Call for Applications

The Institute of Human Development and Social Change (IHDSC) is committed to funding new projects that bridge multiple domains of expertise and further the mission of the Institute. **Eligible applicants may receive up to $20,000 in research support.**

This year, priority will be given to proposals that address IHDSC’s theme of “**Unraveling Inequality, Expanding Opportunity,**” including economic and racial inequality in topic areas such as education, family income and employment, health, housing, immigration, or the justice system. IHDSC Seed Awards will be made to faculty winners as part of **NYU’s Cross-Cutting Initiative on Inequality, funded by the Office of the President.** Recipients will be included in IHDSC’s thematic announcements and activities over the course of the year, and will also be invited to participate in NYU’s Strategies to Reduce Inequality initiative.
Funding Priorities

We provide seed funding to new projects that fall under one or more of our five focus areas:

- Education and Child Development
- Race, Poverty, and Inequality
- Health and Wellbeing
- Justice and Welfare Systems
- Research, Policy, and Practice Partnerships

We prioritize proposals that include:

- A connection to IHDSC’s “Unraveling Inequality, Expanding Opportunity” theme
- Early-career investigators
- Faculty or investigators who are new to IHDSC and/or NYU
- New interdisciplinary teams
- Partnerships with community based organizations, non-profit organizations, NGOs, government agencies, or external groups focused on policy or practice

IHDSC’s Mission

The Institute represents a dynamic collaboration among three New York University schools: Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development; Arts and Science; and Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service.

We stimulate interdisciplinary research and influence social policy on children, youth, families, and communities in the context of a rapidly changing social world.

We support rigorous research and training across social, behavioral, educational, policy, and health sciences. Through collaborative and interdisciplinary research, IHDSC works to bridge the disconnect between the science of human development and policies and practices that affect children, youth, adults, and families in diverse contexts.
Eligibility & Restrictions

- All full-time, tenure-track faculty members are eligible to apply.
- Research Scientists who have PI status are also eligible to apply.
- At least one of the investigators must be from one of the core schools affiliated with IHDS:
  - Steinhardt School of Culture, Education and Human Development
  - Arts and Science
  - Robert F. Wagner School of Public Service
- Proposals must draw upon theoretical and/or analytic approaches from multiple disciplines.
- A letter with the chair’s signature or review/approval from OSP is NOT required. Previous IHDS seed grant awardees cannot re-apply for funding for the same project.

Application Deadline:
January 10, 2020

Funding Decisions:
Spring 2020

Questions?
hdsd.research@nyu.edu
Evaluation

An interdisciplinary group of faculty reviewers will evaluate proposals based on **quality**, **feasibility**, and the following other criteria:

1. **Inclusion of multiple disciplines:**
   Proposed research projects must draw upon theoretical and/or analytic approaches from multiple disciplines. 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.

   Collaboration with faculty or researchers at NYU is strongly encouraged, but external collaboration is also acceptable. If partnering with an external policy or practice organization, it may be possible to meet the criterion by including appropriate staff (i.e. Director of Research, Director of Evaluation) on the project.

   Individual investigators are also eligible to apply, but applications should highlight plans for the investigator to incorporate theory, models, and/or methods commonly used in a discipline other than their "home discipline."

2. **Fit with IHDSC priorities:**
   Reviewers will evaluate whether the project is a fit within the focus areas and funding priorities of IHDSC. A majority of research projects conducted at IHDSC include the study of human development in context or as a result of intervention. 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. **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. Please note that seed award recipients will be required to submit related external proposals through IHDSC, or as collaborative proposals through IHDSC and another unit at NYU.

4. **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. Successful applicants will be expected to engage with the Institute’s intellectual community, give at least one presentation about the project at an IHDSC event, or contribute to IHDSC’s blog, *On the Ground.*
Grantee Responsibilities

Awardees will be expected to:

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

- **Meet** with IHDSC staff to discuss external funding possibilities and plan for future proposals. Awardees will be expected to submit proposals for external support for the project through IHDSC. Collaborative submissions between IHDSC and other units at NYU are also a possibility;

- **Contribute** content to IHDSC’s blog, *On the Ground*, or present to IHDSC’s community;

- **Alert** Institute staff of any external publications or media coverage resulting from the project;

- **Submit** short annual progress and financial reports; and

- **Meet** award requirements.

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Recent Seed Awards

- "Designing Frameworks for Multimedia Use in Informal STEM Programs for Young Learners"
  PIs: Drs. Maaike Bouwmeester & Camilia Matuk
  Community Partner: The League of Young Inventors

- "Community Neuroscience: Examining Dyadic Brain Activity during Natural Social Interactions Across Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Families"
  PI: Dr. Natalie Brito
  Community Partner: Sunset Spark

- "Peer Professionals to Increase Capacity to Treat ADHD"
  PIs: Drs. Anil Chako, Rachel Fish, Lisa Gennetian & Gabrielle Oettingen
  Community Partner: Vibrant Emotional Health

- "High Variability Phonetic Training as a Mechanism for Improving Underlying Reading Skills in School-Age Children"
  PIs: Drs. Susannah Levi & Daphna Harel

- "Helping Oneself by Helping Others: Testing the Feasibility of a Narrative Intervention for Chinese American Cancer Survivors"
  PIs: Drs. William Tsai & Simona Kwon
  Community Partner: Hamilton-Madison House
How to Apply

Detailed instructions will be available on IHDSC’s online portal beginning November 1, 2019. All applications must include the following seven (7) parts:

1. Proposal title
2. Abstract
3. Project Period
4. Project Description
   The project description should be 3 to 5 single-spaced pages including all pictures, graphs, tables, and references. Be succinct. Please include answers to all of the following questions:
   - Program overview and design
   - State of knowledge
   - Impact
   - Statement of potential results
   - Incorporation of students
   - Availability of future funding

Detailed instructions and prompts will be available on the online portal.

5. Curriculum Vitae (CV)
   Include CVs or Biosketches for all senior/key personnel involved in the proposed project. Each CV or Biosketch should be 10 pages or less.

6. Budget
   Awards typically range from $5,000 - $15,000, and will not exceed $20,000. Funds cannot be used to support faculty effort. Budgeted expenses may include wages for student assistants, fringe benefits, travel related to data collection, fieldwork expenses, subject incentives, consultation, hourly assistance, etc. A budget template is available on the online portal.

7. Human Subjects Information
   All funded proposals that include the participation of human subjects as part of their research design must be reviewed and approved by the New York University Committee on Activities Involving Human Subjects (UCAIHS). Please indicate in your seed application whether human subjects will be involved in your research, and if so, the status of your human subjects application.

Optional Attachments:
Feel free to include letters of support from any external partners or data collection sites.

All application materials must be uploaded to the portal by January 10, 2020.

Visit our Seed Award website for more information.