Purpose: The Russell Sage Foundation (RSF) has long supported social science research with the aim of improving social and living conditions in the United States.

For its May 4, 2021 deadline, RSF will return to accepting letters of inquiry under these core programs and special initiatives:

- Behavioral Economics;
- Decision Making & Human Behavior in Context;
- Future of Work;
- Social, Political and Economic Inequality.

In addition, RSF will also accept LOIs relevant to any of its core programs that address at least one of the following issues:

- Research on the Covid-19 pandemic and the resulting recession in the U.S.
- Research focused on systemic racial inequality and/or the recent mass protests in the U.S.

RSF encourages methodological variety and interdisciplinary collaboration, but all LOIs and proposals must have well-developed conceptual frameworks and research designs. Analytical models must be well-specified and research questions and hypotheses (where applicable) must be clearly stated.

Grants are available for research assistance, data acquisition, data analysis, and investigator time for conducting research and writing up results. RSF encourages early career scholars who are new to the foundation to apply for Presidential Grants.

We are particularly interested in analyses that make use of newly available data or demonstrate novel uses of existing data, to answer emerging or long-standing questions of interest in the foundation’s program areas and special initiatives. We also support original data collection. Proposals to conduct field experiments, in-depth qualitative interviews, and ethnographies are also encouraged.

Amount: $175,000