

Minority Health Services Research Small Grant (MHSRG) Program

*From the Center for Minority Health Services Research
School of Pharmacy Howard University
Supported by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
2010 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS*

!!!SUBMISSION DEADLINE: OCTOBER 15, 2010!!!

Background:

The Center for Minority Health Services Research (CMHSR) was established in 2002, and supported by grant funding from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). The CMHSR established a Minority Health Services Research Small Grant (MHSRG) Program to promote interdisciplinary research focusing on health disparities areas, in order to encourage new investigators in the study of health service research (HSR) issues across Howard University and other Historically Black Colleges and Universities. The CMHSR is also committed to offering this program to support HSR investigators from other HBCUs with an aim to build future collaborative projects focusing on improving minority health care services and accessibility. CMHSR vision is to reduce morbidity and mortality among minority communities through elimination of health disparities.

Award amount:

Maximum of \$7,500.00

Award Duration:

November 1, 2010-August 30, 2011

Number of awards: Up to five (5) awards

Eligibility:

Interested health services researchers from Howard University disciplines of Medicine, Dentistry, Public Health, Social Work, Pharmacy, Nursing, and Allied Health sciences, as well as selected HBCUs, are encouraged to submit brief descriptions of proposed pilot projects for consideration. Although application for IRB approval/exemption can be submitted after the proposal is submitted, IRB approval/exemption is required prior to initiation of funding.

All faculty researchers from the above mentioned schools in Howard University are eligible to apply. Researchers from Howard University Hospital are also eligible if they hold a faculty appointment with one of the HU professional schools. Graduate and professional students, research fellows, and residents are also eligible to apply. Non-faculty researchers must work under the direction and guidance of a HU faculty mentor. Non-faculty researchers from an HBCU can work under the guidance of a HU faculty mentor or designated HBCU faculty mentor approved by the CMHSR. Those non-faculty researchers who are interested in HSR and seeking mentors will be encouraged to discuss research ideas with the CMHSR research fellows, Program director, and Biostatisticians. CMHSR research fellows and members of Steering Advisory Group can serve as mentors for non-faculty researchers or will connect non-faculty researchers with experienced health services researchers.

Review Process:

Priority will be given to projects focusing on AHRQ priority areas and to projects that can lead to future outcomes research. Therefore, the research design and methods of the project should be congruent to the priority area and feasible within a one year time period. Selected applicants will be provided access to CMHSR data as well as other publicly available data sources.

Consistent with the mission of AHRQ, a project demonstrating a significant commitment to translating research into practice and policy (TRIPP) or projects in the area of comparative effectiveness research (i.e., the conduct and synthesis of research comparing the benefits and harms of different interventions and strategies to prevent, diagnose, treat and monitor health conditions in 'real world' settings) will be given priority. The projects should be innovative and translate research findings into measurable improvements in quality, patient safety, healthcare outcomes and cost, use, and access. The review process will employ the following criteria with specific research focus on:

- Test strategies for adoption, implementation, and routinization of evidence-based clinical and organizational interventions;
- Assess the degree to which interventions that have been proven successful in just a few health care settings or outside of health care are appropriate to other health care settings and the degree to which practices that worked well with one population fit other types of populations - especially minorities, children, elderly, rural populations, and other priority populations; and,
- Identify successful past efforts to adopt, implement, and routinize evidence-based clinical and organizational interventions, and then take these "to scale" by replicating them across a number of organizations.

A review panel will be established by the CMHSR and this panel will evaluate scientific merits of each proposal with the following general review criteria.

1. Relevance to minority health care access and/or cost, AHRQ priority areas (asthma, diabetes, cancer prevention, children with special health care needs, frailty associated with old age, hypertension, immunization, medication management, pain control, pregnancy and childbirth, stroke, obesity, etc.), and health disparities. ,
2. Significance and scientific merit,
3. Likelihood of leading to external funding (NIH, AHRQ, NSF, Foundations, etc.), and funding through HU Fund for Academic Excellence and the Mordecai Wyatt Johnson Program,
4. Innovative idea and/or use of new methodologies in HSR,
5. Potential for impact on outcomes of health care and health of minority population,
6. Capability/potential of the principal investigator (and mentor, when applicable),
7. Adherence to all regulations regarding ethical conduct of research.

