that the child be set up with an engaging activity for the period of direct work with the parent. Typically, the sessions during which the therapist's activity is directed primarily toward the parent are conducted during Session 1 (Parent Initial Interview), introducing and teaching parenting skills during Session 3 (Positive Parenting), Session 4 (Managing Misbehavior), and Session 10 (final session and program close). During those parent-directed sessions, ideally the therapist meets with the parent(s) without the child present; if the parent(s) are unable to find childcare for the child during those parent-directed sessions, the parent(s) are encouraged to bring activities to the session to keep the child busy.

B. TRIPLE P TRAINING COMMITMENTS

The Triple P curriculum was developed by Dr. Matthew Sanders and colleagues at the University of Queensland. The University of Queensland holds the ownership of the Triple P content. The University of Queensland has a sole partnership agreement with Triple P International (TPI), including TPI's subsidiaries like Triple P America, to provide the training, resources, and implementation support for Triple P practitioners. In the United States, Triple P America is the sole organization to provide Triple P training, resources, and implementation support. Triple P America has 20+ accredited trainers (accredited by the University of Queensland) that provide standardized training and accreditation to all practitioners who wish to deliver Triple P.

A Level 4 Triple P training will be sponsored by the Center for Evidence to Practice. This training consists of:

- Initial Training – 3 full days: **June 18-20, 2024 from 9am-4:30pm**
- Pre-accreditation – 1 full day: **July 9, 2024 from 9:00am-4:30pm**
- Accreditation – 1 half day per practitioner over 2 days (initial group of 20 participants divided into groups of 5): **August 5-6, 2024 from 9am-12:30pm or 1pm-4:30pm**

All training parts above will be conducted online via Zoom. Participants must have adequate technology (computers with webcam access and working audio) and internet access to participate in this training.

The goal of this training and implementation program is for participating Medicaid agencies to successfully implement Level 4 Triple P with families in their community. Providers should be able to demonstrate the capacity to identify and engage appropriate children and families in Triple P, deliver the model to fidelity, and sustain the model long-term.

Individual practitioners and teams from agencies are invited to apply for this training opportunity. Additionally, we highly encourage participation from supervisors and administrators as their understanding and support of the model contributes to long-term sustainability.

The Center for E2P expects all selected practitioners to complete all required training responsibilities throughout the training. If selected for training, practitioners will sign a training agreement demonstrating their commitment to this EBP to ultimately obtain the Triple P Accreditation designation.

Upon completion of achieving the Triple P Accreditation, licensed practitioners will be able to specifically use an EBP tracking code to document the delivery of this model within Outpatient Therapy. The EBP Tracking code for Triple P (EB06) is outlined in the [Louisiana Medicaid Behavioral Health Services Provider Manual](#) on pages 425-432. Practitioners can also reference the [EBP Qualifications & Billing Guide](#), which provides a summary of the EBP tracking codes and Medicaid billing guidance. Upon certification, it is **highly recommended** that practitioners utilize the EB06 tracking codes to document the utilization of the EBP model.

C. TRIPLE P TRAINING OVERVIEW AND TIMELINE OF EVENTS

EVENTS	DATE
TRIPLE P INFORMATIONAL WEBINAR:	<i>Webinar recording and resources accessible by CLICKING HERE.</i>
RFA APPLICATION RELEASE:	April 1, 2024
RFA APPLICATION DEADLINE:	April 30, 2024
NOTICE OF APPLICATION STATUS:	May 7, 2024
TRAINING COMMITMENT DUE:	May 16, 2024
MANDATORY TRIPLE P ORIENTATION:	May 21, 2024 from 12pm-1pm CST
TRAINING (PART 1) TRAINING:	June 18-20, 2024 from 9:00AM-4:30PM
PART 1 CE EVALUATION DEADLINE:	June 27, 2024
PRE-ACCREDITATION (PART 2) TRAINING:	July 9, 2024 from 9:00AM-4:30PM
PART 2 CE EVALUATION DEADLINE:	July 16, 2024
ACCREDITATION (PART 3) TRAINING:	August 5-6, 2024 from 9:00AM-4:30PM <i>*Each practitioner will be assigned a half-day time block to execute accreditation between these two (2) days.</i>
PART 3 CE EVALUATION DEADLINE:	August 13, 2024
MONTHLY CONSULTATION CALLS:	1-Hour Monthly consultation calls for six (6) months

D. TRIPLE P INFORMATIONAL WEBINAR

The Center for Evidence to Practice hosted a Positive Parenting Program – Triple P (Level 4) Informational Webinar on Wednesday, March 20th and Thursday, March 21st. At these webinar opportunities, attendees had the opportunity to meet the Triple P America team, learn about the basics of the modality, and get an overview of the application process. A question and answer (Q&A) session followed. If you plan on applying to the upcoming Triple P training, it is highly recommended that you

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watch the recorded webinar and review the Q&A to learn more about the model and training requirements.

