The Ohio State University College of Public Health
Call for 2024 Seed Grant Proposals on Opioid-related Research

The opioid epidemic continues to present as a defining public health issue of our time. While the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic required the immediate attention of public health leaders, evidence indicates that substance use increased during this time. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported a rise in drug overdose deaths during the pandemic. Ohio remains one of the states hit the hardest, with ripple effects felt beyond eroding the health and wellness of the individuals using opioids and extending to their families and wider communities. The College of Public Health holds an important position in conducting research to help inform our efforts to address the opioid crisis.

Faculty in the College of Public Health can apply for a seed grant of up to $100,000 to support the development of a competitive proposal for external funding for opioid-related research. While the number of seed grant awards will be determined by the quality of applications, two awards are anticipated. Seed grants will use college funds that are earmarked to support research on the opioid epidemic in the U.S. Seed grants can be used to collect or acquire data, conduct preliminary analyses, develop new collaborations, or other activities that help strengthen research proposals for extramural funding. **Awardees must agree to produce three deliverables within 30 months of the award start date: 1) a grant application to NIH or another appropriate federal or foundation source for external funding; 2) a manuscript for submission to a peer-reviewed journal or another type of information dissemination to shape the translation of research to practice; and 3) a presentation of findings at a future CPH Research Day.**

Eligibility
Faculty members (except for emeritus faculty) are eligible to apply. Projects that involve multiple divisions are encouraged if the topic warrants this. The principal investigator (PI), or two multiple principal investigators (mPIs) if relevant, must be from the College of Public Health. Faculty with a joint appointment in the College of Public Health are eligible. Additional external partners are welcome.

Duration and Budget
The maximum project period is 2 years and limited to a total of $100,000 for direct costs. (Because the award does not include indirect costs, the award will not contribute toward incentives per the "CPH Faculty Incentive Plan for Increasing Indirect Cost Recovery.") The proposal should specify the planned start date and the target submission date for the subsequent extramural grant proposal.

Seed grant funds can be used to support up to one month of summer salary for the PI (or mPIs, if relevant). Funds also can be used to support staff, post-doctorate fellows, and students at Ohio State. Funds may not be used to support the salary of faculty who do not hold a paid position in CPH.

Accountability
After 12 months, the PI will provide a written progress report and will meet with the Associate Dean of Research and the Office of Research Director to discuss progress to date and restate plans for a future grant proposal.

After 24 months, a final progress report, including a statement of the plans for the grant proposal must be submitted.

Application format
Applications should be submitted in a modified NIH R03 format (0.5 inch margins, single spaced, Arial 11-point font or Times New Roman 12 -point font or other acceptable NIH font) with the following elements:

- Title page with the name of the PI
- Key personnel (faculty, staff, and students)
- NIH format biosketch of all key personnel
- Budget (applicants can reach out to their grants manager for assistance with the budget)
- Budget justification
- Specific Aims – 1 page limit
- Research Strategy (Significance, Innovation (optional section), Approach) – 2.5 pages limit
- Future Directions (what future proposal this seed grant will lead to) – 0.5 page limit
- Literature cited

Please note that the application must clearly describe the planned future project that the seed grant will lead to if successful. This description should be included in the "Future Directions" section (0.5 page).

Review criteria
The Research Advisory Committee will review the applications to arrive at a final score and decision using a modified NIH scoring system. For each area, a score of 1 equals few concerns/flaws and a score of 9 equals major concerns/flaws. The four areas will be combined by each reviewer into a single impact score, ranging from 1 to 9.

Significance: Will this work, in the long-term, have a meaningful impact on public health?

Approach: Is the approach appropriate to achieve the stated aims?

Investigators: Does the team include appropriate personnel? Does the team include interdisciplinary investigators, if appropriate?

Likelihood of future grant funding: Is this funding likely to lead to an appropriate future grant proposal? Is that proposal likely to be successful?

Timeline
April 22, 2024:	Full proposal due
May 10, 2024:	Announcement of awards
Award Date:	Funds released upon securing the necessary IRB approvals (if relevant), no later than Sept 10, 2024
12-month report:	Due 12 months after award date
24-month report:	Due 24 months after award date
External proposal:	Due within 30 months after award date

Where to submit
Email the final proposal to CPH-CPHSeedGrants@osu.edu

Questions? Applicants should consult with their grants manager.