Allowed Cost:

Funds will support any research experience including data collection, data purchase, analyses, and dissemination efforts. Although faculty salaries are not allowed, student stipends and other salaries that are directly related to research will be allowed.

Format:

All information must be prepared in an electronic document with **one inch** margins and a type font no smaller than **12 point**. Applications failing to meet these format requirements will not be reviewed. A proposal packet should include the following sections.

- 1) Face Page: Complete the form included in this RFP and provide signatures as indicated. The face page with original signatures plus four copies must be submitted with the grant. Non-faculty applying for awards must obtain the signature of their Howard University faculty or designated HBCU faculty mentors.

- 2) Summary Abstract: Do not exceed 1 page. If funded, this abstract will be available for public release by the CMHSR in appropriate situations.
- 3) Research Plan: Do not exceed 5 pages. The research plan must include;
 - a. A clear statement of the hypothesis to be tested.
 - b. Specific Aims
 - c. Background and Significance
 - d. Research Design and Methods
 - e. Timeline and Future Plan
- 4) Investigators: List and describe the roles of each investigator/collaborator. Do not exceed 2 pages.
- 5) References: Limit 2 pages
- 6) NIH biosketch: Include for all investigators, not exceeding 2 pages for each investigator. Please use the NIH grant application format.
- 7) Other Research Support: Include for PI only. Please include title of grant, role, effort, project period, and project aim. Indicate the status (pending or active) of the support.
- 8) Budget Request and Justification: One page of budget justification is required. NO Indirect Costs will be provided to HBCU.
- 9) IRB approval: Applications for IRB approval/exemption should be submitted only after grant awards are made.

Appendices will not be accepted. Submission failing to follow format, organization, page, and other specifications will not be reviewed.

Reports: Two interim progress reports are required along with a final report at the end of the funding period. The first report is due by 5 pm on January 31, 2011. The second report is due by 5 pm on April 31, 2011. These interim reports should be comprised of 1) the current status of the project, 2) any concerns/difficulties encountered, 3) preliminary findings, and 4) a up to date expense report of the use of any grant funds. The final report is due on August 31, 2011. **Note:** Successful Applicants will be expected to collaborate with CMHSR on a regular basis giving quarterly updates and progress of selected projects. A poster presentation of preliminary data of the ongoing projects will be scheduled after six months of receiving the grants. The dates and venue of the presentations will be communicated to all. Awards and recognition will be given on quarterly, half and annual basis to acknowledge best researchers for that period.

How to Apply:

Submit one (1) ORIGINAL and four (4) additional stapled copies of completed application no later than 5 pm, October 15, 2010, to

Center for Minority Health Services Research
Attn: Dr. Annet Mbulaiteye (annet.mbulaiteye@howard.edu)
School of Pharmacy, Howard University
2300 Fourth Street, N.W.
Annex III Room 108
Washington, D.C. 20059
(202)865-0011

Please send all questions related to this RFP to Dr. Annet Mbulaiteye annet.mbulaiteye@howard.edu or Mr. Marlon Daniel, mdaniel@howard.edu

Minority Health Services Research Small Grant (MHSRG) Application 2011 Awards		LEAVE BLANK (For Administrative Purposes)	
BUDGET AMOUNT:		APPLICATION NO.	
TITLE OF PROJECT (Limit to 60 Characters)			
TOTAL PROJECT PERIOD (No more than 12 months)		BEGIN DATE	END DATE
IRB APPROVAL/EXEMPTION (For Administrative Purposes) <input type="checkbox"/> Approval <input type="checkbox"/> Exemption		PROTOCOL NUMBER	APPROVAL DATE
BUDGET			
EXPENSE CATEGORY		COST	DETAILED JUSTIFICATION
PERSONNEL 1			
PERSONNEL 2			
SUPPLIES			
EQUIPMENT			
TRAVEL			
OTHER			
TOTAL REQUEST			
FACULTY MENTOR SIGNATURE (Required for Non-Faculty)		PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR SIGNATURE (Required)	
NAME: TITLE: DEPT: SCHOOL: ADDRESS: PHONE: EMAIL:		NAME: TITLE: DEPT: SCHOOL: ADDRESS: PHONE: EMAIL:	
DEPARTMENT CHAIR SIGNATURE (Required)			
NAME: TITLE: DEPT: SCHOOL: ADDRESS: PHONE: EMAIL:			