

College of Health Sciences/UNITE Pilot Grant Application
Application Deadline: May 31, 2023
Budget: \$20,000

The UK College of Health Sciences and UNited In True racial Equity (UNITE) Research Priority Area are pleased to announce a new funding opportunity for one pilot project with the potential to improve health equity in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and beyond. Health equity, as defined by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, means that everyone has a fair and just opportunity to be as healthy as possible.¹ We recognize that the goal of achieving health equity demands a broad approach. In response, and in alignment with UNITE's mission and the College of Health Science's strategic plan, we invite projects that are designed to achieve one or more of the objectives below:

- Identify and eliminate health disparities;
- Improve health in under-resourced communities and/or with racial and ethnic marginalized groups;
- Increase representation in research of historically excluded and underrepresented populations, with a particular emphasis on racial/ethnic minority populations;
- Expand the pool of collaborative investigators to include diverse teams and representation from scholars of color and creative projects across the University of Kentucky engaged in tackling the pressing health care challenges facing Kentucky;
- Translate and improve implementation of research findings within local communities and healthcare systems that impact racial and ethnic marginalized groups;
- Develop novel transdisciplinary collaborations with other academic and clinical units across the University of Kentucky and engage both urban and rural communities early in the process to solve mutually beneficial challenges that impact racial and ethnic marginalized groups.

We are particularly interested in funding projects within the College of Health Sciences' major areas of research and scholarship, including aging and frailty, applied nutrition and metabolism, health services, human performance, injury prevention, neuromotor and sensory performance, rehabilitation, and voice and language disorders. A maximum of **\$20,000** will be awarded for a period of **12 months**.

Tangible results are expected from the funding, such as an extramural grant application, peer reviewed scholarship such as: publication, digital publication, or project, and/or conference/symposium (preferably with published proceedings).

Eligibility

Eligibility is limited to full-time faculty (all title series including regular, research, clinical, and special) at the University of Kentucky. The research team must include at least one faculty member from the College of Health Sciences. Students, residents, post-doctoral fellows and scholars, and clinical fellows are not eligible to serve as PIs but may serve as co-investigators. The PI and collaborators must be members of UNITE. Please email unite-rpa@uky.edu to request membership.

Applications

Applications are due **May 31, 2023**. Submit the application as a single (1) PDF file to unite-rpa@uky.edu. Applications must be single-spaced, at least 11-point Arial font, and adhere to standard grant 1/2-inch margins. Applications that do not adhere to the font size or spacing requirements may not be reviewed. Proposal submission through OSPA is not required.

Applications must include:

- UNITE Pilot Grant Cover Page (form attached)
- Abstract of project (300 words or less)
- Project Aims (1 page)
- Research Plan (3 pages)
 - o Briefly describe the significance, innovation, and approach.
 - o Include a timeline for activities.
 - o Describe the plans beyond the pilot project, including dissemination plans and submissions for extramural funding (e.g., please include the names of the extramural funding opportunities and the anticipated submission date for external funding).
 - o Please indicate whether Institutional Research Board approval or IACUC approval has been submitted, as applicable.
- References (No page limit)
- A NIH-style biosketch for each investigator. If you need assistance developing an NIH-style biosketch, please reach out to the [UK Proposal Development Office](#).
- Budget/justification (1 page)
 - o Provide detailed justification for each budget item or category.
 - o Allowable expenses include standard research expenditures, research assistants, equipment, travel costs associated with conducting the research, and participant payments.
 - o Non-allowable expenses include salary for 11- or 12-month faculty, computers, equipment, and conference-related travel.
Note: the review committee will make budgetary recommendations that may impact the final award amount.
- Statement of collaborative or matched support from the PI's department chair or ADR (1 page)
 - o Examples of collaborative support may include, but are not limited to, cost share for faculty effort, monetary support for the project, effort from a staff member to assist with project execution, release of duties to execute the project, faculty start-up funds, etc. The collaborative support by the college/department for UNITE research initiatives aligns with the university's strategic plan and forwarding DEI efforts.
- Letter(s) of support (e.g., community partners, consultants, data, or facilities access needed to complete the project)

Project Requirements

All publications, presentations, and other creative activities resulting from this award must include the following acknowledgement: "Funding was provided by the UNited In True racial Equity (UNITE) Research Priority Area and the College of Health Sciences at the University of Kentucky."

