

Boston Children's Hospital Pediatric Health Equity Grants Request for Proposals

Program Description

The Office of Health Equity and Inclusion, in collaboration with the Medical Staff Organization (MSO), the Office of Faculty Development, and the Institutional Centers for Clinical and Translational Research (ICCTR), are announcing two \$15,000 Boston Children's Hospital Pediatric Health Equity Grants that are funded by the MSO and the Harvard Catalyst.

Eligibility

Boston Children's Hospital faculty who are members of the MSO and at Instructor or Assistant Professor rank at Boston Children's Hospital as of July 2024 are eligible to apply. While applicants who belong to populations underrepresented in medicine are encouraged to apply, this is not a requirement for funding. The funding period is from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025.

The purpose of these one-year grants is to support innovative projects aimed at promoting equitable health outcomes and reducing health care inequities in the pediatric population. Grant projects should be aligned with the mission of the Boston Children's Hospital Office of Health Equity and Inclusion and [Declaration on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion](#):

- To provide guidance across Boston Children's Hospital on achieving a culture that honors equity, diversity, respect, inclusion and excellence.
- To work collaboratively to advance culturally effective pediatric health care:
 - To reduce pediatric health care inequities;
 - To recruit, develop and retain a diverse and inclusive workforce; and
 - To support an environment of respect for different viewpoints and beliefs.

In addition to financial support, the grant requires attendance at selected seminars/lectures in health equity through the Office of Health Equity and Inclusion. The recipient(s) will also be required to meet twice during the grant funding year (October or November 2024 and March or April 2025) to provide project and career updates with Valerie L. Ward MD, MPH, SVP, Chief Equity and Inclusion Officer and Lise E. Nigrovic, MD, Director, Office of Investigator Outreach, Institutional Centers for Clinical and Translational Research (ICCTR).

The final deliverables* for the funded projects will be a presentation at the Spring 2025 Medical Staff Organization meeting, and a final report to be emailed to healthequity@childrens.harvard.edu by June 30, 2025.

Program Objectives

The purpose of the Pediatric Health Equity Grants is to support existing and emerging innovative projects that have the potential to have long-term, sustainable impact on improving pediatric health outcomes for children and adolescents from diverse backgrounds. Examples of some project topics include, but are not limited to:

- Pilot of interventions in specific clinical and nonclinical areas to address social determinants of health
- Develop innovative approaches to patient navigation and health literacy for vulnerable pediatric populations
- Creation of educational programming to deliver culturally effective pediatric health care
- Identify strategies for working with linguistically diverse pediatric patients/families
- Explore pediatric health equity gaps/inequities in patient treatment processes or health outcomes
- Design and/or implement potential innovative solutions to improve inclusion in the pediatric health care setting and ultimately improve health outcomes

Application Requirements

Applicants should submit a **PDF** of the 3-page (exclusive of title page, references and budget), single-spaced research proposal in Arial 11 font with the following sections:

- **Title page:** Applicant's name, degree(s), department/division, hospital position, hospital title(s), academic title(s), office phone, email, proposal title, department/division/program chair/chief, project mentor and collaborator(s)/co- investigator(s). For each individual listed on the title page, include the following information: academic title(s) and Harvard Medical School rank, department/division and role(s) in the project.
- An **Executive Summary** (limited to ½ page) of the project description and aims. This summary must describe how the project will promote equitable health outcomes or reduce health care inequities in children.
- A **Project Narrative** (2 pages). The proposal should include the following sections: Background and Significance, Aims/Hypotheses, Preliminary Data, Research Design and Methods. The methods section should clearly articulate a statistical analysis plan.
- A **Project Timeline** (½ page). Provide a 12-month schedule of grant-funded activities.
- **References** (1 page)
- **Budget and 1-page budget justification** (see template and instructions on last page). Funds cannot be used for Principal Investigator salary.
- **Biosketch** (Use the [current NIH format.](#))
- **Letters of recommendation**

- 1). Letter of support from the applicant's Department Chair/Chief stating support of this grant application, for the proposed project, endorsement of the academic skills and accomplishments, commitment of the Department to the project, and committing that the applicant can attend selected seminars and/or lectures in health equity provided by both the Boston Children's Hospital Office of Health Equity and Inclusion. If the applicant is a fellow, then the Department Chair/Chief should also include a statement that the fellow applicant will be hired as a Boston Children's faculty member with an Instructor or Assistant Professor appointment at Harvard Medical School as of July 1, 2024.
- 2). Letter of support from a project mentor or co-investigator (if different from the Chief) indicating that the proposal and budget have been reviewed and are feasible within the 12-month timeframe and available resources.

Submission Deadline and Grant Deliverables

Grant submission deadline: May 1, 2024

Grant award decisions announced: May 31, 2024

Grant funding period begins: July 1, 2024

Grant progress reports due: March 15, 2025

Boston Children's Hospital MSO Research presentation: May 2025

Grant final report due: June 30, 2025

*All funded project deliverables must contain the following acknowledgement: (a) "Funding for the project was in part obtained from the Pediatric Health Equity Grant of the Boston Children's Hospital Medical Staff Organization, Office of Health Equity and Inclusion and Office of Faculty Development" or (b) "Funding for the project was in part obtained from the Boston Children's Hospital Pediatric Health Equity Clinical Research Grant (Institutional Centers for Clinical and Translational Research, Office of Health Equity and Inclusion and Office of Faculty Development)".

Questions please contact: healthequity@childrens.harvard.edu

*Please submit a single-file PDF of your complete application to the Office of Health Equity and Inclusion [to healthequity@childrens.harvard.edu](mailto:healthequity@childrens.harvard.edu) by **May 1, 2024 at 12 noon.***

Budget Justification

- 1.** Justification of costs and identification of other departmental/funding sources or contributions to the project. Grant funds should be used to cover direct project costs. No more than \$500 can be spent on equipment, and no more than \$500 can be allocated for computers. Travel expenses cannot be included in the MSO budget. Catalyst funds cannot be used to support investigator salaries.
- 2.** Describe administrative support/research assistance, supplies, transcription services, statistical support and additional expenses that are required for the completion of this project. Please indicate sources of other funds that may be available.
- 3.** If applicable, briefly describe other current projects that involve the applicant and indicate the time commitment and funding sources for each. Indicate the extent and overlap with the proposed project. Briefly describe any additional grant funds that the applicant

Detailed Budget

<i>Administrative Support and/or Research Assistance</i>	Health Equity Award	Other Funds
Total Support/Assistance:		
<i>Equipment (itemize)</i>		
Total Equipment:		
<i>Supplies (itemize by category)</i>		
Total Supplies:		
<i>Additional Expenses (itemize by category)</i>		
Total Additional Expenses:		
Total Grant Support:		

The “Other Funds” column should be used to list funds that are not provided by the Pediatric Health Equity Grant but are required to complete the proposed project. The source(s) of these funds must be detailed in the budget justification.