

2009 Call for Proposals

Brief Proposal Deadline

September 22, 2009



Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Public Health Services and Systems Research

Purpose

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) seeks to expand the evidence base for effective public health policy and practice through investment in Public Health Services and Systems Research (PHSSR). PHSSR examines the structure, operation and outcomes of the public health system and the impact of the services it provides on the health of the public.

Eligibility Criteria

Governmental public health agencies, nonprofit organizations and academic institutions that are tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code are eligible to apply. Private foundations as defined under Section 509(a) of the Internal Revenue Code are also eligible to apply. Preference will be given to proposals submitted by governmental public health agencies, nonprofit organizations that work in concert with such agencies, and proposals that involve multidisciplinary teams. Applicant organizations must be based in the United States or its territories at the time of application. Practitioners, researchers and policy-makers may serve as principal investigators. This solicitation seeks to engage new researchers in the field of public health services and systems research. Researchers who are new to the field of PHSSR are encouraged to apply, and first-time applicants will be strongly considered.

Selection Criteria

All proposals will be assessed by a committee composed of RWJF staff, administrative support office staff and a team of multidisciplinary expert reviewers. The following criteria will be used to assess proposals, with emphasis on the first six criteria at the brief proposal stage:

1. The degree to which the findings from the project will improve the performance of the health agency/system.
2. Extent to which the research draws its questions from practice, and the potential for results to inform decisions addressing the most critical issues relating to public health systems.
3. Uniqueness of the project and its potential to improve both the public health system and population health.
4. The appropriateness and feasibility of the methodology (including access to and use of relevant data).
5. Potential for research findings to impact minorities and disparate populations.
6. Project team experience and qualifications (including multidisciplinary partnerships) for conducting the proposed project and the time commitment of the project team participants in relation to the proposed tasks.
7. Plans for translating and disseminating research findings to inform public health practice and policy.
8. Demonstrated track record in public health systems research, health services research, organizational behavior, financing, public health law or economics.

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Key Dates and Deadlines

- **September 3, 2009 (1:30 p.m. ET)**
Web conference for interested applicants.
Registration is required.
- **September 22, 2009 (3 p.m. ET)**
Deadline for receipt of brief proposals.
- **November 17, 2009**
Applicants notified if selected to submit a full proposal.
- **December 15, 2009 (3 p.m. ET)**
Deadline for receipt of full proposals.
- **April 8, 2010**
Finalists notified.
- **May 1, 2010**
Start of grants.

Inquiries

For more information on proposal requirements please contact:

Erica Johnson, *program coordinator*
Phone: (504) 301-9854
E-mail: phssr@nnphi.org

www.nnphi.org/phssr

We encourage all applicants to read the complete details about the program found in the call for proposals at www.rwjf.org/cfp/phssr.

For more information about funding opportunities from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, visit Grants at www.rwjf.org.

Sign up to receive Funding Alerts on upcoming calls for proposals at www.rwjf.org/services.



Total Awards

- Approximately \$2.4 million is available.
- Up to 12 grants will be awarded through this solicitation.
- Grantees will receive up to \$200,000 each in financial support to be used over a 24-month period.

Use of Grant Funds

Grant funds may be used for project staff salaries, consultant fees, data collection and analysis, meetings, supplies, project-related travel, and other direct project expenses, including a limited amount of equipment essential to the project.

In keeping with RWJF policy, grant funds may not be used to subsidize individuals for the costs of their health care, to support clinical trials of unapproved drugs or devices, to construct or renovate facilities, for lobbying, or as a substitute for funds currently being used to support similar activities.

How to Apply

All proposals for this solicitation must be submitted only through the RWJF Grantmaking Online system at <http://grantmaking.rwjf.org/phs>.

All applicants should log in to the system and familiarize themselves with online submission requirements well before the final submission deadline. Program staff may not be able to assist all applicants in the final 24 hours before the submission deadline. In fairness to all applicants, the program will not accept late proposals.

The program will host a Web conference for potential applicants to answer questions about the solicitation, as well as the proposal and selection processes. Participation in this conference is strongly encouraged, but not required. Details and registration information are posted at www.nnphi.org/phssr. Registration is required to participate in the Web conference. Details on the call and how to register can be found at www.nnphi.org/phssr. Applicants will have an opportunity to ask questions during the call.

There are two stages in the competitive proposal process: (1) submissions of a brief proposal that describes the project and provides a preliminary budget and, *if invited*; (2) submission of a full proposal and a detailed line-item budget for the grant.

RWJF does not provide individual critiques of proposals submitted.

www.nnphi.org/phssr