



Health Disparities Faculty Seed Grant Program

Overview and Purpose:

In conjunction with the UGA Office of Research, the Owens Institute for Behavioral Research (OIBR) is accepting seed grant applications for **social science research in the area of Health Disparities**. Preference will be given to multi-disciplinary teams, and applicants are strongly encouraged to have at least one team member from a discipline outside the social sciences. The proposed project must be led by a faculty member from UGA but can include faculty collaborators from other institutions. These projects may be expansions of existing projects aimed at further developing methods or hypotheses or small stand-alone projects. All funded seed grant projects must be directly related to the submission of a federal grant application (e.g., NIH, NSF, CDC, Dept. of Defense) in the area of health disparities in the near future, and the proposals must clearly articulate how the seed grant project will increase the likelihood that the grant application will be successful. Subsequent grant applications related to the seed grant project must either be submitted through OIBR *or* notification given to OIBR that a grant proposal is resulting from the project. Papers and presentations resulting from the seed grant should acknowledge OIBR and the Office of Research.

Application Guidelines:

Deadline: June 7, 2021

Notification Date: July 30, 2021

Project Start Date: August 9, 2021

Submission requirements/instructions: Submission requires a project description, submission form (see attached), and a one page estimated project budget listing main expense categories, dollar amounts, and brief justification for use of funds. Project description is limited to 5 single-spaced pages (exclusive of references) and should include: Brief summary/abstract of project, including intended application of findings; Project narrative, including specific aims and expected outcomes; Brief background and significance, including an explanation of, 1) how the proposed project contributes to the field of health disparities; 2) researcher qualifications/training, including prior work related to the topic/project and capacity to carry-out the project; and 3) a description of research design and methods. Applicants must also specify the targeted grant submissions (agency, mechanism, PA) that will result from the seed grant project.

A total of \$40,000 is available for this program. Faculty seed grant projects are small in size and scope, and we expect budget proposals not to exceed **\$10,000**. Budgets are subject to reduction based on the recommendation of the reviewers. Funds will be made available on August 9, 2021, and **all funds must be spent on or before June 30, 2022**. The PI's home unit business personnel will manage the seed grant funds (chart string provided by OIBR).

Review Criteria and Process:

Applications will be peer-reviewed by an interdisciplinary ad hoc OIBR committee using the following criteria:

1) summary of the research proposal, 2) clarity of specific aims, 3) scientific rigor, 4) contribution to overall relevance of social and behavioral science research, 5) investigator(s) and interdisciplinary nature of the research, and 6) potential for future funding at the federal level. **In recent years, the review committee has noted a need for greater scientific rigor in seed grant applications. This includes the approach (research methods, procedures, etc.) as well as the conceptual or theoretical framework(s) used to guide the specific aims. Applications should also explicitly discuss the interdisciplinary features of the application.** Examples of acceptable uses of seed grant funds are payment of participant incentives; purchase of small datasets to conduct data analyses; data collection costs (which may include travel). Financial support for students is limited and will be evaluated in relation to the proposed use of funds. Equipment purchased may be required to be returned to OIBR upon completion of the project. Seed grants cannot be used to fund faculty salary or release time (either summer or academic). Grantees are also required to submit a report no later than October 31, 2022, describing how the seed grants were used, as well as the outcomes of the project, including pending and planned grant submissions.

Questions about allowable expenses not listed here or any other facet of the seed grant program should be directed to Jody Clay-Warner, Associate Director of OIBR (jclayw@uga.edu). Applications should be electronically submitted to Andrea Horsman, Outreach & Communications Manager of OIBR (ahorsman@uga.edu).