



GLOBAL MENTAL
HEALTH PROGRAMS
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Global Mental Health Small Grants Program

Sponsored by the
Global Mental Health Programs at Columbia University

Funded by the
Council for the Advancement of Research in Global Mental Health

www.cugmhp.org
info@cugmhp.org

Call for Applications Small Grants Program

Sponsored by the Global Mental Health Programs (GMHPs) at Columbia University and funded by the Council for the Advancement of Research in Global Mental Health.

The Global Mental Health Programs (www.cugmhp.org) are a collaborative network of Columbia University faculty working in the area of global mental health. The Global Mental Health Programs champion better mental health worldwide through innovative research, education and advocacy. We promote mental health and reduce the burden of mental illness around the globe by delivering postgraduate educational programs; developing training programs that build capacity for research and clinical care in low-resource settings; conducting basic and applied research that has global relevance; advancing community awareness and understanding of mental illness; decreasing the stigma and discrimination associated with having mental illness; and advocating for human rights of people with mental health conditions.

The Council for the Advancement of Research in Global Mental Health was launched in 2018 to provide support to the Global Mental Health Programs at Columbia University. The mission of the Council for the Advancement of Research in Global Mental Health is to build a community that advocates for mental health research and supports new ideas and new investigators, both of which are essential to improving mental health services around the globe. Council members' philanthropic engagement has enabled the creation of this Small Grants program which will fund pilot studies and demonstration projects.

The Small Grants Program is funded by The Council and supports new investigators and innovative ideas in global mental health with one-year pilot grants. The program aims to serve as a catalyst for generating and supporting novel projects that improve the knowledge, training or practice of mental health around the globe, especially in low-resource settings. Projects focused on mental health and the COVID-19 pandemic are welcome. Proposals will be assessed on: significance and impact (e.g., on mental health practice, for policy-making), feasibility within the one-year funding time frame, extent to which the approach is innovative/novel, appropriateness and strength of the research methodology, capacity of the PI/research team to successfully implement the project, and expected deliverables (e.g., publication, applications for further funding).

Eligibility and Guidance:

- Open to:
 - *Early investigators* (i.e., doctoral students, postdocs, and junior faculty up to the level of assistant professor, who have not yet received an R01 or a similar level of independent grant funding) committed to a research career relevant to global mental health. Applicants can have a Columbia appointment or, if not, must collaborate with a Columbia faculty member. Early investigators will submit their applications with a senior Columbia-affiliated faculty member in a multiple Principal Investigator (MPI) format. The senior faculty must work with the early stage investigator to prepare the application, and a statement detailing how the investigators will work together to complete the proposed aims of the project must be provided.
 - *Senior investigators* (e.g., associate professors, professors) seeking to develop new and innovative applications of their research in a global mental health context. Senior investigators must have a Columbia appointment, or submit the application with a Columbia-affiliated investigator in an MPI format.
- Prior global health experience is desirable but not required.
- Columbia faculty may serve as a PI or MPI on a maximum of two competing applications

Available Funding:

- This award will provide a maximum of \$20,000 for one year.
- Funds may cover direct research expenses, salary of Principal Investigator (applicant) and/or other research personnel. Funds will not cover indirect costs.
- At least half the awards will be directed to early investigators.
- The small grants program is committed to funding projects that represent diversity with respect to investigator gender and ethnicity, project geographic region, topic, and methods.
- Projects focused on COVID-19 are welcome. Regardless of whether the project is focused on COVID-19 or not, all applicants must provide a statement on feasibility and ethics with respect to the pandemic.
- Approximately 2-4 awards will be awarded, depending on funding availability.

Application and Funding Schedule:

- Applications are due by July 15, 2020.
- Successful applicants will be notified by August 15, 2020.
- Funding will be for twelve months.
- Funding will begin only following receipt of documentation of IRB approval or certificate of exemption. IRB approval is required from the Columbia/NYSPI IRB and from other relevant IRBs/ethical review boards (e.g., of collaborating institutions). Projects should aim to commence within 60 days of award notification.

Application Requirements:

- Completed Applicant Information Form (see below);
- Curriculum Vitae or NIH Biographical sketch of all PIs and MPIs;
- Statement of interest (in psychopathology, global mental health, diagnostic focus, implementation science or other areas relevant to the proposed project) (1/2 page).
- Study Proposal (3 pages max; one-inch margins Arial 10 or Times New Roman 12):
 - Abstract (¼ page)
 - Specific aims (¼ page)
 - Rationale, relevance, potential impact of proposed project to global mental health (including preliminary data if relevant/available) (½ page)
 - Research design and methodology (1 page)
 - Project implementation timeline (¼ page)
 - Anticipated next steps and deliverables (e.g., publications, further studies) (¼ page)
 - How proposed research will provide a basis for larger government or foundation grant funds for the expansion of services, programs, or policies aimed at improving global mental health (½ page)
- Statement on how the feasibility and ethics of the proposed research may be impacted by COVID-19 and any strategies to mitigate feasibility or ethical challenges. (½ page max.)
- Completed Budget and Budget Justification Form (see below);
- If application is being submitted in a multiple Principal Investigator format, brief statement (½ page)describing the:
 - History of collaboration between the multiple PIs
 - Roles/responsibilities of each PI

Deliverables:

- Presentation of project and available findings at the annual meeting of the *Council on the Advancement for Research in Global Mental Health* (typically in February).
- Final program report, including summary of research activities and findings; in-press or published articles reporting funded project data may be submitted in lieu of a report, and financial report documenting use of grant funds.
- An additional contribution to the Global Mental Health Programs at Columbia University (e.g., a seminar presentation, a blog post for the GMH Programs website, or a teaching module related to the funded project).

Application Submission:

- Applications should be submitted electronically to info@cugmhp.org by July 15, 2020.
- Announcement of award recipients will be on or before Aug 15, 2020.

For additional information and inquiries please contact info@cugmhp.org.

2020 Applicant Information Form



Instructions: Download this Grant Application Overview form as a PDF and submit the form, along with all materials in the Application Checklist, to info@cugmhp.org by July 15, 2020.

Project/proposal title:

Name of Principal Investigator:

PI e-mail:

PI's current employer(s)/Institution:

Name(s) of Co-Principal Investigator(s), if applicable:

Co-PI current employer(s)/institution(s):

Co-PI e-mail(s):

Application Checklist:

- Completed Applicant Information Form**
- Curriculum Vitae or NIH Biographical Sketch of all PIs**
- Proposal**
- Statement of Interest**
- Description of Proposed Research**
- Completed Budget and Budget Justification Form**

I have read the Columbia University Global Mental Health Programs' Call for Proposals and meet all requirements to apply for funding through the Small Grants Program. All information provided in this application is a fair and true representation of my work to date and proposed research.

Applicant Signature(s):

**Completed applications are to be sent to info@cugmhp.org by July 15, 2020.
Only fully complete applications will be considered for funding.**

