

Southern California NIOSH Education and Research Center

Occupational Health and Safety Pilot Project Research Training Grants

The Southern California NIOSH Education and Research Center (SCERC) announces the availability of awards for one-year pilot research projects that **advance occupational health and safety** and provide **research training experiences**. At least five new awards of up to \$10,000 (total cost) each are anticipated.

Applications are due January 20, 2024.

Applicant Eligibility Requirements: Graduate students, post-doctoral researchers, and junior faculty (within 6 years of initial appointment) are eligible to apply. Applicants who are not faculty members must identify a full-time faculty member sponsor in the application.

Scope and Relevance: Pilot research projects may explore feasibility of study designs or methods, collect preliminary data that will support future research and extramural funding, or be limited in scope. Awards are not intended to support activities already funded by other research or training grants. Applications need to address topics relevant to the National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA). Proposals that address the occupational health or safety of worker groups that experience disproportionate burdens or risk of injury or illness are encouraged.

To Apply: A letter of intent is strongly recommended, as it will facilitate pre-submission consultation with the applicant. The letter of intent should be submitted by December 20, 2023 and include the name and contact information of the applicant and faculty sponsor, if applicable, study title, and a short description of the study aims or goals (≤ 300 words). Full applications are due January 20, 2024, and must include:

- Cover page with study title and applicant and faculty sponsor contact information
- An unstructured study abstract (≤ 250 words)
- Specific aims and research approach (≤ 6 pages, plus references)
 - ⇒ Identify how the study responds to the NORA (<https://www.cdc.gov/nora/default.html>)
 - ⇒ Describe the burden, need and impact of the study (<https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/programs/bni.html>)
 - ⇒ Include a study timeline (work must be completed within 12 months)
- Human subjects information consistent with NIH requirements, and IRB status (pending, approved, exempt)
- Budget and budget justification that includes the following categories, if applicable: salary, travel, supplies, equipment, participant incentives. Indirect costs are limited to 8%. Total costs limited to \$10,000.
- NIH format biosketch for the applicant and faculty sponsor, if applicable

Applications will be subject to peer-review, examining: relevance/significance, innovation, scientific merit, environment, applicant qualifications, and anticipated outputs (e.g., publications, future grant applications). Applicants may be required to respond to reviewers' comments before a final decision is made. Awardees must submit quarterly progress reports, present their research results the following year at an SCERC meeting, and to disseminate their research through publication in a peer-reviewed journal. Funding may begin as early as July 1, 2024. Awards are contingent on receipt of funds from NIOSH.

Submit all materials and direct questions to:
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