IHDSC SEED AWARDS TO SUPPORT INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: Friday, December 9th, 2016 at 5:00 p.m.

The Institute of Human Development and Social Change (IHDSC) is pleased to announce our 12th call for applications for “seed” support for faculty members to jumpstart new programs of multidisciplinary research. The University recognizes that scholars who take up the challenge of conducting interdisciplinary research often need support to conduct preliminary research before they can develop larger proposals for funding. As such, IHDSC is committed to supporting faculty by providing them with funding for new projects that bridge multiple domains of expertise, while furthering the mission of IHDSC.

IHDSC’s mission is to stimulate interdisciplinary research and influence social policy on children, youth, families, and communities in the context of a rapidly changing social world. IHDSC aims to break new intellectual ground through its support for rigorous, interdisciplinary research and training across social, behavioral, educational, policy, and health sciences. We bring together a large network of faculty, research staff, and students with the goals of knowledge creation (research), knowledge transmission (education), and knowledge utilization (policy and practice).

IHDSC Seed Awards are not designed to support already-funded or ongoing research projects. For support for current research projects, please contact me or an IHDSC staff member.

We look forward to supporting the development of innovative research projects through this award structure. The deadline for applications is December 9th, 2016. All applications will be reviewed by a faculty committee and award decisions will be made by January, 2017.

We look forward to learning more about your work.

Sincerely,

Elise Cappella
Interim Director
FUNDING PRIORITIES
Projects should be related to the research focus areas of the Institute, focusing on basic change processes in human development; how these processes are affected by educational, social, economic, historical, political, and cultural contexts; and how these processes may be altered by intentional change strategies or interventions.

Research that addresses these processes and includes at least one of the following components will be given priority:

- Projects led by junior faculty / junior investigators
- Projects led by faculty or investigators that are new to IHDSC and/or NYU
- Projects led by new teams (i.e. teams of investigators that haven’t collaborated in the past)

If you have questions regarding the ways in which your scholarly work fits within the mission of the Institute, please do not hesitate to contact us. For descriptions of past grants, please visit http://steinhardt.nyu.edu/ihdsc/research/grants

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION

1. Interdisciplinary: Proposed research projects must be interdisciplinary in nature. This criterion is often met by an investigator working collaboratively with one or more researchers in other disciplines, departments, or schools, where the theory and tools of two or more social science disciplines will be used. Individual investigators are also eligible to apply, but applications should highlight plans for the investigator to incorporate theory, models, and methods commonly used in a discipline other than their “home discipline.”

2. Focus area of the Institute: Proposed research projects should include the study of human development in context or as a result of intervention, to fit the focal areas of research of IHDSC. Context(s) may include, but are not limited to, families, schools, neighborhoods, the workforce, the justice system, or the economy. Interventions may be at the individual- (e.g., person) or setting- (e.g., community or school) level.

3. Quality: The rigor and fit of the methods used to address the research problem and the proposed project’s feasibility will be evaluated.

4. Pilot for future study: This RFA is specifically targeted as “seed” or “pilot” support for projects that are large in scope, where faculty members hope to secure future external funding. High priority will be given to investigators with a well-articulated plan for submitting grant applications for external funding (with funders, deadlines, and submission requirements clearly specified). Proposals will also be considered from investigators who have recently submitted a grant application through IHDSC to federal or foundation sources, but would benefit from support to complete preliminary analyses or pilot research to increase the likelihood of gaining funding for such efforts.

5. Impact: Priority will be given to investigators with articulated plans for disseminating project findings, and with projects that have a high likelihood of informing a diverse group of academic, policy, and practitioner audiences.

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1 Seed award recipients will be required to submit proposals through IHDSC, or as collaborative proposals through IHDSC and another unit at NYU.
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ELIGIBILITY AND RESTRICTIONS
1. All full-time, tenure-track faculty members are eligible to apply. Research Scientists who have held their appointments for five or more years are also eligible to apply.

2. At least one of the principal investigators must be from the Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development, the Faculty of Arts and Science, or the Robert F. Wagner School of Public Service (the three schools that are affiliated with IHDSC).

3. Proposals must draw upon theoretical and analytic approaches from multiple disciplines.

4. A letter with the chair’s signature or review/approval from OSP is NOT required.

5. Previous IHDSC Seed Grant awardees cannot reapply for seed funding for the same project.

GRANTEE RESPONSIBILITIES
Awardees of IHDSC Seed Awards are expected to:

1. Take part in at least one informal working group meeting in which progress on the project is discussed with a selected group of faculty who can provide feedback;

2. Participate in IHDSC-sponsored activities whenever possible, including attending Institute-sponsored seminars and IHDSC thematic area meetings on topics related to the project;

3. Hold at least one meeting per semester with IHDSC staff to discuss external funding possibilities, and submit proposals for external support for the project through IHDSC. As noted above, collaborative submissions between IHDSC and other departments at NYU are also a possibility;

4. Provide copies of working papers/publications resulting from the funded project to be posted on IHDSC’s web site;

5. Submit short annual progress and financial reports, and

6. Sign a letter agreeing to meet award requirements.

HOW TO APPLY
Please email your proposal to Chris Barker, IHDSC Assistant Director, Program Development, at cjb241@nyu.edu, by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, December 9th, 2016. Award decisions will be announced in January, 2017.

The proposal package must include the following:

PROJECT DESCRIPTION
The project description should be 3 to 5 single-spaced pages including all pictures, graphs, tables, and references. Be succinct, avoid jargon, and spell out acronyms when used for the first time. Please include answers to all of the following questions so reviewers have the information necessary to evaluate your proposal.
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1. **Project name**

2. **Name of PI and additional investigators**

3. **Program overview and design:** Please describe the project’s scope, size, and components. What methodology will you employ? How is your program multidisciplinary? What is the project’s duration and timeline?

4. **State of knowledge:** What impact might the project have on the progress or state of knowledge in its field?

5. **Impact in the field:** What impact might your project have both at NYU and in the community?

6. **Statement of potential results:** What are the hypothesized results? How do you intend to use the results?

7. **Incorporation of students:** How can the proposed research be included in graduate and undergraduate training?

8. **Availability of funding:** List all funders to which you plan to submit a proposal resulting from this project and the estimated date of submission. If you have already submitted a proposal, explain why this award will be critical to your success in gaining additional funding for this line of research. NOTE: FUNDING FROM IHDSC WILL NOT BE AWARDED FOR WORK THAT CLEARLY DUPLICATES WORK FUNDED THROUGH OTHER MECHANISMS, NOR IS THIS MECHANISM INTENDED TO SUPPORT CURRENT PROJECT ACTIVITIES.

**CURRICULUM VITAE**
Submit a CV for each investigator involved in the proposed project.

**BUDGET**
Awards typically range from $5,000-$15,000, and will not exceed $20,000. Award size depends on the proposed scope of work. Funds are not permitted for faculty support. Budgeted expenses may include wages for student assistants, fringe benefits, travel related to data collection, fieldwork expenses, computer time, consultation, hourly assistance, etc. Proposed budgets should consist of:

- A one-page line item budget, and
- A budget justification explaining the purpose of each line item.

If you have questions about how to develop the budget, please contact Chris Barker at cjb241@nyu.edu or 212-998-5540.

**HUMAN SUBJECTS REVIEW**
Please note that all funded proposals that include the participation of human subjects as part of their research designs must be reviewed and approved by the New York University Committee on Activities Involving Human Subjects (UCAIHS). Investigators with projects that include human subjects are strongly encouraged to apply for approval as soon as possible because funding cannot be formally awarded until human subject approval has been granted.