

From Insight to Action: Health Equity Research that Meets This Moment 2026 Call for Proposals

Eligibility Criteria *

i Instruction:

Respond to the questions below to indicate whether the applicant meets these conditions.

* Indicates required

1. Applicants must demonstrate an existing, authentic and accountable community partnership of at least two years (with more time preferred). Does the organization fit this criteria?*

- Yes
- No

2. One of the co-Principal Investigators must be representatives or leadership from community-based organizations. Does the organization fit this criteria? *

- Yes
- No

3. Applicant organizations must be based in the United States or its territories. Awards will be made to organizations, not to individuals. Does the organization fit this criteria? *

- Yes
- No

4. Preference will be given to applicants that are either public entities or nonprofit organizations that are tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and are not private foundations or Type III supporting organizations. The Foundation may require additional documentation. Does the organization fit this criteria? *

- Yes
- No

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Applicant Organization *

Instruction:

Provide the following information about the applicant organization. **Include the formal legal name of the organization that, if awarded, will receive grant funds.**

You may use the "Select organization information" link below to facilitate the entry of data required below. If the information already exists in the GuideStar Exchange or from prior activity with RWJF, the fields below will be prepopulated with the required data. If that occurs, please be sure to proofread the prepopulated information to ensure that it is accurate and current. Feel free to edit as needed. [Use this link](#) to learn more about this feature. If, instead, you prefer to manually enter all the required information below, you may do so.

* Indicates required

Organization *

School/Department/Unit

Address *

Address (line 2)

City *

State / Territory *

Zip Code + 4-digit extension *

Phone Number *

Website

1. Applicant Organization Tax ID (Employer ID Number)

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Key Contacts *

Instruction:

Provide information for the contacts listed below.

Notes:

- To save your partially completed page, scroll to the bottom of this page and select "Save, continue editing" or "Save, return home."
- Use the "Copy" feature to copy completed organizational and address information to a new contact. Choose a role from the drop-down menu and select the "Copy" button.
- If the key contact organization is a college or university, include the appropriate school, department, or unit.

Project Director *

This is the person with the responsibility for overseeing the project. This person will be the primary recipient of all key Foundation correspondence: copy of award notice, post-award financial and monitoring, and grant closure. Additionally, this person may be contacted after the submission deadline by SSRS, an independent research firm. If contacted, they will be asked to complete a brief, online survey about the proposal process and applicant characteristics. RWJF will share this person's contact information, including email address, with SSRS for the sole purpose of soliciting feedback.

* Indicates required

Email *

Confirm Email *

Prefix

First Name *

Middle Name

Last Name *

Suffix

Degree(s)

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Organization *

Position *

School/Department/Unit

Address *

Address (line 2)

City *

State / Territory *

Zip Code + 4-digit extension *

Office Phone Number *

Phone Extn

Cell Phone Number

Project Co-Director *

If applicable, provide the following information for the project co-director/co-principal investigator who will share responsibility for this project. This person will also receive all key Foundation correspondence as described above.

* Indicates required

Email *

Confirm Email *

Prefix

First Name *

Middle Name

Last Name *

Suffix

Degree(s)

Organization *

Position *

School/Department/Unit

Address *

Address (line 2)

City *

State / Territory *

Zip Code + 4-digit extension *

Office Phone Number *

Phone Extn

Cell Phone Number

Alternate Contact

The alternate contact should be the project director's/principal investigator's assistant or another person we can contact if the project director/principal investigator is unavailable.

* Indicates required

Email *

Confirm Email *

Prefix

First Name *

Middle Name

Last Name *

Suffix

Degree(s)

Organization *

Position *

School/Department/Unit

Address *

Address (line 2)

City *

State / Territory *

Zip Code + 4-digit extension *

Office Phone Number *

Phone Extn

Cell Phone Number

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Project Title and Summary

i Instruction:

Provide the following information specific to the proposed project.

- Project Title (maximum 150 characters)
- Requested Amount
- Proposed Start Date
- Duration
- Project Summary (maximum 2000 characters)

* Indicates required

Proposed Project Title: *

Total Amount of RWJF Funding Requested: \$ *

Proposed Project Start Date: *

Number of Months Anticipated to Complete Project: *
months

Project Summary: *

Briefly summarize your proposed project in no more than one paragraph of 2,000 characters including spaces (approximately 300 words).

