



Home Visiting Evidence of Effectiveness (HomVEE)

CALL FOR STUDIES

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: JANUARY 2, 2018

Purpose

Mathematica Policy Research seeks studies for a comprehensive review of the evidence base for home visiting programs. The review is being conducted for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) by Mathematica Policy Research and will be used to help inform policy, new initiatives, and program directions at the federal level. Please note that HomVEE will screen and retain all study submissions, but because of the volume of research, it cannot review all submitted studies.

Background

The Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program, administered by the DHHS Health Resources & Services Administration in partnership with the Administration for Children & Families, supports voluntary, evidence-based home visiting services for mothers during pregnancy and for parents with young children up to the age of kindergarten entry.

To identify the home visiting programs that have evidence of effectiveness, Mathematica, on behalf of DHHS, began conducting a comprehensive review of the evidence base, known as the HomVEE review, in fall 2009. The results, as well as detailed information about the review standards, are available on the HomVEE website (<http://homvee.acf.hhs.gov/>). The HomVEE review [focuses on effectiveness studies](#),¹ but it also accepts, and may examine, implementation studies. Each year, HomVEE issues a new call for studies as part of a broader effort to continue and update the existing review.

Eligibility

This call for studies aims to identify studies that the HomVEE team has not previously reviewed, including unpublished manuscripts (past or recent), conference papers, and new publications (currently in press) that are *not* in [databases searched for the review](#).² Authors may submit new evidence or findings that build on or expand previously reviewed studies (as long as the results are reported as new, stand-alone articles).

Studies submitted in response to this call should do the following:

- Focus on home visiting programs that target pregnant women, expectant fathers, and families with, or caregivers of, children ages birth to kindergarten entry.
- Focus on programs in which home visiting is the primary service delivery strategy. Programs that are primarily center-based with infrequent or supplemental home visiting will be excluded. Home visiting services should be offered to most or all participants and be integral to programmatic goals.
- Have been prepared or published in 1979 or later.
- Provide the name and a detailed description of the home visiting program being evaluated and the study methods employed.

¹ <http://homvee.acf.hhs.gov/Review-Process/4/Producing-Study-Ratings/19/5>

² <http://homvee.acf.hhs.gov/document.aspx?rid=4&sid=19&mid=2>



- Target at least one of the following outcome domains:
 - Improvements in prenatal, newborn, and child health
 - Improvements in child development and school readiness, including improvements in cognitive, language, social-emotional, and academic achievement, as well as physical developmental indicators
 - Improvements in family economic self-sufficiency
 - Improvements in coordination of referrals for, and provision of, other community resources and supports for eligible families
 - Improvements in maternal health, including improved pregnancy outcomes
 - Improvements in parenting skills related to child development
 - Reductions in child maltreatment
 - Reductions in juvenile delinquency, family violence, or crime

Submission instructions

Send submissions to HVEE@mathematica-mpr.com.

Submissions should include the following:

- An electronic version of the study in MS Word or PDF format
- A cover email noting contact information for the lead or corresponding author, the name of the home visiting program being evaluated, and the study design: randomized controlled trial; quasi-experimental (comparison group, regression discontinuity, single case); or implementation (HomVEE does not currently review studies with a pre-post or correlational design.)

Although not required, authors of randomized controlled trials and comparison group design quasi-experimental studies might wish to consult and use HomVEE's [reporting guide for study authors](#)³ as they prepare their submission.

The deadline for submissions is January 2, 2018

Submissions are added to HomVEE's database of studies, along with studies obtained through a broad literature search. HomVEE [screens all studies for relevance](#),⁴ [prioritizes some program models for review](#),⁵ and reviews all eligible studies of the prioritized models. HomVEE releases the results of its annual review around September 30 of each year.

Authors will receive acknowledgment of their submission's receipt, but they will not be told of the possible inclusion of their study in the review. HomVEE retains all studies that are eligible for review but aren't about one of the [prioritized models](#);⁶ it keeps these studies for consideration in subsequent review cycles.

³ http://homvee.acf.hhs.gov/HomVee_Author%20Reporting%20Guide_051116_B508.pdf

⁴ <http://homvee.acf.hhs.gov/Review-Process/4/Screening-Studies/19/3>

⁵ <http://homvee.acf.hhs.gov/Review-Process/4/Prioritizing-Program-Models-for-Review/19/4>

⁶ <https://homvee.acf.hhs.gov/Review-Process/4/Prioritizing-Program-Models-for-Review/19/4>
