FAQs:

How many applications should a state complete if they are interested in more than one topic?
Only one application per state/jurisdiction should be submitted and topic interest should be ranked. Teams should identify a primary team member for each selected topic they actively want to pursue and include that person as #3 on the statement of commitment. For more than one priority topic, please include additional team member information in the body of the email when you submit your application. We understand that team leadership might be the same for multiple topics.

How many topics can a state work on at once?
Each state may choose up to 2 topics to start work on each cohort. States/Jurisdictions are encouraged to continue with the Learning Collaborative for multiple cohorts and can add additional topics in successive cohorts, while continuing to work on previous topics and receive technical assistance and support for sustaining work.

What is the monthly time obligation?
Total participation time will vary from team to team with a minimum commitment of 2 hours/month for regular Learning Collaborative activities. Regular Collaborative activities include participating in a monthly call, alternating between the member-only Topic call and the State Technical Assistance Webinar, submitting regular Plan-Do-Study-Acts and collecting and reporting monthly data. Additionally, each State Strategy Team will need to set up their own internal meeting and implementation strategy.

My state is working on some of these injury topic areas but has not chosen the designated injury-related MCH National Performance Measures. Will our application be considered?
Yes. The Learning Collaborative is designed to align with the Title V MCH National Performance Measures in order to build on existing priorities and enhance existing work to reduce childhood injury and fatalities. If your state has prioritized this work, please apply, regardless of whether you have chosen the designated NPM in your strategic plan.
My state has already spread some evidence-driven strategies across the state, should we still apply to join?
Yes. The Learning Collaborative can help states already set up with state-wide spread to evaluate the effectiveness and sustainability of their current strategies, as well as determine additional or more effective strategies to help further accelerate the reduction of childhood injury and death.

How much does it cost to be in the Learning Collaborative?
There is no cost to joining the Collaborative aside from making the time and commitment to completing the work. The Children’s Safety Network will cover associated costs for up to 3 members to attend the in-person Learning Session. States/jurisdictions choosing to work on more than one topic will need to select their attendees to best meet their strategic needs.

Do we have to have signatures from our IVP and MCH directors? Will they have to attend the in-person Learning Session and all other Learning Collaborative activities?
The objectives of the Learning Collaborative are to create collective impact and reduce childhood injuries and death nationwide. In order to do this, the Collaborative supports the spread and implementation of evidence-driven strategies as part of the state/jurisdiction efforts to achieve their Title V block grant goals. Senior leaders in each state/jurisdiction are a critical part of catalyzing, implementing, spreading, and sustaining change and they are expected to guide and support the Strategy Teams. This support may require regular meetings, designing a feedback structure, and providing guidance to the team members. While having engaged state leadership is essential, each Strategy Team can choose their membership and internal leadership to best suit their context and strategic goals. Thus, the representatives that attend Learning Collaborative activities might vary from state team to state team. For the in-person Learning Session we recommend the injury and violence prevention director, maternal and child health director, and a third person of the state’s choosing to attend, such as a state epidemiologist or key member of the team who will lead implementation activities. It is our experience that many state injury and violence prevention directors and maternal and child health directors are directly involved in the implementation activities. If this is not the case in your state, and you feel there are other team members that would be more critical to attend the in-person Learning Session, please let us know.

Can a regional or local health department or partner organization be part of the Learning Collaborative?
Yes. Interested local or regional partners can, and often are, members of the State Strategy Team. Partners should reach out to their state injury prevention leadership and explore joining the State Strategy Team and participating in Learning Collaborative activities.