



## Call for Proposals

### Funding to Advance Equity and Reduce Racial Inequities

The Office of Faculty Affairs and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the College of Health and Human Development is pleased to announce a call for proposals aimed at supporting graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, and early career researchers and faculty (up to 5 years post-graduation or pre-tenure) to delve into the multifaceted realms of systemic racism, anti-racism promotion, and health disparities experienced by historically marginalized and/or minoritized communities. This opportunity is co-funded by the following research centers: the Edna Bennett Pierce Prevention Research Center; the Child Maltreatment Solutions Network; the Center for Healthy Aging; the Center for Childhood Obesity; the Center for Healthcare and Research Policy; and the Dedicated Family Scholarship area.

Click [here](#) to be directed to a summary of each funding area's goals, requirements for funding, and contact information for questions.

### Accepting applications through May 10, 2024

The Office of Faculty Affairs and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, along with the [four research centers](#) and one lab within the College of Health and Human Development, and a [University-level Network](#) supported by the Social Science Research Center, announces the call for proposals to **Advance Equity and Reduce Racial Inequities**. This initiative aims to provide funding for graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, and early career researchers and faculty (pre-tenure or up to 5 years post-graduation) to advance research on epidemiological or developmental risk and protective factors. We are particularly interested in proposals that inform interventions or test interventions, with a focus on addressing racism, promoting anti-racism, and addressing racial and ethnic disparities.

This call welcomes proposals from diverse disciplines and perspectives, embracing a broad spectrum of research areas including but not limited to racism, anti-racism, racial and ethnic disparities, immigrant status, disability, sex, gender, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, and geography. We encourage proposals that seek to address complex issues at the intersection of health, society, and equity.

**Applicants may request funds up to \$2000 to support research expenses.** Applications are welcome from any department or college at Penn State.

### Submission Process

To apply, please complete all sections in the [online application](#) managed by the Office of Faculty Affairs, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. All materials **must be uploaded to the system by May10, 2024.** Awardees will be notified by May 31, 2024. Funding will be awarded by June 7, 2024.

If you have more questions about the submission process, please reach out to KateLynn Luzier ([kal5588@psu.edu](mailto:kal5588@psu.edu)).

Applicants are allotted only one submission to one center that best fits their research.

If selected for funding, acceptance of award implies consent to provide requested progress reports, to acknowledge this funding in any related publications or news releases, and to participate in appropriate center and college seminars and events during the funding period.

*Applicants are expected to receive approval from the IRB for human subjects before beginning their study, if applicable.*

## **PROPOSAL ELEMENTS**

**1. Title of Proposal**

**2. Name of Principal Investigator (“Applicant”) and Name of Graduate Advisor or Postdoc Mentor (if applicable)**

**3. Keywords**

Provide 3-5 descriptive keywords.

**4. Identification of Center, Area, or Lab**

Identify the [research center](#) with which your work most closely aligns

Write a paragraph that explains how your work supports the mission and goals of this center you have identified.

**5. Specific Aims/Problem to be Addressed**

Describe the aims of the proposed project. Priority will be given to projects related to reducing racial and ethnic health disparities, particularly projects that develop or adapt an intervention to reduce systemic racism or promote antiracist practices and culture.

Provide a brief description of the population and an explanation of the human/social/behavioral problem being addressed and describe its relevance to improving health equity.

**6. Scientific Foundation**

Summarize the conceptual/theoretical framework/logic model and empirical evidence that provide the foundation for the proposed work.

**7. Description of Activities/Methods**

Summarize the project activities (e.g., meeting goals, learning objectives, pilot study methods). For data collection studies, address proposed recruitment (including feasibility and target sample), data collection procedures and key measures, and proposed analyses. Describe any steps that have already been taken in preparation for this project.

**8. Relevance to Dissertation Project or Research Career**

Describe how this funding would facilitate the Applicant's dissertation research or their long- term research.

**9. Identification of Center, Area, or Lab**

Identify the [research center](#) with which your work most closely aligns and write a paragraph that explains how your work supports the mission and goals of this particular center.

## ADDITIONAL REQUIRED ITEMS

### Investigator Information

*Applicant:*

Name:

Graduate Students: Year began PhD program, Planned graduation date:

Postdocs/Faculty: Department, Position, and Year began this position:

College:

Phone:

Email:

*Graduate Advisor (if graduate student) or Primary Mentor (if postdoc):*

Name

Title

Department

College

Phone

Email

### Timeline

Provide the anticipated timeline for accomplishing the project's goals and how this aligns with milestones in dissertation program, if applicable (e.g., comprehensive exams, proposal defense, final defense). This can be presented in a table or figure, rather than narrative text.

