Pfizer Announces a Quality Improvement Grant RFP

Equity in Access to Rare Disease Clinical Trials

Competitive Grant Program - internal Pfizer review process

I. Background

Pfizer Global Medical Grants (GMG) supports the global healthcare community's independent initiatives (e.g., research, quality improvement, or education) to improve patient outcomes in areas of unmet medical need that are aligned with Pfizer's medical and/or scientific strategies.

Pfizer's GMG competitive grant program involves a publicly posted Request for Proposal (RFP) that provides detail regarding a general area of interest, sets timelines for review and approval, and uses an internal Pfizer review process to make final grant decisions. Organizations are invited to submit an application addressing the practice gaps as outlined in the specific RFP.

For all independent quality improvement grants, the grant requester (and ultimately the grantee) is responsible for the design, implementation, and conduct of the independent initiative supported by the grant. Pfizer must not be involved in any aspect of project development, nor the conduct or monitoring of the quality improvement program.

July2021

II. Eligibility

Geographic Scope:	United States
Applicant Eligibility Criteria	• The following may apply: medical, dental, nursing, allied health, and/or pharmacy professional schools; healthcare institutions (both large and small); professional associations and medical societies; medical education companies; and other entities with a mission related to healthcare professional education and/or healthcare improvement. • If the project involves multiple departments within an institution and/or between different institutions / organizations / associations, then all institutions must have a relevant role and the requesting organization must have a key role in the project. • For projects offering continuing education credit, the requesting organization must be accredited.

III. Requirements

Date RFP Issued	• November 2, 2021
Clinical Area	• Rare Diseases [Full Listing of Rare Disease Areas of Interest can be found here]
General Area of Interest for this RFP:	• Projects that will be considered for Pfizer support will focus on supporting initiatives to improve equity in access to rare disease clinical trials. • Projects may focus on one or multiple rare disease areas. *It is not our intent to support clinical research projects. Projects evaluating the efficacy of therapeutic or diagnostic agents will not be considered.*
Target Audience:	• Healthcare professionals and multidisciplinary teams involved in the care of patients with rare diseases, patients with rare diseases
Expected Approximate Monetary Range of Grant Applications:	• Individual projects requesting up to $50,000 will be considered. The estimated total available budget related to this RFP is $150,000.

Key Dates:	• RFP release date: November 2, 2021 • Grant Application due date: December 2, 2021 • Anticipated Grant Award Notification Date: December 13, 2021 • Grants will be distributed following a fully executed agreement. Agreements must be executed by December 31, 2021. • Anticipated Project Start and End Dates: January 2022

How to Submit:	• Please go to www.cybergrants.com/pfizer/QI and sign in. First-time users should click "Create your password".
	• Click the "Start A New Quality Improvement Application" button.
	• In the application:
	  ○ For the question "Competitive Grant?" select Yes
	  ○ Select the following Competitive Grant Program Name: **2021 RD US Equity in Access to Rare Disease Clinical Trials**
	• Requirements for submission:
	Complete all required sections of the online application and upload your project proposal (see Appendix) in the Full Proposal Submission field.
	• If you encounter any technical difficulties with the website, please click the "Technical Questions" link at the bottom of the page.
	IMPORTANT: Be advised applications submitted after the due date will not be reviewed by the committee.

Questions:	• If you have questions regarding this RFP, please direct them in writing to the Grant Officer, Amanda Stein (amanda.j.stein@pfizer.com), with the subject line "Equity in Access to Rare Disease Clinical Trials."
Grant Agreements:	• If your grant is approved, your institution will be required to enter into a written grant agreement with Pfizer. Please click here to view the core terms of the agreement. • Pfizer has drafted the terms of these agreements to be balanced and reasonable and to further the goals of both parties. Negotiating grant agreements requires significant resources, so please ensure that your institution (including your legal department) is able and willing to abide by these terms before proceeding with submission of your application as they will need to be accepted in their entirety.

Review and Approval Process:	• Grant requests received in response to a general RFP are reviewed by Pfizer to make final grant decisions.
Mechanism by which Applicants will be Notified:	• All applicants will be notified via email by the dates noted above. • Applicants may be asked for additional clarification during the review period.

Appendix A
Quality Improvement Project Full Proposal

Applications will be accepted via the online portal. Full Proposal documents should be no longer than 10-12 pages in length (12-point font and 1-inch margins) excluding Organization Detail and References. When uploading your Full Proposal please ensure it addresses the following*:

Goals and Objectives	• Briefly state the overall goal of the project. Also describe how this goal aligns with the focus of the RFP and the goals of the applicant organization(s). • List the *overall* objectives you plan to meet with your project both in terms of learning and expected outcomes. Objectives should describe the target population as well as the outcomes you expect to achieve as a result of conducting the project.
Assessment of Need for the Project	• Please include a quantitative baseline data summary, initial metrics (e.g., quality measures), or a project starting point (please cite data on gap analyses or relevant patient-level data that informs the stated objectives) in *your* target area. Describe the source and method used to collect the data. Describe how the data was analyzed to determine that a gap existed. If a full analysis has not yet been conducted, please include a description of your plan to obtain this information.
Target Audience	• Describe the primary audience(s) targeted for this project. Also indicate whom you believe will directly benefit from the project outcomes. Describe the overall population size as well as the size of your sample population
Project Design and Methods	• Describe the planned project and the way it addresses the established need. • If your methods include educational activities, please describe succinctly the topic(s) and format of those activities
Innovation	• Explain what measures you have taken to assure that this project idea is original and does not duplicate other projects or materials already developed. • Describe how this project builds upon existing work, pilot projects, or ongoing projects developed either by your institution or other institutions related to this project.
Evaluation and Outcomes	• In terms of the metrics used for the needs assessment, describe how you will determine if the practice gap was addressed for the target group. Describe how you expect to collect and analyze the data. • Quantify the amount of change expected from this project in terms of your target audience.

	• Describe how the project outcomes will be broadly disseminated.
Anticipated Project Timeline	• Provide an anticipated timeline for your project including project start/end dates
Additional Information	• If there is any additional information you feel Pfizer should be aware of concerning the importance of this project, please summarize here
Organization Detail	• Describe the attributes of the institutions / organizations / associations that will support and facilitate the execution of the project and the leadership of the proposed project. Articulate the specific role of each partner in the proposed project.

Budget Detail	• The budget amount requested must be in U.S. dollars (USD).
	• While estimating your budget please keep the following items in mind:
	  ○ Institutional overhead and indirect costs may be included within the grant request. Examples include human resources department costs, payroll processing and accounting costs, janitorial services, utilities, property taxes, property and liability insurance, and building maintenance as well as additional project expenses such as costs for publication, IRB / IEC review fees, software license fees, and travel. Please note: Pfizer does not provide funding for capital equipment.
	  ○ The inclusion of these costs cannot cause the amount requested to exceed the budget limit set forth in the RFP.
	  ○ It should be noted that grants awarded through GMG cannot be used to purchase therapeutic agents (prescription or non-prescription).
	• Pfizer maintains a company-wide, maximum allowed overhead rate of 28% for independent studies and projects

*The online application also includes the fields noted above. The text in those fields should be the same text that is included in your Full Proposal document.