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From Insight to Action: Health Equity Research that Meets This Moment 2026 Call for Proposals

Demographics*

Instruction:

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) is a leading national philanthropy dedicated to taking bold leaps to transform health in our lifetime. To get there, we must work to dismantle structural racism and other barriers to health. Through funding, convening, advocacy, and evidence-building, we work side-by-side with communities, practitioners, and institutions to achieve health equity faster and pave the way, together, to a future where health is no longer a privilege, but a right.

Please provide the information requested below to the best of your ability. We encourage you to use the narrative answer fields below to provide more information about your efforts to advance equity, diversity, and inclusion within the applicant organization. Please answer the questions about the organization as a whole where the project is based, except:

- For fiscally sponsored projects, please provide information on the sponsored project, NOT the fiscal sponsor.
- For projects within a university setting, please provide information about the department/school where the project is based, not the university as a whole.

Use of Data: This data will help RWJF better understand the demographic profiles of applicant organizations. The data collected from questions 1 through 7 will be aggregated and not used to make funding decisions. This data will allow RWJF to:

- Track the flow of our resources to communities that have been historically marginalized and under invested in.
- Understand changes in applicant and grantee profiles and resource flows over time to inform RWJF's ongoing efforts to build a Culture of Health.
- Share the data collected from applicant and grantee organizations in aggregated form internally and externally. Such public reporting on RWJF's website or other places will not include the identification of individual organizations.

* Indicates required

1. Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) Leadership*

Please check all that apply to the applicant organization or to the fiscally sponsored project.

- 50 percent or more of senior staff identify as BIPOC.
We define "senior staff" as executive leadership or staff with decision-making authority or management responsibility in the organization.
- 50 percent or more of board members identify as BIPOC.
- Applicant organization has an executive director/president/chief executive officer that identifies as BIPOC.
- Project and/or initiative proposed for funding is being led by 50 percent or more BIPOC-group members in a decision-making capacity.
- None of the above or don't know.

2. Gender Leadership*

Please check all that apply to the applicant organization or to the fiscally sponsored project.

- 50 percent or more of senior staff identify as female (cisgender or transgender).
We define "senior staff" as executive leadership or staff with decision-making authority or management responsibility in the organization.
- 50 percent or more of board members identify as female (cisgender or transgender).
- Applicant organization has an executive director/president/chief executive officer that identifies as female (cisgender or transgender).
- Project and/or initiative proposed for funding is being led by 50 percent or more female (cisgender or transgender) in a decision-making capacity.
- None of the above or don't know.

3. Disability Leadership*

Please check all that apply to the applicant organization or to the fiscally sponsored project.

- 50 percent or more of senior staff identify as people with disabilities.
We define "senior staff" as executive leadership or staff with decision-making authority or management responsibility in the organization.
- 50 percent or more of board members identify as people with disabilities.
- Applicant organization has an executive director/president/chief executive officer that identifies as a person with disabilities.
- Project and/or initiative proposed for funding is being led by 50 percent or more people with disabilities in a decision-making capacity.
- None of the above or don't know.

4. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersexual, Asexual (LGBTQIA+) Leadership.*

Please check all that apply to the applicant organization or to the fiscally sponsored project.

- 50 percent or more of senior staff identify as LGBTQIA+.
We define "senior staff" as executive leadership or staff with decision-making authority or management responsibility in the organization.
- 50 percent or more of board members identify as LGBTQIA+.
- Applicant organization has an executive director/president/chief executive officer that identifies as LGBTQIA+.
- Project and/or initiative proposed for funding is being led by 50 percent or more LGBTQIA+ people in a decision-making capacity.
- None of the above or don't know.

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5. Race/Ethnicity of Board and Senior Staff*

Provide the following Race/Ethnicity demographic data for applicant organization's board of directors/trustees and senior staff. If you do not have a board of trustees or directors, you can skip the Board demographics questions. You may report the Board information at the university-level.

We define "senior staff" as executive leadership or staff with decision-making authority or management responsibility in the organization where the project is based. For fiscally sponsored projects, please provide information on the sponsored project, not the fiscal sponsor. For projects within a university setting, please provide information about the department/school where the project is based, not the university as a whole. Column totals may be less than 100%.

