

## **2015-2016 SMALL GRANTS COMPETITION**

### **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

**DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF PROPOSALS:**  
**Monday, September 7, 2015 (5pm PST)**

#### **Purpose**

The Center for Poverty Research (CPR), located at the University of California, Davis invites proposals for its 2015–16 Small Grants Competition. CPR seeks to fund research that will expand our understanding of the causes and consequences of poverty. The goal of this program is to fund proposals focused on our core research areas that display sound research design and high potential impact. CPR anticipates funding up to three proposals, up to a maximum of \$33,000 per award.

#### **About the Center for Poverty Research**

The Center for Poverty Research, founded in September 2011, is one of three poverty centers with core funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE). One of its core missions is to facilitate non-partisan academic research on poverty in the United States.

#### **About the Center for Poverty Research Small Grant Program**

Projects using either qualitative or quantitative data sources are eligible for funding. Because of the short length of the performance period, we do not anticipate funding projects that seek to collect new data.

We seek proposals for research connected to our core research themes:

- Labor markets and poverty
- The non-traditional safety-net, broadly construed to include education and health policies
- Children and the intergenerational transmission of poverty
- Immigration and poverty, especially in connection with the above areas

## Terms of Funding

The following terms apply:

1. Applicants for small grants must hold a Ph.D. and be in a tenure track academic appointment.
2. The Center is particularly interested in supporting early-career poverty researchers. Competitive proposals for which the PI is an Assistant Professor will be rewarded in the evaluation process.
3. Funding will begin on approximately November 15, 2015 and funded activities must be completed by November 14, 2016 or one year from the funding start date, whichever is later. A final report and related policy brief will be due no later than December 31, 2016. No-cost extensions will not be allowed.
4. Receipt of a small grant from the Center for Poverty Research will require a commitment by the recipient to:
  - Present the results of the research project at the UC Davis Poverty Center's 2017 Small Grant Recipient Conference scheduled for February 2017. Travel expenses will be paid by the Center and should not be included in the project budget.
  - Produce a draft paper by December 1, 2016.
  - Write a two-page "Policy Brief" based on the research findings, and aimed at a general audience by December 31, 2016. The policy brief (and full paper if agreed by the Center and the Small Grant recipient) will be made available to the public on the Center's website.
  - Submit a final report by December 31, 2016.
5. Funded scholars will be expected to complete at least one paper from the project suitable for academic publication. All publications should acknowledge support from the Center for Poverty Research with the following language:

*"Funding for this project was made possible in part by grant number 1H79AE000100-1 to the UC Davis Center for Poverty Research from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Analysis (ASPE), which was awarded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The views expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official policies of the Department of Health and Human Services."*
6. The Center will support expenses such as the PI(s) salary, research assistant's salary, data, software, supplies and research related travel.
7. The budget period will be November 15, 2015 to November 14, 2016. The maximum award is \$33,000 including institutional indirect costs consistent with PI's institution-specific federal negotiated rates. Grants will be awarded as a subcontract from UC Davis to the applicant's home institution.
8. Direct questions concerning your proposal to [povertycenter@ucdavis.edu](mailto:povertycenter@ucdavis.edu).

## Selection Criteria

Applications will be evaluated by an interdisciplinary group of senior scholars affiliated with the Center for Poverty Research. Proposals will be evaluated based upon several factors, including:

- Relevance to the Center's core research areas
- Soundness of the research design, potential impact, and likelihood of success
- Qualifications of personnel
- Appropriateness of budget compared to project goals
- Balance of grantees between quantitative and qualitative research, and across disciplines

## Application Instructions

Proposals must be received by **5 PM Pacific Standard Time on Monday, September 7, 2015**.

Applicants should complete the web form located at: <http://poverty.ucdavis.edu/form/2015-2016-small-grants-competition-application>. In addition, proposals should be submitted as a **single PDF** that includes the required elements **in the order** listed below:

1. An abstract of 300 words or less describing how the project relates to the Center's core research themes and what the unique contribution of the research will be.
2. A project narrative not to exceed 5 double spaced pages (excluding figures, references, and budget). The narrative should (1) clearly describe specific aims and their research and policy significance, (2) **very briefly** summarize the relevant literature, (3) **fully** describe the research design, proposed methodology and data sources, and (4) indicate how the proposed analyses will address policy questions and existing gaps in the relevant literature. Long literature reviews should not be submitted. *Particular emphasis should be given to items (3) & (4).*
3. An itemized budget and a budget narrative that explains each line item.
4. A project timeline listing specific milestones for study completion. The timeline must be within the period from November 15, 2015 through November 14, 2016.
5. *Curriculum vitae* for all investigators.
6. A timely plan for obtaining IRB approval or exemption for human subjects research. UC Davis will not process the subcontract without a statement of IRB exemption/approval.

Timeline of Important Dates	
Deadline for receipt of proposal	September 7, 2015
Notification of award	November 1, 2015
Contract begins	November 15, 2015
Complete paper due	December 1, 2016
Final report and policy brief due	December 31, 2016
Small Grants Conference at UC Davis	February 2017