Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
Culture of Health Leaders (COHL) Program
Version 12/18/2019

Does the Culture of Health Leaders Program accept applications from teams?
No, we do not accept applications from teams. Only individual applicants may apply.

Are you looking for people with only public health, health care, or medical experience?
While we welcome people from those fields, this program is designed to bring together people from many different industries and disciplines, including technology, business, housing, finance, economic development, public policy, education, health care, urban planning, labor, and more. We know it is important to include leaders working in the for-profit, nonprofit, government, and social enterprise sectors. Ideally, each cohort will reflect the diversity of leadership necessary to build a Culture of Health.

Do applicants need to have a prior knowledge of health issues?
No. Successful applicants will have the personal and/or professional motivation to build a Culture of Health. The program will provide participants with training and education in health related content, as well as leadership development.

Do I need to be in a doctoral program or associated with a university to apply?
No. The Culture of Health Leaders program does not focus on doctoral or graduate students and does not require an association with a university.

Do I have to have a college degree to participate in the program?
No. Applicants will be selected based on multiple factors, such as employment history, life experience, service, and leadership.

Do I have to be employed to participate in the program?
No. Applicants will be selected based on multiple factors, such as employment history, life experience, service, and leadership.

How do I request accommodations for a disability during the application process?
Please contact the National Leadership Program Center at info@cultureofhealth-leaders.org to request accommodations for the application process. The program will make reasonable accommodations to ensure that individuals with disabilities who are selected are able to participate in program activities.

English is not my first language. May I apply in another language?
The application is only available in English. The program will be conducted in English. Some reading for the program may be available in other languages.

How much time will the program require each month?
Participants spend 32 to 38 hours each month on program activities. A significant portion of that time will be self-directed through online learning and activities. In some months, the participant experience will include in-person activities and project work.
What are the application requirements?
Applicants will submit:

- Clear responses to questions about your leadership experience (informal and formal); their vision for a Culture of Health; your experiences collaborating with organizations or other leaders, and your readiness to engage in change that advances equity.
- A 3-minute (maximum) video that provides a brief glimpse of the opportunities and challenges of your community.
- References from three people:
  - A person who has supervised you in a paid or volunteer role.
  - A peer who has observed your work in a paid or volunteer role.
  - A person you have supervised in a paid or volunteer role.

What should the video include?
The most compelling applicant videos are those that are action oriented and bring the community to life for the reviewers. This is your chance to venture out and show off your community.

- It must be no longer than 3 minutes (180 seconds).
- It can be created on a mobile device, can be informal, and should not be professionally produced.
- The video must be developed specifically for this application.

How do I upload the video?

- Name and upload your video to YouTube using the following instructions:
  - Naming Convention: When you are uploading your video, use this naming format: Last Name, First Name_State-Abbreviation_CoHL20 (e.g., Doe, Jane_VA_CoHL20)
  - Video Status: Select UNLISTED as the status for your video. Do not choose PUBLIC (everyone will be able to view your video) or PRIVATE (the reviewers will not be able to review your video).
  - Link: Once your video is uploaded, test it to be sure you have uploaded the correct version of the video and that your video length is still 3 minutes or less. Copy the link and place it in your application where requested.
  - Refer to the "Application Video Recording Instructions" in the Application and Review site for recording tips.

Do I need to identify a project for my application?
The Culture of Health Leaders program does not require you to have a project identified when you apply. During your participation in the program, you’ll apply your learning to initiate work to build a Culture of Health.

How will finalists be selected?
The Culture of Health Leaders program uses teams to review the hundreds of completed applications received for the program. Once the semifinalists are identified, they will be invited for in-person interviews in Washington, DC. The interviews will be held May 12-21, 2020.

Following the interviews, the National Advisory Committee will select individuals for the 2020 cohort to recommend to the Foundation.
What are the reporting requirements for sponsoring institutions?
Sponsoring institutions will submit a brief budget report annually.

Will I be able to use my stipend to pay for childcare?
Yes, the Foundation rules permit stipends to be used for living expenses, including child care. However, participants will be expected to work with their sponsoring institutions to determine how the stipends can be used to support the participants’ successful completion of the program. Some sponsoring institutions (e.g., governmental entities) may have additional restrictions on the use of funds. Please contact the National Leadership Program Center at info@cultureofhealth-leaders.org with specific questions about the stipend.

Will I have to purchase program materials?
No. Training and coaching materials will be provided at no cost to participants.

Will I need technology to participate in the program?
Yes. Participants will need a computer, high-speed internet access, and a cell or landline. Your stipend may be used to purchase this equipment.

Will I select my own coach?
Participants will be matched with coaches using evidence-based methods.

The Call for Applications references RWJF’s Policy on Open Access. Where can I find more information?
The policy and frequently asked questions on the policy can be found at https://www.rwjf.org/en/about-rwjf/our-policies/policy-for-open-access.html.