

FAQs about the Global Ideas for U.S. Solutions: 2016 Open Solicitation

Please note: The Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) below pertain specifically to the Global Ideas for U.S. Solutions: 2016 Open Solicitation funding opportunity. For more general information about applying for an RWJF grant, we encourage you to review these [questions and answers](#).

To learn about other current RWJF funding opportunities, please visit our [Funding Opportunities](#) page.

1. Is my project eligible for funding through the *Global Ideas for U.S. Solutions* open solicitation?

For this specific funding opportunity we're looking to support ideas that have demonstrated impact abroad, have potential for adaptation in the U.S. and have not yet been widely tested or implemented in the U.S. Grants will be between \$50,000 and \$250,000 (USD) and up to 18 months.

We are only interested in projects and approaches that have demonstrated impact abroad, which have clear relevance or applicability to the United States. We will not fund:

- individual applicants
- ongoing general operating expenses or existing deficits
- endowment or capital costs
- basic biomedical research
- research on drug therapies or devices
- lobbying of any kind

Global Ideas for U.S. Solutions applicants may be based almost anywhere in the world (in adherence with [U.S. Department of Treasury Office of Financial Assets Control Sanctions Program](#) and other regulations).

2. What does a successful *Global Ideas for U.S. Solutions* proposal look like?

While we're open to any idea with the potential to help us envision and build a [Culture of Health](#), we're most interested in ideas that promote health equity and focus on one or more of our current areas of interest:

- building healthy places
- building social connection across the lifespan
- getting and keeping children healthy
- integrating health and social services
- increasing the health care system's focus on the root causes of poor health

We're looking for a variety of approaches and project types including program replication, research, evaluation, planning, and technical assistance to name a few. Proposals should address alignment with the [Culture of Health Action Framework](#).

Ultimately, our goal is to learn from innovative and impactful global ideas with the potential to contribute to a [Culture of Health](#) in the U.S. Please read the [detailed brochure for this funding opportunity](#) for more information.

3. What are some examples of projects you are currently funding?

Support for 8-80 Cities through the RWJF Global Fund at Charities Aid Foundation of America, is helping U.S. cities adopt programs to regularly close off streets to cars and [open them to cyclists and pedestrians](#), as officials do in Colombia and Mexico. By repurposing streets as free, safe spaces to exercise and engage in physical activity, these programs are helping foster healthy communities across the nation.

We are also supporting efforts to adapt a model from Wales to address a key social determinant of health: violence. [A grant](#) to the CDC Foundation is using this model to unite hospitals and police departments to stem the tide of violence in Atlanta and Philadelphia.

These are just two examples of our funding to explore effective ideas from overseas that can inform and transform the way we approach health in the U.S. Each project we fund should similarly represent an opportunity to bring in new learning about approaches that have been effective abroad and, which can help us build a Culture of Health in the U.S.

4. What are the most common reasons a *Global Ideas for U.S. Solutions* proposal is declined?

Some proposals are declined for not meeting the requirements of this funding opportunity. These include:

- proposals that fall outside of the budget or timeline constraints
- applications that are not written in English
- proposed activities that do not meet RWJF's general [grantmaking guidelines](#)
- any other eligibility criteria detailed above and on the *Global Ideas for U.S. Solutions* funding opportunity page or in the application

We are also unlikely to fund:

- proposals that don't represent an opportunity for new learning (e.g. they are similar to projects we have already funded or are based on an idea that has already been implemented in the U.S.)
- ideas or activities that don't seem feasible for U.S. adaptation
- applications which propose social impact outside the U.S.

5. Is it OK for current or former RWJF grantees to apply?

Yes; all are welcome to apply. This funding opportunity serves as a learning platform to inform our work to build a Culture of Health. Competitive applications are those that represent a new learning opportunity.

6. I'm not 100% sure if my idea qualifies, whether my organization is eligible, or if my proposed approach is a good fit. Can I speak with a Program Officer before deciding whether or not to submit my application?

Out of fairness to all applicants and due to the volume of requests, we do not provide feedback during the brief proposal application phase. We cannot review or provide guidance on ideas submitted via e-mail or communicated over the phone.

If after reviewing the informational materials for this funding opportunity (these frequently asked questions, our [funding opportunity brochure](#), RWJF's [general grantmaking guidelines](#), and the information and instructions provided in [RWJF's online application portal](#)) you are still unsure of whether your proposal is a good fit, we encourage you to apply. The brief proposal application is short – less than 2 pages of information – and is intended to be a low-burden way for applicants to provide the information needed to assess fit and potential of a specific approach for this funding opportunity. We will only review those proposals that are formally submitted through our brief proposal application form.

7. How long does the *Global Ideas for U.S. Solutions* proposal process take? What is the earliest start date?

There are 2 phases in the competitive proposal process for this solicitation. These are outlined in our [funding opportunity brochure](#).

During Phase 1, the Brief Proposal Phase, applications will be accepted and reviewed on a rolling basis - this started on March 1, 2016. The deadline for brief proposal application submission is May 31, 2016 at 3:00PM EDT. Applicants can expect to be notified of their status within 6-8 weeks of submission.

Selected Phase 1 applicants will then advance to Phase 2 and be invited to submit a Full Proposal. Due to the rolling nature of this proposal process, specific deadlines for full proposal

submission will be provided on an applicant by applicant basis. Project start dates will, therefore, vary.

Phase 1 applicants who are not invited to submit full proposals will be notified of their status within 6-8 weeks of submission of their brief proposal application. RWJF does not provide individual feedback on those proposals which are not selected.

8. Are you ONLY interested in approaches that are inspired by or imported from other countries? Will you ONLY consider programs or projects that have implications for U.S. health?

The answer to both questions is yes. The *Global Ideas for U.S. Solutions* funding opportunity is meant to bring in learning from abroad to help improve health in the U.S. If your idea does not fit this criteria, please take a look at RWJF's other [funding opportunities](#).

RWJF's focus is building a Culture of Health in the U.S. While we fund grants that can help us learn from and adapt global ideas that can help build a Culture of Health in the U.S., we do not fund projects or programs that will exclusively impact health outside of the U.S.

9. Are applicants allowed to submit more than one proposal? More than one idea? Can an organization be a part of multiple proposals?

There is no limit to the number of proposals you may submit for this funding opportunity. Applicants may submit more than one idea or more than one proposal. Please only submit one idea per proposal.

10. Are you only interested in the adaptation of proven interventions? How much and what kinds of evidence is needed? What stage should the project be at?

We are open to considering approaches which represent many points along the spectrum of evidence.

While a "gold-standard" evidence base (i.e., a randomized controlled study) isn't required in order for your approach to be considered impactful, we do require you provide some evidence of impact. This means that proposed approaches must be inspired by programs and projects from abroad which have already been implemented and tested. If a project is in the process of implementation and has already started to demonstrate measurable impact, we will consider it.

We are not interested in ideas or programs which have not yet been implemented or tested. We are also not likely to fund proposals which include ideas that have only been implemented on a very small scale.

11. Will the Global team be issuing another call for proposals like this? If so, when? If there is another CFP, how will I know?

This is the first *Global Ideas for U.S. Solutions* open call for proposals. We intend to carefully review this process and experience before determining how to further solicit ideas and when. Current funding opportunities are posted to our website at [this link](#). You can also [subscribe](#) to our e-mail list to receive funding alerts.

If you have a general question about submitting a *Global Ideas for U.S. Solutions* proposal, which hasn't been addressed in our [funding opportunity brochure](#) or in the FAQs above, please email us at globalideas@rwjf.org and we'll get back to you soon.