Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

SUMMER MEDICAL AND DENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAM (SMDEP)
INTERPROFESSIONAL PILOT

General Questions About the SMDEP Application Process

Q1. What is the application deadline and late submission policy?
   The deadline for the brief proposal is 3:00 p.m. ET, March 18, 2016. To be accepted for review, your application must be completed and submitted by the deadline. To be fair to all applicants, RWJF will not accept late applications.

Q2. Do I have to submit my application online?
   Yes. Applications will only be accepted through RWJF’s Application & Review (A&R) system at MyRWJF.org.

Q3. Who do I contact for technical questions about how to use the MyRWJF.org online system or programmatic questions?
   Please submit your questions via email to smdep_cfp@aamc.org.

Q4. How will I know that my proposal has been successfully submitted?
   You will receive an email from MyRWJF.org confirming that you have successfully submitted your <Program Name> application.
   
   NOTE: Once you have completed all application requirements, you must return to the home page (of the A&R system) to gain access to the “SUBMIT” button.

Q5. Is there an application checklist?
   The following components are required when submitting brief proposals via MyRWJF.org: a proposal narrative not to exceed 5 pages, curriculum vitae/resume/biosketch for the 3 primary program directors, and a preliminary budget. Evidence of prior work submitted as an appendix is optional.

Q6. Who reviews the proposal submissions?
   Proposals will be reviewed by members of the National Program Office, RWJF, AAMC and ADEA staff, and the SMDEP National Advisory Committee comprised of external advisors to the program.

Q7. Will I receive specific comments on my application after a decision is made?
   No. RWJF does not provide individual critiques of or comments on applications not selected for funding.
Q8. What are the key anticipated activities or dates I should reserve?

- **June 20 – July 22, 2016** Full day site visits
  Applicants invited to submit full proposals will be asked to select specific dates (to be provided at the full application phase)

- **Oct 19-21, 2016** – Participation in the 2016 grantee meeting in Washington, DC

- **November 1, 2016 – March 1, 2017** - Student application period. Students submit through the SMDEP centralized system.

Q9. Can a medical/dental school partnership apply without an IPEC member?

All accredited medical and dental schools are eligible to apply, along with an accredited health professions school. This includes programs in institutions represented by regular and institutional members of the Interprofessional Education Collaborative (IPEC). This includes but is not limited to: American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN), American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM), American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP), American Dental Education Association (ADEA), Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) and, Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH).

Q10. Who is our target Population?

Summer Medical and Dental Education Program (SMDEP) is focused on improving access to information and resources and preparing incoming sophomore and junior college students and community college students who are underrepresented in the health professions for successful application and matriculation to health professions schools. This includes but is not limited to individuals who identify as African American/Black, American Indian and Alaska Native and Hispanic/Latino, and who are from communities of socioeconomic and educational disadvantage, students from health profession shortage areas as designated by The Health Resources and Services Administration (an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services), and students from medically underserved areas.

Q11. Must prospective students be interested in a career in the health professions?

Yes.

Q12. What are the eligibility requirements of a prospective student applicant?

To be eligible (in 2017), each student:
Must be a U.S. citizen, permanent resident, or an individual granted Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals ("DACA") status by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

- Be a college freshman or sophomore at the time of application
- Have a minimum GPA of 2.5; and
- Identify with group that is underrepresented in the health professions (defined above).

Q13. How many students can be accepted into the program?

80 health professional students who meet the program eligibility requirements, with a minimum of 20 pre-dental students and a minimum of 20 other pre-health professional students.

Q14. Is there a stipend given to the students? If so, how much is distributed?

Yes. Program sites will be expected to provide students with a $600 stipend.

Q15. Are sites expected to cover all student travel costs to and from the site?

No. Program sites will be expected to provide students with travel support up to $500 per student.

Q16. Can my institution determine the program dates during the summer 2017 session?

Yes. Applicants invited to submit a full proposal will be asked to provide estimated dates for delivering the program experience. It is understood these dates are subject to change.

Q17. May a program site extend the program beyond 6 weeks?

No. The duration of the not must exceed 6 weeks.

Q18. Will SMDEP national program office implement its own academic curriculum?

No. For uniformity among the sites, all grantees and participating institutions will be required to structure program activities around a set of predetermined, core operational and programmatic principles. For example, all sites must provide a clinical experience, but a limited one, occupying no more than 5 percent of program time.

Q19. Why are there varied funding models?

SMDEP supports more than 900 students each summer, yet the program turns away thousands of eligible applicants. RWJF seeks to leverage existing resources and identify an increased number of institutions to participate in this proven model for STEM enrichment, life-skills development, exposure to health related professions and research, and leadership training.
Q20. How many Self-funded sites will be selected?
It is undetermined. Factors may include the number of sites applying and number of RWJF-Funded sites awarded.

