**Evaluating High-Value Innovations from Low-Resource Communities**

**Frequently Asked Questions – Full Proposal Stage**

*This document will be updated as new questions are asked.*

***New questions are listed in orange type within each subsection****.* ***Last updated: 3/9/16***

**Evaluation**

1. Is a particular evaluation method preferred? Are randomized controlled trials or comparison groups necessary?
2. The Foundation is looking for strongest evaluation design possible given the circumstances of the innovation and the capacity of the implementing organization. Randomized controlled trials are not possible or appropriate in all situations. Whatever evaluation method fits an applicant’s setting best, including quasi-experimental methods, natural experiments, etc., will be considered. A control/comparison group is not required, but is strongly preferred. Evaluations that only assess post-innovation outcomes for consumers who experienced the innovation are not encouraged. An applicant must clearly explain why a control group is not possible if the applicant is proposing not to use one in the evaluation.
3. Am I required to show cost savings as an outcome of the innovation or is it sufficient to measure health outcomes?
4. The Foundation is interested in evaluations of innovations that generate value, meaning those that improve health care quality and health without increasing costs. Because health outcomes or quality measures alone do not demonstrate value, applicants should include measures of cost, appropriate service use, or efficiency in their evaluation design.

**Evaluation Partner**

1. Can RWJF or Mathematica help recommend evaluation partners?
2. In fairness to everyone, the Foundation will not refer applicants to specific evaluators, but does suggest the American Evaluation Association’s searchable database as a potential source of evaluation partners. Please see [http://www.eval.org/p/cm/ld/fid=108](http://www.eval.org/p/cm/ld/fid%3D108).
3. If I have multiple proposed partners for my evaluation project, which ones should I include in the “Partners” form of the online application, since it only provides space for two partners?
4. The partner organization form should be reserved for organizations that, in addition to your organization, will receive funding through the RWJF grant, either by providing consulting services or through a contract with your organization. If you have one or two partners who meet that criteria, please list them on the form and provide letters of intent. You are free to mention other (non-funded) organizations in your proposal narrative and provide letters of intent if you wish.

**Funding/Budget**

1. Is the $250,000 to $400,000 budget range per year or for the entire 24 month period? Will there be an opportunity for renewal?
2. The RWJF award of $250,000 to $400,000 for each evaluation project is the total amount for the two-year grant period, not per year. At this time, this is the only Call for Proposals planned for the Evaluating High-Value Innovations from Low-Resource Communities program.
3. Why is there a requirement that at least 80 percent of funding be allocated to evaluation activities? What can the remaining 20 percent be used for?
4. The primary purpose of this call for proposals is to support the evaluation of innovations to improve value, rather than the implementation of innovations. At least 80 percent of funding should be allocated to activities such as evaluation design, sample selection, data collection and acquisition, analysis, and reporting. Up to 20 percent can be used for non-evaluation activities, including implementation-related costs.
5. Does my final budget request amount need to be the same as the budgeted amount in my brief proposal?
6. No, your full proposal budget does not have to match the estimate you included in your brief proposal. The total amount requested still should be between $250,000 and $400,000, however.

**Other**

1. Should my organization include references or citations in the Proposal Narrative? If so, will they count toward the 10-page limit?
2. You may include references if you wish, however the maximum length for the proposal narrative is 10 pages including any references. To save space, you may cite references in text only without including the full citation at the end, or with only a brief citation, or note that a full reference list will be provided upon request.