

### Deadlines

- **LOI Submission Due Date:** Friday, January, 2020 at 11:59pm ET
- **Invitations Sent for Full Applications:** Friday, January 24, 2020
- **Full Applications Due (by invitation only):** Tuesday, March 24, 2020 at 11:59pm ET
- **Announcement of Awards:** April 15, 2020
- **Start Date:** June 15, 2020

### Submission

#### **What are the review criteria for the letter of intent (LOI)?**

Two reviewers, one from an HCSRN and one from an OAICs site, will review each LOI application. In addition to the standard NIH criteria, review criteria will include:

1. Study relevance to older adults with MCCs;
2. Leveraging OAIC-related data and/or the unique features of the HCSRN and its data;
3. Likelihood that the project team will reflect a new collaboration between OAIC and HCSRN investigators; and
4. Likelihood that the proposed study will be completed within one year.

They will score each of the review criteria on a scale from 1 (exceptional) to 9 (poor).

According to the combined score, a final determination will be made on whether an invitation will be sent for an applicant to submit a full Pilot Program Grant application.

#### **If I receive an invitation to submit a full application, what will be the requirements?**

Applications must be in NIH 398 format, and include the following components:

1. Face Page\*
2. Abstract/Project Summary
3. Specific Aims (One Page)
4. Research Plan (Six-Page Limit; Does Not Include References or Human Subjects)
5. Human Subjects Section (If Applicable)
6. Biosketches for Key Personnel (New NIH format)
7. Detailed Budget Page\*
8. Facilities & Administrative/Indirect Costs Checklist\*
9. Budget Justification

\*Specified templates can be found on the online application form and on the AGING Initiative website: <https://theaginginitiative.wordpress.com/pilot-projects/>.

#### **Can a submission have multiple PIs, and if so does a multiple-PI form need to be submitted?**

Yes, you can have a multiple-PI submission. If so, NIH does require a Multiple PI form; however, it can be brief.

### Administrative

#### **Where did the original funding come from?**

The HCSRN-OAICs AGING Initiative is funded by the National Institute on Aging (NIA) grant R33-AG057806. The pilot funds will be awarded through a subcontract from the University of Massachusetts Medical School.

The grantee institution (sponsor) information is as follows:

University of Massachusetts Medical School  
55 Lake Avenue North  
Worcester, MA 01655  
(508) 856-2219  
(508) 856-5004 fax  
Research.funding@umassmed.edu

### **How will funds be distributed?**

A subcontract will be issued to the primary site. It will be responsible for issuing a subcontract to the secondary site. Funds will not be distributed until IRB approval of the proposed project has been submitted to the AGING Initiative.

### **What indirect rate should be used?**

The \$40,000 budget is for total costs, both direct and indirect. Applicants are advised to adhere to their respective institutional policies related to indirect cost rates associated with federal grant submissions.

### **Is the NIH salary cap applicable?**

Yes, the NIH salary cap is applicable to the pilot grant applications. The federal salary cap must be applied to personnel whose salaries exceed the cap.

## **Investigative Roles**

### **What defines an early stage investigator?**

For this grant, an early stage or early career investigator will be defined as not having received a major grant from NIH, AHRQ or PCORI (R01 award or equivalent).

### **Do I need to have an investigator from the HCSRN-OAICs AGING Initiative on my research team?**

No.

### **Do the HCSRN and OAIC investigators need to be co-PIs?**

The application must include collaborating investigators from *both* an HCSRN research center and an OAIC, however they do not need to be co-PIs. The principal investigator on the application must be affiliated with either an HCSRN research center, an OAIC, or be a current or former AGING Initiative MCCs Scholar, but all other investigators on the research team may have other roles.

## **Scientific**

### **Can we obtain feedback from the AGING Initiative during study development?**

Yes, soliciting feedback before submission is encouraged. Please send materials to Christopher Delude ([Christopher.Delude@meyersprimary.org](mailto:Christopher.Delude@meyersprimary.org)) with your questions.

**Are there specific requirements for what data are used?**

No, pilot projects data may come from variety of sources including HCSRN VDW, OAIC, VA, publicly available data. Data can also be from non-US sources. However, using HCSRN VDW and/or OAIC related data is strongly encouraged.

## Additional Information

**Where can I find additional information about the HCSRN-OAICs AGING Initiative?**

Further information regarding the initiative can be found at the following link:  
<https://theaginginitiative.wordpress.com/>

**Who should I contact with any questions?**

Any inquires can be made directly to Chris Delude at [Christopher.Delude@meyersprimary.org](mailto:Christopher.Delude@meyersprimary.org)