



THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN PARTICIPATORY RESEARCH

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

GCPR Graduate Student Seed Grant Awards 2024

Wednesday, February 14, 2024

The Graduate Certificate in Participatory Research (GCPR) program at UNC-CH invites proposals for graduate student research projects that will enhance research activity supporting its mission to: *create an action oriented-learning community that provides training for carrying out research in equitable partnerships **with** communities.*

Awards are intended to support expenses directly related to participatory research projects that graduate students are assessing as feasible, initiating, conducting, or completing. Applicants are strongly encouraged to include funding for a Community Expert to provide guidance throughout the proposed project.

ELIGIBILITY

The funds are available to students who are 1) enrolled in graduate programs at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and 2) either enrolled in, or considering enrolling in, the Graduate Certificate for Participatory Research (**Preference will go to those students who are already enrolled or in the process of enrolling.**) All projects taking place during the 2024 calendar year are eligible for this award.

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION

These funds are awarded based on two general considerations: the merit of the proposed activity and the relationship of the project to the mission of the GCPR Program.

PROPOSAL GUIDELINES

Proposals should include the following:

1. **Name**
2. **Graduate Program** in which you are currently enrolled.
3. **Graduate Certificate Enrollment Status:** Are you enrolled, in the process of enrolling, or considering enrolling in the Graduate Certificate for Participatory Research?
4. **Prior Award of a Seed Grant:** Have you received a Seed Grant from the Certificate Program in a prior year? If so, when? How will a second grant augment the work completed thus far? (Previous recipients are eligible for an additional grant, but preference will be given to those who have not received a prior grant.)
5. **Project Description (no more than 1000 words):** Provide an overview of the participatory research project you plan or hope to do, including your objectives for the grant period.

For those whose projects are underway: Describe your existing relationship with the individuals and organizations with which you are working or hope to work. Describe the status of the project at this point, e.g., what has been accomplished so far.

For those who are seeking to assess the feasibility of the project: describe your ideas for making contact with people and/or organizations with which you might partner.)

For All applicants:

- Describe the activities for which you intend to use the award (e.g., travel to the community to assess feasibility, expenses related to renting space, providing food, advertising for meetings; building a steering committee; purchasing research-related supplies presenting the outcomes of participatory research with the community, etc.) and how these activities are important to the objectives of your participatory research project. **Be sure to include** when and where you intend to carry out the activities, and your qualifications and preparations for conducting the proposed participatory research project. Also, indicate if and how this participatory research effort relates to directly fulfilling any requirements of the Certificate in Participatory Research (e.g., you plan to organize your practicum around the research).
- Include a statement of how COVID-19 may affect your plans and the strategies you will be using to carry out the work given the pandemic.
- Finally, **state whether you hope to work with a Community Expert in relation to your project and wish to apply for extra funding to support that effort.** Preference will be given to applicants who already have or plan to develop a relationship with a Community Expert (a person who is knowledgeable about community processes, able to take a community perspective, and preferably, but not necessarily, experienced with working with researchers). Describe how you might identify such a person and briefly how you plan to obtain advice and help with unexpected problems. (We can work with you to identify someone locally.) Up to \$300 in funding (beyond the up to \$1200 in direct project expenses to be detailed below) is available for providing a Community Expert with recognition for their effort in advising you. State whether you wish to apply for extra funding on top of the Seed Grant to compensate a Community Expert and include that item in your budget (see below).

6. **Support Letter: A brief support letter from the student's advisor or faculty member familiar with the student's research plan should be included with the application.** The letter should describe:
- The advisor's or faculty member's assessment of the relationship the student has established with the community, or in the case where the student is using the funds to assess feasibility and develop contacts with a community, the efforts the student has made to either make initial contact or at least identify possible contacts, identify people and groups to work with, and obtain introductions to people or groups in the community.
 - The potential contributions of the proposed project to the applicant's intellectual development and career commitment.
 - The potential benefits from the proposed project to the engaged community.
7. **Budget:** Include a budget that specifies how you propose to spend the grant funds. **Project budgets should not exceed \$1200 in direct costs. You may add \$300 to the budget for stipends for Community Expert involvement for a total of \$1500 proposed costs.**
- **Budget items may include expenses incurred for:**
 - Travel to meet with the community leaders and members
 - Rental of space, provision of food, circulation of information, preparation of materials for individual or public meetings
 - Purchase or rental of research supplies (e.g., cameras, recording devices) or other expenses associated with photovoice or other participatory methodologies
 - Transcription of interviews or translation of documents to be presented to the community
 - Preparation of materials and presentation of the outcomes of participatory research to the community
 - Gift to an organization in honor of their efforts on behalf of the participatory project
 - Travel by a community member and researcher to another community or a conference for a presentation on the participatory research
 - Travel by a community expert to work with an applicant in another part of the state or beyond
 - Support for COVID-related modifications (i.e., internet access for community partners or other such expenditures necessary to facilitate participatory research in the COVID-era)

PROPOSAL DEADLINES

Proposals are due **Friday, March 1, 2024 by 11:59pm**. Proposals will be reviewed by a committee comprised of members of the GCPR Board and we anticipate notifying awardees by Monday, March 25, 2024.

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

Send questions, proposals and letters to: participatoryresearch@unc.edu. When submitting the proposal, please use the subject line "2024 Seed Grant Submission."

