Pfizer Announces a Research Grant RFP

Meta-analysis of COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy Behavioral & Social Science Research

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 general 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 research gaps as outlined in the specific RFP.

For all Investigator Sponsored Research (ISRs) and general research grants, the grant requester (and ultimately the grantee) is responsible for the design, implementation, sponsorship, and conduct of the independent initiative supported by the grant, including compliance with any regulatory requirements. Pfizer must not be involved in any aspect of study protocol or project development, nor the conduct or monitoring of the research program. An ISR grant request cannot be submitted for a study that has already commenced and was not originally supported by Pfizer.

II. Eligibility

Geographic Scope:	United States
Applicant Eligibility Criteria	• The institution and principal investigator (PI) must be based in one of the eligible countries noted above. • Only organizations are eligible to receive grants, not individuals or medical practice groups. • The applicant (PI) must have a medical or postdoctoral degree (MD, PhD, or equivalent), an advanced nursing degree (BSN with a MS/PhD), or a degree in Pharmacy, Physiotherapy, or Social Work. • Applicant must be affiliated with a host institution

III. Requirements

Date RFP Issued	May 16, 2022
Clinical Area	COVID-19
General Area of Interest for this RFP:	Projects that will be considered for Pfizer support will focus on a **meta-analysis** of current behavioral and social science research of COVID-19 vaccine confidence/hesitancy in **groups/subgroups who are most at risk due to disparities and social determinants of health**. Specifically, projects will address the effect that <u>structural barriers</u> (e.g., access), <u>social determinants</u> (e.g., racial and ethnic inequities, geography, economics, health literacy), and <u>attitudes</u> (e.g., fear, trust) have on vaccine confidence/hesitancy. Projects may focus on a single group/subgroup or may be more broadly focused.
Expected Approximate Monetary Range of Grant Applications:	• Individual projects requesting up to $125,000 will be considered. The estimated total available budget related to this RFP is $250,000.
Key Dates:	• RFP release date: May 16, 2022 • Grant Application due date: June 27, 2022 Please note the deadline is 23:59 Eastern Standard Time (e.g. New York, GMT -5). • Anticipated Grant Award Notification Date: August 2022 • Grants will be distributed following a fully executed agreement and

	submission of Final Protocol, documentation of IRB/IEC approval, regulatory approval (if applicable), exemption or waiver. • Anticipated Project Start and End dates: Starting September 2022 and lasting no more than 1 year.

How to Submit:	• Please go to www.cybergrants.com/pfizer/Research and sign in. First-time users should click "Create your password". *[Note: there are individual portals for each grant application type (e.g., knowledge, LOI, research full proposal, and QI full proposal). Please be sure to use the URL above.]*
	
	• Click the "Start A New Research Grant Application" button.
	
	• In the application:
	    o For the question "Competitive Grant?" select Yes
	    o Select the following Competitive Grant Program Name: 2022 VAC US: Meta-analysis of COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy
	    o Select the following Primary Area of Interest: COVID-19
	
	• Requirements for submission:
	Complete all required sections of the online application and upload your project proposal (see Appendix) in the Proposal/Protocol 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.

Questions:	• If you have questions regarding this RFP, please direct them in writing to the Grant Officer, Derek Warnick (derek.warnick@pfizer.com), with the subject line "Meta-analysis of COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy" • Please click here to view Frequently Asked Questions regarding the Competitive Grant Program
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.

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Appendix A
General RFP Submission Requirements
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Project Proposals/Protocols should be single-spaced using Calibri 12-point font and 1-inch margins. Note there is a 15-page limit exclusive of references. Please include the following:

Goals and Objectives	• Provide the main goal of the study and the study population (if applicable). Provide a detailed definition that is directly linked to the primary objective
Assessment of Need for the Project	• This should reflect your study rationale. Provide a brief description of the medical/scientific question and the rationale of how this trial or study addresses the question
Target Audience	• Describe the primary audience(s) targeted for this project. For Investigator Sponsored Clinical Trials, please specify the age, gender and other demographic information for trial population • 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 concisely the research design and methods for achieving the stated goals. For a clinical interventional study, include inclusion/exclusion criteria, treatment plan and statistical plan
Innovation	• Explain what measures you have taken to assure that this project idea is original and does not duplicate other projects. 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	• Specify type and frequency of safety, efficacy, and/or outcome measures. Also indicate the method(s) used to assess measures • Provide a publication plan describing intended submission of abstracts to (a) congress(es) or intended submission of (a) publication(s) to peer-reviewed journals. All publications must follow ICH guidelines
Anticipated Project Timeline	• Provide an anticipated timeline for your project including project start/end dates ◦ An ISR grant request cannot be submitted for a study that has already commenced and was not originally supported by Pfizer.
Additional Information	• If there is any additional information you feel Pfizer should be aware of concerning the importance of this project, please summarize here • Early-career applicants: Letter(s) of support from mentor(s) and

	collaborators describing how the award will advance the applicant's career.
Organization Detail	• This information is used to assess the capability of the organizational resources available to perform the effort proposed. Identify the facilities to be used [laboratory, animal, clinical and "other"]. If appropriate, indicate their capacities, pertinent capabilities, relative proximity and extent of availability to the 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:
	  o General organizational running costs such as insurances, heating, lighting, rent, building maintenance may be included. Pfizer does not provide funding for capital purchases (infrastructure expenses such as equipment, purchases of software or software licenses, technology or bricks and mortar). Equipment hire/leasing is acceptable and may be included in project budget.
	  o The inclusion of these costs cannot cause the amount requested to exceed the budget limit set forth in the RFP.
	  o It should be noted that grants awarded through GMG cannot be used to purchase Pfizer therapeutic agents (prescription or non-prescription).
	• Pfizer maintains a company-wide, maximum allowed overhead rate of 28% for independent studies and projects. Please click here for details.

References	• Bibliography of relevant references.