Race/Ethnicity	Board		Senior Staff	
Total	0	0%	0	0%
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous	0	0%	0	0%
Asian or Asian American	0	0%	0	0%
Black or African American	0	0%	0	0%
Hispanic, Latino, or Latin American	0	0%	0	0%
Middle Eastern or North African	0	0%	0	0%
Multiracial, Multi-ethnic	0	0%	0	0%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0	0%	0	0%
Prefer not to answer	0	0%	0	0%
Race or Ethnicity not included	0	0%	0	0%
White	0	0%	0	0%
Unreported	0	0%	0	0%

6. RWJF recognizes the limitations of the questions and data we are asking for here. Are there additional ways you identify the demographics of your board and/ or staff that are important to your work that you would like us to understand? (For example: more nuanced ethnic/racial identities, gender, sexual orientation, disability, etc.) *

7. We encourage you to use the narrative answer field below to provide more information about your efforts to advance equity, diversity, and inclusion within the applicant organization or fiscally sponsored project.*

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8. Equity Focus*

Please check all that apply to the applicant organization or to the fiscally sponsored project.

- Project and/or initiative proposed for funding has engagement of people with lived experience(s) from historically marginalized communities.
- Project and/or initiative proposed for funding addresses advocacy, community organizing, and civic engagement that supports power building with impacted historically marginalized communities.
- Applicant organization or fiscally sponsored project is implementing equity, diversity, and inclusion initiatives focusing on historically marginalized groups and navigating organizational transition for greater equity in programming and operations.
- Applicant organization or fiscally sponsored project is building an inclusive, equitable workplace culture by building awareness of difference, practicing inclusion, and/or combatting bias.
- Applicant organization actively employs decision-making processes that reflect and engage people with lived experiences from historically marginalized communities.
- None of the above or don't know.

9. Does the applicant organization's mission explicitly focus any of the following?*

Please check all that apply to the applicant organization or to the fiscally sponsored project.

- Dismantling structural racism, serving BIPOC communities, and/or advancing racial equity.
- Dismantling structural sexism, serving female (cisgender or transgender) or gender non-conforming communities, and/or advancing equity.
- Dismantling structural ableism, serving people with disabilities, and/or advancing equity for people with disabilities.
- Dismantling structural heterosexism, serving LGBTQIA+ people, and/or advancing equity for LGBTQIA+ people.
- None of the above or don't know.
- Other structural inequity or equity-based service (specify).

10. Geographic Area Served by the Proposed Project*

Please check all the regions that the project or initiative proposed for funding will serve.

- New England (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont)
- Mid-Atlantic (New York, Pennsylvania)
- New Jersey
- South Atlantic (Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, Washington, DC, and West Virginia)
- North Central (Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin)
- South Central (Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Tennessee, and Texas)
- Mountain (Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming)
- Pacific (Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon, and Washington)
- U.S. Territories
- Non-U.S.

From Insight to Action: Health Equity Research that Meets This Moment 2026 Call for Proposals

Letter of Intent Narrative *

Instruction:

To Begin: Download the template shown below. Follow the instructions included on the template.

To Upload: Upload the completed document(s) by selecting the "Upload" button below. For assistance with uploading, refer to the "Upload Documents" section of the "Applicant Guide," (located in the "Resources" box on the left of the screen.)

If you experience difficulties uploading your document(s), please be sure the file name is not too long and does not include any special characters. If the file name is too long and contains special characters, the system may prevent you from uploading the file. Also, the **application & review system will not accept documents that are locked or password protected.** This security feature must be removed from your files prior to uploading.

If you continue to experience difficulties converting and/or uploading your documents, please email by selecting the "Contact Us" link (located in the "Resources" box on the left of the screen.)

When you have completed this page, select the "Save, section finished" button at the bottom of the page. Once all sections of your application are complete, you may "Submit" from the Home Page. All uploaded documents may be updated and replaced until you submit your application.

* Indicates required

Description

Templates

Uploaded Documents

Letter of Intent Narrative *

Download the template in the "Templates" column to the right and follow the instructions carefully.

[Letter of Intent Narrative](#)

Documents must be converted to a PDF prior to uploading. For additional information, refer to "Applicant Guide" (located in the "Resources" box on the left of the screen.)

Maximum of **three** pages.

