



Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

RWJF Investigator Awards in Health Policy Research

Applicant Web Conference

November 17, 2010

About Today's Web Conference

- Session being recorded for replay
- All attendees will be in listen-only mode
- For technical assistance during the conference, call
PSI Meeting at 1-800-985-9074 Ext. 2

Agenda

- **Overview of the Foundation and its Human Capital Strategy**
- **Description of the Investigator Awards Program**
- **Funding Objectives**
- **Application Process**
 - How to Apply**
 - Tips for Applicants**
- **Review Process and Schedule**
- **Q & A - general interest questions only**

Introductions

- **Lynn Rogut, M.C.R.P., Deputy Director (moderator)
Investigator Awards Program**
- **Lori Melichar, Ph.D., Senior Program Officer
Research and Evaluation, RWJF**
- **David Mechanic, Ph.D., Program Director
Investigator Awards Program**

The mission of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation is to improve the health and health care of all Americans.

Robert Wood Johnson Priority Areas

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
**Investigator Awards
in Health Policy Research**

- **Childhood Obesity**
- **Coverage**
- **Pioneer**
- **Public Health**
- **Quality/Equality**
- **Vulnerable Populations**
- **Human Capital**

RWJF Human Capital

What we do:

- **Create opportunities for collaborative and multi-disciplinary approaches to solve health and health care challenges**
- **Develop skills, offer resources, and provide training to create effective leaders**
- **Anticipate and fill gaps in the health workforce to meet future needs**
- **Find and attract diverse individuals to pursue careers in health and health care**
- **Support scholars conducting pioneering health research**

The RWJF Human Capital Portfolio invests today in the people who will shape health and health care research, policy and delivery for years to come.

RWJF Programs for Career and Leadership Development

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
**Investigator Awards
in Health Policy Research**

Harold Amos Medical Faculty Development Program

Ladder to Leadership: Developing the Next Generation of Community Health Leaders

New Connections: Increasing Diversity of RWJF Programming

Project L/EARN

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Center for Health Policy at the University of New Mexico

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholars

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Community Health Leaders

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Executive Nurse Fellows

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health & Society Scholars

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Fellows

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Nurse Faculty Scholars

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Scholars in Health Policy Research

Summer Medical and Dental Education Program

Investigator Awards in Health Policy Research

About the Investigator Awards Program

- Supports promising and innovative scholars from a wide range of fields
- Fosters new ideas that could contribute to more effective health policy-making
- Funds ambitious, policy-relevant research projects that address significant problems with health or health care in the U.S.
 - 167 projects by 216 investigators funded since 1993
- Offers unique opportunity to participate in a community of outstanding scholars from many fields

What We Fund

Research projects that:

- Explore social, economic, and political forces shaping U.S. health, health care, and health policy
- Analyze health care organization, delivery, financing, workforce, and public/population health challenges
- Contribute importantly to implementing health reform

What We Don't Fund

- **Highly-specified research projects that would typically be funded by NIH, NSF, or AHRQ**
- **Data-driven health services research focused on a narrowly defined question**
- **Pilot projects designed to evaluate clinical care in a specific geographic area**
- **Demonstrations of service delivery programs or financing strategies**
- **Advocacy projects**

About Investigator Award Grants

- Up to 10 grants will be awarded through this CFA
- Award amount - up to \$335,000, including personnel, other direct costs, and indirect costs at a rate of up to 12%
- Project duration - 2-5 years.
- Use of grant funds:
 - Primarily for salary support for principal investigator(s)
 - Research-related expenses

Eligibility Criteria

- **Educational institutions or 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations based in the U.S. or its territories**
- **Investigators not currently affiliated may submit a letter of intent (LOI) application. Full proposal applicants must have an organizational sponsor for their projects**
- **Not eligible:**
 - teams of more than two investigators**
 - past awardees of the Investigator Awards program**

We're Looking for

A diverse group of applicants:

- **Discipline/field – health, social, behavioral sciences and others**
- **Geography – U.S. or its territories**
- **Race/ethnicity**
- **Career stage**
- **Academic and non-academic settings**

Application Basics

- **Two step process:**
 - **4-page LOI**
 - **Some applicants will be invited to submit full proposals**
- **Applications must be submitted electronically**
- **You may submit only one LOI application**
- **Deadline for LOI applications - January 19, 2011, 3:00 p.m. ET**
- **Late applications will not be accepted**

How to Apply

- Visit www.investigatorawards.org to get a sense of the research projects that the program funds
- Go to www.rwjf.org/cfp/ia and click on the Apply Online link. Register at MyRWJF, if you haven't already
- Sign in to MyRWJF
- Find the listing for the Investigator Awards in Health Policy Research under Current Calls for Proposals
- Click on the Apply button on the left

How to Apply, cont.

- Review the reference materials - CFA, FAQs, tips for applicants, samples of past, successful LOIs
- Prepare your LOI, which must include:
 - project title
 - brief description of problems and their policy significance
 - research questions, approach and activities
 - statement of what is innovative or creative
 - anticipated contribution of the proposed study
 - your qualifications and track record

How to Apply, cont.

