HEALTH EQUITY RESEARCH NETWORK (HERN) ON THE PREVENTION OF HYPERTENSION

AHA INFORMATIONAL WEBINAR
APRIL 14, 2021

Please note: If you wish to remain anonymous, please change your name.

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

Required LOI (by email):
Friday, April 23rd

Full Application:
Thursday, May 13th before 3PM CT / 4PM ET

NETWORK PURPOSE

• Advance the science of prevention of hypertension with a focus on health equity.

• AHA’s 2024 Impact Goal: to advance cardiovascular health for all, including identifying and removing barriers to health care access and quality by 2024.

NETWORK STRUCTURE

• A single network with 3 to 5 Projects submitted as a coordinated effort

• Studies must be conducted using human participants and must include interventions

• Each project will be at a distinct institution and each will be led by a PI

• One Coordinating Center PI

COORDINATING CENTER

• One HERN Coordinating Center PI

• Not required to be a Project PI, but will be at one of the project institutions

• Coordinating Center PI will:
  • Coordinate efforts of Projects
  • Facilitate/manage communication among awardees
  • Establish and support collaborations
  • Coordinate dissemination of findings
  • Ensure submission of annual progress reports

NETWORK AWARD DETAILS

Duration: 4 years

Number of Awards: AHA will fund one Health Equity Research Network comprised of 3-5 Projects and one Coordinating Center

Award Amount: The maximum budget amount a network applicant team may request is $20M

Effort Requirement: 10% Coordinating Center PI; 10% Project PI
ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS
Institutions:
• US-based non-profit institutions
• Non-federal institutions

Project PI & Coordinating Center PI:
• Must hold a doctoral-level degree
• Must hold a faculty-rank position of any level

HUMAN SUBJECT STUDY POPULATION(S)
• All projects must include populations known to have an elevated incidence of hypertension and/or uncontrolled hypertension
• All studies must be conducted using human participants and must include interventions (as opposed to pure epidemiologic characterization)
• The overall makeup of the study population for each Project (and the network) should include a significantly higher percentage of the targeted, underserved population than that of the general population
• It’s important that studies incorporate both realistic recruitment goals and sufficient statistical power to ensure valid results.

EXPECTATIONS & OPPORTUNITIES
• At least one project must include the use of community-based participatory research (CBPR)
• Use of technology in at least one project is strongly encouraged
• Applicants are highly encouraged to partner with an institution focused on educating or serving under-represented individuals and communities.
• Use of the AHA’s Precision Medicine Platform is encouraged

PROJECT BUDGET DETAILS
All budgeted items must be justified explicitly in the application. Broad categories of allowable costs include the following:
• Salary & Fringe of Project PIs and other investigative team members (Project PIs must commit 10% effort)
• Non-salary project-related expenses:
  • Supplies, subject recruitment, equipment, publication costs, etc.
• Travel/Meetings: Award dollars will be used to pay for required face-to-face, network-wide meetings. One or two face-to-face meetings will be held each year. Project PIs will host these meetings on a rotating basis OR be held at the Coordinating Center each year.
  • Maximum of 10% institutional indirect costs

COORDINATING CENTER BUDGET DETAILS
All budgeted items must be justified explicitly in the application. Broad categories of allowable costs include the following:
• Salary & Fringe of Coordinating Center PI and other investigators (Coordinating Center PI must commit 10% effort)
• Non-salary expenses related to Coordinating Center activities:
  • Supplies, Tele- and web-based communication costs, travel, publication costs, etc.
  • Maximum of 10% institutional indirect costs

FINANCES
• Each institution with a Network project will receive an award directly from the AHA
• Each PI will be responsible for overseeing the total budget for his/her award
• Re-budgeting may occur with AHA approval
• 10% rate for indirect costs must be maintained
**SUBMISSION PROCESS**

**AHA MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENT**
- Required for Project PIs & Coordinating Center PI
- Takes 5-10 days to process if renewing and purchasing a new membership
- AHA Professional Heart Daily / ProposalCentral accounts must be linked for status of membership to be accurate

https://professional.heart.org/en/partners

**REQUIRED FOR LOI SUBMISSION**
- Each Coordinating Center PI is required to submit a LOI with the following information:
  - Names and institutions of the Coordinating Center PI and each Project PI
  - Network title and title of each proposed project
- Email directly to StrategicAwards@heart.org
- LOI deadline is April 23

**REQUIRED FOR COORDINATING CENTER APPLICATION**
- Applicant/PI Biosketch (5 pgs)
- Budget Justification (2 pgs)
- Infrastructure to Support Coordinating Center (2 pgs)
- Coordinating Center Vision and Approach to Foster Synergy and Collaboration (8 pgs)
- Coordinating Center PI Qualifications (2 pgs)
- Literature Cited (4 pgs)
- Summary for Non-Scientists / Lay Summary

**REQUIRED FOR PROJECT APPLICATIONS**
- Applicant/PI Biosketch (5 pgs)
- Budget Justification (2 pgs)
- Research Project Environment (2 pgs)
- Project Plan (12 pgs)
- Literature Cited (4 pgs)
- Coordinating Center Vision and Approach to Foster Synergy and Collaboration (8 pgs)
- Summary for Non-Scientists / Lay Summary

**PEER REVIEW PROCESS**

- AHA Phase One Peer Review
- AHA Phase Two Peer Review (Red Box)
**PROCESS AND TIMELINE**

- LOI due – April 23, 2021 (Required)
- Application due – May 13, 2021
- PHASE I Review – June 2021
  Finalists will be notified as quickly as possible
- PHASE II Review – Week of June 21st
  Applicant teams should prepare to be available via videoconference for Phase II review

**PHASE I PEER REVIEW CRITERIA (PROJECT)**

Each Project within a Network application will be scored according to the criteria below:

- Approach
- Innovation
- Investigator(s)
- Significance
- Environment
- Impact
- Synergy
- Summary for Non-Scientists

**PHASE I PEER REVIEW CRITERIA (COORD CENTER)**

Coordinating Center application scoring is based on the criteria below:

- Approach
- Innovation
- Investigator(s)
- Significance
- Environment & Infrastructure
- Summary for Non-Scientists

**PHASE II PEER REVIEW CRITERIA**

Only projects that demonstrate synergy and a strong coordination plan, in addition to exemplary science, will move forward to Phase II:

- Synergy
- Collaboration
- Network Team
- Project Teams
- Environment

**UPCOMING WEBINARS**

Live Q&A Sessions
April 21st
April 26th
May 10th

Live ProposalCentral Demos
April 29th
May 5th

**QUESTIONS?**

FOR MORE INFO:
STRATEGICAWARDS@HEART.ORG