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Supporting Documents *

Instruction:

The following four supporting documents are either required or optional, as indicated:

1. Letter of support of Co-PI partner (*required*)
2. CV/resume of Co-PIs and team members (*required*)
3. Proof of Partnership (*required*)
 1. Documentation of established partnership (up to 5 pages) may include: Co-authored publications (citations only) and Co-presentations; Previous funding and budgets; Co-branding (e.g., websites, events, social media); Organizational structure: membership (lived experience integration); Partnership time: 2 years (with more time preferred)
4. Bibliography/citation list (*optional*)
5. Optional appendices (*optional*)

To Upload: Upload the completed document(s) by selecting the "Upload" button below. For assistance with uploading, refer to the "Upload Documents" section of the "Applicant Guide," (located in the "Resources" box on the left of the screen).

If you experience difficulties uploading your document(s), please check that the file name is not too long. The uploaded file should have a short file name that *should not include* special characters. If the file name is too long, the system may prevent you from uploading the file. Also, the **application & review system will not accept documents that are locked or password protected.** This security feature must be removed from your files prior to uploading.

If you continue to experience difficulties converting and/or uploading your documents, please email by selecting the "Contact Us" link (located in the "Resources" box on the left of the screen).

When you have completed this page, select the "Save, section finished" button at the bottom of the page. Once all sections of your application are complete, you may "Submit" from the Home Page. All uploaded documents may be updated and replaced until you submit your application.

* Indicates required

Description	Templates	Uploaded Documents
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Letter of Support of Co-PI Partner *

Letter of Support of Co-PI partner is required and must be converted to a PDF prior to uploading. For additional information, refer to "Applicant Guide" (located in the "Resources" box on the left of the screen.)

CV/Resume Instructions *

CV/Resume of Co-PIs and team members should be included

- **Maximum of 4 CV/Resume(s)**
- **Maximum 3-pages per document**

Documents must be converted to a PDF prior to uploading. For additional information, refer to "Applicant Guide" (located in the "Resources" box on the left of the screen.)

Proof of Partnership *

Documentation of established partnership (up to 5 pages) may include: Co-authored publications (citations only) and Co-presentations; Previous funding and budgets; Co-branding (e.g., websites, events, social media); Organizational structure: membership (lived experience integration); Partnership time: 2 years (with more time preferred)

Documents must be converted to a PDF prior to uploading. For additional information, refer to "Applicant Guide" (located in the "Resources" box on the left of the screen.)

Bibliography/Citation List

Optional Appendices

Documents must be converted to a PDF prior to uploading. For additional information, refer to "Applicant Guide" (located in the "Resources" box on the left of the screen.)

Maximum 10 pages total.

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From Insight to Action: Health Equity Research that Meets This Moment 2026 Call for Proposals

LOI Applicant Feedback Survey*

i Instruction:

This Meet the Moment Call for Proposals is the first through Health Equity Research for Action (HERA) program, a new funding opportunity through the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. This opportunity is intended to be widely accessible, and to fund community-led and community-driven research that transforms health. Now that you have submitted your Letter of Intent, you are invited to share your experience preparing for this LOI. Your responses will help improve future calls. **Your responses will not be connected to the review or evaluation of your application in any way and will not have any impact on your chance of being invited to submit a full proposal.** Thank you in advance for your feedback.

Who should answer these questions? These questions should be answered by an individual who made significant contributions to the production and writing of this Letter of Intent.

Who will see our answers to these questions? The HERA project evaluation team will review and analyze these responses. They will not have a role in assessing any LOIs. Only summarized information will be available to other team members, and only after all invitations to submit a full proposal have been announced.

* Indicates required

1. How did you learn about this Call for Proposals?

(check all that apply)

- RWJF Website
- LinkedIn
- Facebook
- Instagram
- Other social media platform
- Received an email from a colleague
- Received an email from RWJF
- Received an email from a HERA Coordinating Center
- From a professional network or list serve I am a member of
- Prefer not to respond
- Other (specify)

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2. Select the description that best describes the organization for which you (the person completing this questionnaire) work.

- Public/Private Institution of Higher Education
- Physical health care organization
- Faith-based organization
- Mental health organization
- Behavioral services organization
- Environmental health / Justice
- Labor/Economic Justice
- Any other community-based organization (specify)

3. On which day did you first learn about this CFP?

- 1 = Apr 20 or before
- 2 = Apr 21
- 3 = Apr 22
- 4 = Apr 23
- 5 = Apr 24
- 6 = Apr 25
- 7 = Apr 26
- 8 = Apr 27
- 9 = Apr 28
- 10 = Apr 29
- 11 = Apr 30
- 12 = May 01
- 13 = May 02
- 14 = May 03
- 15 = May 04
- 16 = May 05
- 17 = May 06
- 18 = May 07
- 19 = May 08
- 20 = May 09
- 21 = May 10
- 22 = May 11
- 23 = May 12
- 24 = May 13
- 25 = May 14
- Don't know
- Prefer not to respond

Indicate the level to which you agree with the following statements.