- Fill in each section of the online application form
- Save your work as you go
- Upload PDF files of your:
 - 4-page LOI
 - CV – 25 pages maximum

Tips for Applicants

- 1. Frame topic and project within its larger policy context**
- 2. Discuss project's significance for health policy and potential contribution**
- 3. Make the case for why your project matters and write in a way that communicates across fields**
- 4. Emphasize the innovative and creative aspects of your project**
- 5. Clearly identify your research questions and study approach**

Tips for Applicants, cont.

6. Explain how your study could illuminate what you seek to understand
7. Describe methods and data sources – don't leave too much to “trust”
8. Include statement of qualifications and track record (and experience working with your co-PI, if applicable)
9. Describe products, project length, total budget. An itemized budget is not needed for the LOI application.
10. Ask a colleague to review

Criteria for Evaluating Applications

- **Relevance of the research to health policy and its potential to inform and improve policy-making**
- **Contribution and significance of the project to advancing theory and knowledge base of health, health care or health policy**
- **Extent to which the research represents an innovative perspective on health, health care or health policy**
- **Soundness of the project's conceptual framework and methodology**
- **Feasibility of the research**

Criteria for Evaluating Applications, cont.

- **Evidence of availability of data or access to data needed to complete the project**
- **Likelihood that findings will be useful to policy-makers and other leaders**
- **The investigator's research record and indication that he/she can successfully complete the project**
- **For projects by two investigators, prior experience working together**

Review Process

- **Applications will be reviewed by the NPO, members of our NAC, and outside reviewers, as needed**
- **We regret that because of the large volume of applications, we can't provide individualized feedback**

Resources to Help You

- www.investigatorawards.org for more information about the program and funded projects. Check next week to access a recording of today's call and slides.
- Sign in to apply through www.MyRWJF.org for FAQs, sample LOIs and tips on how to prepare your LOI
- For other questions, contact the National Program Office, but please note that we can't provide specific advice on project ideas or review drafts of applications

Schedule

Jan. 19, 2011 at 3 pm ET

**Deadline for online submission of
LOI applications**

April 14, 2011

**LOI applicants notified by email
and proposals invited**

June 8, 2011

**Deadline for online submission of
invited full proposals**

November 30, 2011

**Full proposal applicants notified
by email**

Feb. 1 to Sept. 1, 2012

Acceptable project start dates

To Submit Questions—Q&A box

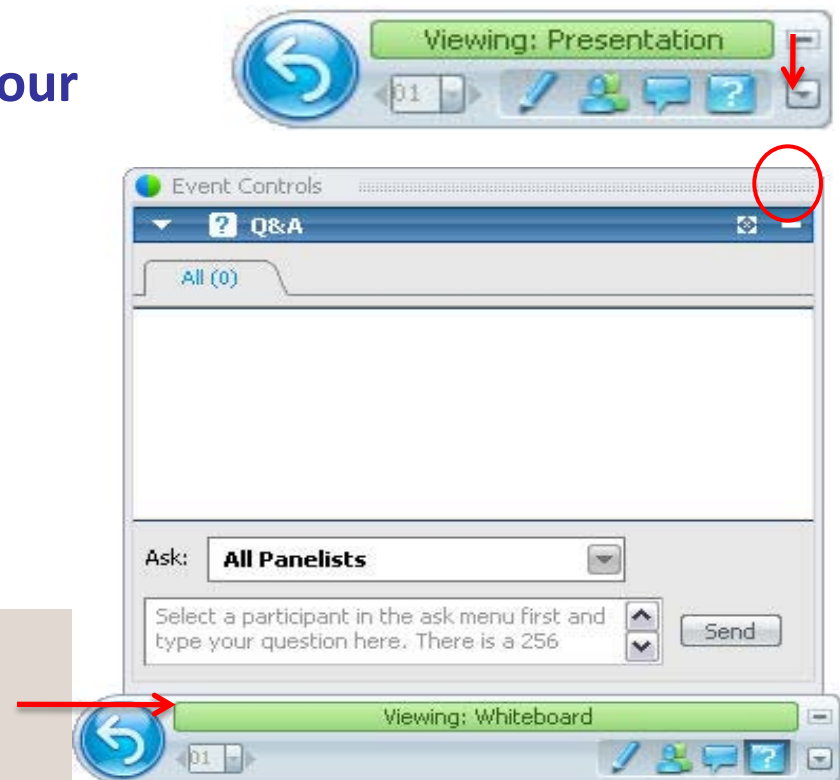
To submit a question:

Click on the Question Mark icon (?) on the floating toolbar on your Web Session screen (as shown at the right).

This will open the Q&A window on your computer only.

Type your question into the small dialog box, select All Panelists, and click the Send Button.

Q&A icon



NPO Contact Information

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- **Cynthia Church, Program Administrator**

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