To view the webinar recording and answered questions, you can [CLICK HERE](https://laevidencetopractice.com/triple-p-rfa-qa/) or access it by clicking this link: <https://laevidencetopractice.com/triple-p-rfa-qa/>

E. SUSTAINED PRACTICE

Following the completion of the full course and implementation program, agencies will be expected to independently sustain Triple P, including facilitating ongoing referrals and engagement, maintaining a caseload, and ensuring supportive supervision, leadership, and policy. **Having an agency's leadership (e.g., CEO, supervisors, and other decision-makers) directly involved in the implementation of an EBP is key to its long-term success.** Strategies of engaged leadership include being knowledgeable about Triple P and directly involved in:

- 1) supporting clinicians and supervisors in maintaining fidelity to Triple P,
- 2) recruiting staff to participate in learning and using the EBP,
- 3) integrating the EBP into the culture of the agency, and
- 4) demonstrating a commitment to the EBP through follow-through with the implementation plan.

In addition, each agency should also consider how their policies might support or conflict with EBP practice and identify ways to integrate Triple P into their policies and procedures.

Examples may include:

- Considering an applicant's knowledge of (or openness to) EBPs in hiring decisions and integrating information about Triple P into new employee orientations
- Setting participation in EBP supervision as a regular requirement
- Creating processes to track fidelity and measures in electronic medical records
- Integrating Triple P into clinical documentation
- Recognizing EBP clinicians formally in performance reviews and merit raises and informally in newsletters, websites etc.

F. CONSULTATION CALLS

To further develop your Triple P confidence and competence, clinicians are strongly encouraged to participate in consultation calls. **Six (6) months of 1-hour monthly consultation calls from July 2024 until December 2024** will be offered. These calls will help support clinicians in implementing Triple P with their clients.

3. APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

A. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS AND EXPECTATIONS

Selection will be based on organization's readiness for Triple P implementation, acceptance of Medicaid-insured families, and relevance of Triple P to the population served by the applicant organization.

Preference will be given to organizations with multiple practitioners applying to be trained, in recognition of the long training process Triple P entails and the necessity of inter-practitioner support.

Organizations must also demonstrate an understanding of the necessary changes to practitioner caseload for a trainee to include Triple P, the training for which is highly time-intensive as compared to standard therapy. ***Additionally, we highly encourage participation from supervisors and administrators as their understanding and support of the model contributes to long-term sustainability.***

Training Acceptance Criteria: Qualified behavioral health agencies/providers will be those who serve Medicaid-insured individuals and/or provide clinical therapy services to children and their caregivers in Louisiana free of charge; are licensed (or actively working towards licensure); and are actively (currently) treating children and their caregivers.

Additionally, only complete applications will be considered, and all should include the individual Trainee application AND the signed Agency Agreement.

All behavioral health agencies selected to participate in the Triple P training will be expected to complete all training components to achieve Triple P Accreditation. Upon selection, all agencies will be requested to sign a Training Agreement between the agency and E2P. As this is a free, state-funded training, all agencies must demonstrate their commitment to the training and sustaining implementation of Triple P.

B. APPLICATION REVIEW PROCESS

Upon receiving all the training applicants, an initial review of the applicants that meet the threshold requirements outlined in the **Eligibility Requirements** section will be executed. Following that initial review, the E2P staff will meet with the trainers and review the applicants based on their individual trainee application and agency agreement responses.

C. APPLICATION MATERIALS

The **Triple P** online training is scheduled for **Spring 2024**. This training opportunity is being offered through **Triple P America**.

1.) The **TRAINEE APPLICATION** must be completed by each applicant and can be accessed by filling out the **online application (through Microsoft Forms)** by **TUESDAY, APRIL 30, 2024**.

2.) The **AGENCY AGREEMENT** must be completed and signed through **Adobe PDF (a fillable PDF)** by a supervisor and/or administrator at the agency requesting participation in the Triple P training. *Even if an*
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applicant is a sole practitioner, they must submit an agency agreement on behalf of themselves. The agency agreement **MUST BE EMAILED TO EvidenceToPractice@lsuhsc.edu** by **TUESDAY, APRIL 30, 2024**.

BOTH FORMS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO BE CONSIDERED FOR THIS TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

D. APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- Please review the **Request for Application (RFA)** to be aware of training expectations.
- (HIGHLY RECOMMENDED)* **WATCH RECORDING OF THE INFORMATIONAL WEBINAR** so applicants are aware of the training expectations and time commitment.
- SAVE ALL IMPORTANT TRAINING DATES:** See **pgs. 7 of the RFA** for important dates and deadlines.
- Submit a **TRAINEE APPLICATION** on behalf of yourself as an applicant. Acceptance into the program will be evaluated on an individual basis based on the application responses.
- Submit an **AGENCY AGREEMENT** on behalf of your agency. *This step is necessary for those who are sole practitioners as well, please fill it out on behalf of yourself.*

E. NOTIFICATION OF APPLICATION STATUS

Applicants will be notified via email by **May 7, 2024**, regarding their status in the training.

F. NON-DISCRIMINATORY POLICY

The Center for Evidence to Practice appreciates diversity and does not discriminate based on race, ethnicity, national origin, color, religion, age, ability status, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

*Thank you for your commitment to serving Louisiana's children and families.
We look forward to reading your application!*