### Location of Proposed Research

Describe the Penn State campus and physical location of the research (building on campus or off-campus location).

### Budget and Justification

Provide an itemized budget for research expenses and brief budget justification (maximum of two pages). Eligible expenses include participant incentives, equipment, and other project research expenses. Funds may not be requested for travel to conferences, professional development, or salary of Applicant or graduate advisor. Funds must be spent by the end of the next fiscal year (6/30/25).

### Current Biosketch or Curriculum Vitae

Attach applicant's current biosketch or curriculum vitae (maximum of 5 pages)

## **Graduate Student or Postdoc Only: Letter of Support**

Graduate students and postdoctoral scholars must include with their applications a brief letter of support from the graduate advisor or postdoc mentor (email to the Applicant is acceptable). The applicant's mentor should indicate their support of the project by writing a brief letter detailing how they will support the project, and the fit with the Applicant's dissertation project or postdoc research goals or long-term research/career goals. The brief letter of support must articulate that the graduate or post-doc advisor has reviewed the full proposal prior to submission.

## **CENTER INFORMATION AND POINTS OF CONTACT**

### **Edna Bennett Pierce Prevention Research Center (PRC)**

- **Overall Focus:** The PRC use science to build a healthier and more equitable world for individuals, families, and communities. They believe in promoting human flourishing and preventing problems that cause human suffering. The PRC has five focus areas for research: foundational science; promoting human flourishing; developing and testing innovative interventions; implementing and evaluating evidence-based programs; and informing policy and the public.
- **Funding Limitations:** Individuals across the university are welcome to apply. A maximum of two grants at the funding cap will be awarded.
- **For More Information:** Contact Sara Brennen at 814-867-5395 or [sbrennen@psu.edu](mailto:sbrennen@psu.edu)

### **Child Maltreatment Solutions Network**

- **Overall Focus:** The mission of the Child Maltreatment Solutions Network is to utilize research to enhance the well-being of children and families impacted by, or vulnerable to, child maltreatment. We achieve this by generating evidence that informs intervention programs and drives practice and policy reform across local, state, and federal levels. Our network is committed to pioneering new knowledge; promoting the development and assessment of groundbreaking strategies for preventing, identifying, and addressing child maltreatment; and fostering interdisciplinary learning opportunities for Penn State students and trainees. Furthermore, we are dedicated to facilitating the adoption of evidence-based practices in communities across Pennsylvania and beyond.
- **Funding Limitations:** Individuals across the university are welcome to apply. A maximum of four grants at the funding cap will be awarded.
- **For More Information:** Contact Kassidy McElwee, Project Manager, Child Maltreatment Solutions Network, (Phone: 814-863-2466; Email: [kls662@psu.edu](mailto:kls662@psu.edu)), or Dr. Christian Connell, Child Maltreatment Solutions Network Director (Email: [cmc128@psu.edu](mailto:cmc128@psu.edu)).

### **Center for Healthy Aging**

- **Overall Focus:** Our mission is to promote lifelong health and well-being through scholarship that fosters curiosity, partnership, and inclusion. The Center for Healthy Aging is dedicated to fostering research aimed at advancing equity and reducing racial disparities among an increasingly diverse older adult population. Our center is particularly interested in supporting investigations focused on understanding the interplay of psychological, social, and physiological factors affecting health, well-being, and mortality within minority older adult communities.
- **Funding Limitations:** Individuals across the university are welcome to apply. A maximum of 4 grants at the funding cap will be awarded.
- **For More Information:** Contact Leah Mehm, Administrative Coordinator, 409 Biobehavioral Health Building 814-865-3252 [lm18@psu.edu](mailto:lm18@psu.edu)

#### **Center for Health Care and Research Policy**

- **Overall Focus:** The mission of Center for Health Care and Policy Research is to create and disseminate new scientific knowledge that will help private and public decision-makers to develop cost effective services and programs that improve people's health. The Center helps researchers interested in all aspects of health services and health care improvement find funding, develop quality research designs, collect and analyze data, and disseminate findings to the right audiences.
- **Funding Limitations:** Individuals across the university are welcome to apply. A maximum of two grants at the funding cap will be awarded.
- **For More Information:** Contact Dennis Scanlon at 814-865-1925 or [dxs62@psu.edu](mailto:dxs62@psu.edu).

#### **Dedicated Family Scholarship Area**

- **Overall Focus:** This area's primary interest includes funding strong proposals focused on how family relations and processes are impacted by or modify the effects of racism, antiracism, and health disparities.
- **Funding Limitations:** Individuals across the university are welcome to apply. A maximum of 1 grant at the funding cap will be awarded.
- **For More Information:** Contact Greg Fosco at 814-865-5622 or [gmf19@psu.edu](mailto:gmf19@psu.edu)