4. The online application system was easy to use.

- Strongly disagree
- Disagree
- Agree
- Strongly agree
- Prefer not to respond

5. The LOI requirements were clear.

- Strongly disagree
- Disagree
- Agree
- Strongly agree
- Prefer not to respond

6. The types of research projects that would qualify for funding under this CFP were clearly stated.

- Strongly disagree
- Disagree
- Agree
- Strongly agree
- Prefer not to respond

7. The prompts for the LOI were clear.

- Strongly disagree
- Disagree
- Agree
- Strongly agree
- Prefer not to respond

8. The supporting documentation required by the LOI was reasonable.

- Strongly disagree
- Disagree
- Agree
- Strongly agree
- Prefer not to respond

9. The activities involved in completing the LOI will be helpful in developing a full proposal if invited.

- Strongly disagree
- Disagree
- Agree
- Strongly agree
- Prefer not to respond

10. Based on my experience with this LOI, I am likely to apply for another HERA CFP.

- Strongly disagree
- Disagree
- Agree
- Strongly agree
- Prefer not to respond

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11. I was able to adequately incorporate community participation/involvement into this LOI.

- Strongly disagree
- Disagree
- Agree
- Strongly agree
- Prefer not to respond

12. I had adequate time to prepare this LOI.

- Strongly disagree
- Disagree
- Agree
- Strongly agree
- Prefer not to respond

13. Describe any barriers/challenges you faced while preparing or submitting your LOI.

14. Describe what helped you in preparing or submitting your LOI.

15. What component(s) of the LOI were more difficult for you to gather/prepare/respond to?

16. What would you change about the LOI submission process, to make it easier for you or your colleagues to apply?

17. If you had an additional two weeks to develop this LOI, what additional activities or changes might that time have allowed?

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From Insight to Action: Health Equity Research that Meets This Moment Letter of Intent

Use this template to provide your letter of intent narrative.

You should:

- Save this template as a separate file before you begin, so you have the instructions available at all times.
- Complete the **identifying information** shown below this block of instructions. The letter of intent should be no longer than three-pages, single-spaced, using 11-point Arial font. References will not count toward the page limit and may be uploaded to the A&R system as a separate document or appendix.
- **LOI Narrative should include the following elements of the proposed project?**
 - A brief description of the underlying context and challenge the proposed study is addressing and how the proposed study advances systems change.
 - A description of the research aims and questions the project will address, their relevance to one of RWJF's prioritized systems, and community affected by the issue being addressed, and how project findings could be applied to advance health equity. A brief summary of design of the proposed research project, including expected data sources; analysis methods; and how the design centers community.
 - A description of the partnership between the community, its members, and the research organization. Applicants should briefly describe the co-governance structure and how the partnership ensures power-sharing.

Required supporting documentation should be uploaded in the Supporting Document section of the application and not count toward the three-page LOI Narrative.

- **Save your final letter as a PDF.** In the "Resources" area on the left of the online system, you will find the "Applicant Guide." Within the guide, there are links to "Upload Documents" and "Troubleshooting Tips" for converting your document to a PDF.
- Upload the PDF to the "Letter of Intent Narrative" section of the online system.

NOTES:

- Your letter of intent should be typed in **11-point Arial font and black type. The entire document, including section headings, should be no more than three pages with single spacing** and one-inch margins on the top, bottom and sides of the page.
- You will not be able to upload a document that is longer than three pages.
- Do not adjust the margins or font style/size of this template.
- No hard-copy materials will be accepted.

Remember to delete this block of instructions before uploading this template.

Identifying Information

Project Title: (your project title goes here)

Letter of Intent I.D.: (your letter of intent ID goes here—found in the upper right corner of any screen in this online system)

Applicant Name: (your Project Director's name goes here)

Legal Name of Applicant Organization: (legal name of applicant organization goes here)

Letter of Intent: (Your letter of intent begins here. Do not exceed three pages, single spaced.)

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