Q21. Must partnering schools be in the same proximity? (2/26/16)
No.

Q22. What types of relationships, if any, are envisioned with community colleges? (2/26/16)
We are envisioning a partnership with a local community college to accompany the medical, dental, and minimum of one other health professional school for the SMDEP Interprofessional Pilot. Additionally, we are working to increase the number of community college student applicants to the Program. In such, a standing partnership and ongoing collaboration with a local community college will assist to increase the SMDEP scholars from the community college.

Q23: Is there an evaluation component included with this grant? (2/26/16)
Yes. An independent research group selected and funded by RWJF may conduct an evaluation of the program.

Q24: Please describe possible hybrid models (2/26/16)
Additional program considerations will be considered. Please see “Appendix A” for further details.

Q25: What is the leadership requirement for the 3 partnering schools? (2/26/16)
There will need to be three co-principle investigators representing the three participating sites.

Q26: Can an applicant have more than one accreditation within the partnerships? (2/26/16)
Yes, as long as it is accredited at the time of the application and by IPEC.

Q27: Must all the partners have a history of previous working together? (2/26/16)
No. However, we expect applicants to describe demonstrated collaboration (past and present partnerships) between dentistry, and/or medicine, and/or another health professions school, including leadership structure, roles and responsibilities, and opportunities to increase student success within health professions education.

Q28: Do all students have to be residential or can students commute? (2/26/16)
SMDEP is traditionally a residential program. However, we will be considering additional program designs presented to us. Please see “Appendix A” for more information.
Q29: Is it possible for one state to have two universities receiving this funding? (2/26/16)
Yes.

Q30: What is the maximum that can be requested for a funded site? (2/26/16)
Up to $415,000 will be awarded to support planning and implementation for the first grant period. *Sites must demonstrate a 1:1 institutional match that includes a financial contribution (matching dollars) and provision of in-kind contributions.*

Q31. What is the average budget for SMDEPs for housing, food, and other related expenses? (2/26/16)
There is no average budget for program sites. Program budgets are dependent on the location of the program site.

Q32: in the institutional match, you are looking for a combination of cash and in kind contributions? (2/26/16)
We are not requiring a specific percentage of cash and in-kind by the institution. However, we are requiring a financial commitment to demonstrate your campus’ support and engagement during the duration of the program. You must demonstrate that your campus is making a financial commitment to support the program, and your institutional leadership backs your financial and programmatic efforts for the Interprofessional Pilot.

Q33. Can a medical/dental school partnership apply without an IPEC member? (2/26/16)
All accredited medical and dental schools are eligible to apply, along with an accredited health professions school that offers clinical doctoral-level training as a terminal degree. This includes programs in institutions represented by regular and institutional members of the Interprofessional Education Collaborative (IPEC). IPEC now includes the following national associations:
Founding members:

- American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN)
- American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM)
- American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP)
- American Dental Education Association (ADEA)
- Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC)
- Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH)

New institutional members:
• American Association of Colleges of Podiatric Medicine (AACPM)
• American Council of Academic Physical Therapy (ACAPT)
• American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA)
• American Psychological Association (APA)
• Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC)
• Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry (ASCO)
• Association of Schools of Allied Health Professions (ASAHP)
• Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)
• Physician Assistant Education Association (PAEA)

Master level degree included in schools and programs in this association:

PAEA: PAs traditionally have a master’s level degree but their basic science courses are equivalent to the MD/DO curriculum.

Doctoral level degrees with SMDEP level sciences not usually required by schools and programs in these associations:

ASPPH: The public health degrees don’t typically require preparation for the level of sciences for which SMDEP is designed.

CSWE: The social work degrees don’t typically require preparation for the level of sciences for which SMDEP is designed.

Q34. Are letters of support required?
Yes, from applicants invited to submit a full proposal. Letters of support from the senior university administrator (i.e., chancellor, president or equivalent) and the dean of the applicant health professions schools will be required as part of the full application.

Q35. If I am not selected for this program, will I still be eligible for other RWJF funding opportunities in the future?
Yes. Interested applicants may apply for other RWJF funding opportunities, grants, and/or contracts in the future.

Q36. How can I find out more about RWJF and its initiatives?
Please visit the Foundation’s Website (RWJF.org), for more information about funding opportunities, interest areas, lessons learned from past grants and contracts and other information related to the mission and work of RWJF.

Q37. Where can I learn more about the RWJF Culture of Health Action Framework?
Please visit the Culture of Health website (www.cultureofhealth.org) for more information.