A final report one-page report is due within 6 months of project completion. It must detail the tangible results, e.g., status of external grant submission, citations from publications, presentation, and next steps. Recipients are expected to be responsive to ongoing contact from the UNITE RPA and the College of Health Sciences to assess progress and outcomes from the award. Awardees are required to present their findings at UNITE-sponsored events and at a College of Health Sciences monthly faculty research meeting.

Important Dates

RFA Release Date: April 1, 2023

Application Deadline: May 31, 2023

Notification of Funding: July 1, 2023

Anticipated Start Date: Within 45 days of notification. IRB or IACUC approval must be in place prior to the release of funds. Funding may be withdrawn if the project is not started within 45 days of award notification.

Project Duration: 12 months

Please address specific application questions to UNITE (unite-rpa@uky.edu).

Review Criteria

Proposals will be reviewed by the selection committee and possible external reviewers. Scoring of proposals will be based on the standard NIH 9-point scoring system. Each proposal will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- **Significance:** Does the project address an important problem or critical barrier to progress in the field?
- **Innovation:** Does the proposal utilize novel and applicable theoretical concepts, approaches, methodologies, instrumentation or apply existing concepts to new populations or problems?
- **Approach:** Are the intended research activities well-described and likely to be feasible? Are the overall strategy, methodology, and analyses well-reasoned and appropriate to accomplish the specific aims of the project? Are study limitations acknowledged and addressed?
- **Investigator(s):** Does the PI have the appropriate experience and training, evidence of productivity and/or potential to lead the project? Do the PI and research team have the required expertise and experience to conduct the proposed research study?

The review committee will also assess whether the proposed budget and timeline are appropriate for the scope and nature of the project and whether there are any considerations that may affect study implementation.

¹ Braveman P, Arkin E, Orleans T, Proctor D, and Plough A. What Is Health Equity? And What Difference Does a Definition Make? Princeton, NJ: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, 2017.



UNITED IN TRUE RACIAL EQUITY (UNITE) PILOT GRANT COVER PAGE

Section A: CONTACT INFORMATION FOR PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

Principal Investigator Name & Title: _____

Department & College: _____

Email: _____ Phone Number: _____

UNITE RPA Member: Yes No

Section B: OTHER PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR(S), CO-INVESTIGATOR(S), OR COLLABORATOR(S)

Name, Role on Project, & College: _____

Name, Role on Project, & College: _____

Name, Role on Project, & College: _____

Name, Role on Project, & College: _____

Name, Role on Project, & College: _____

Section C: DEPARTMENT BUSINESS MANAGER (Individual specific to PI's college or academic unit)

Name: _____

Department &/or College: _____

Email: _____ Phone Number: _____

Section D: TITLE OF PILOT PROJECT

Pilot Project Title: _____

Section E: BUDGET

Proposed Dates: Start Date: _____ End Date: _____

Amount Requested: _____



UNITED IN TRUE RACIAL EQUITY (UNITE) GENERAL PILOT GRANT APPLICATION

Section F: RESEARCH AREA

Which UK research priority area does your proposal address? Select all that apply:

Substance Use

Cancer

Cardiovascular Disease

Diabetes and Obesity

Cerebrovascular/neuroscience

Diversity and Inclusion

Energy

Other, please specify _____

Section G: PRIOR REVIEW

➤ **Has this project been previously submitted for internal grant funding?**

Yes No

If Yes, please provide:

- Date Submitted: _____
- Grant Mechanism (e.g., IRC, VPR pilot funding): _____
- Score & Summary of Feedback: _____

➤ **Has this project been previously submitted for external grant funding?**

Yes No

If Yes, please provide:

- Date Submitted: _____
- Grant Mechanism/Funding Agency (e.g., R03, NIDA): _____
- Score & Summary of Feedback: _____

Section H: REVIEW/APPROVAL REQUIRED BY UNIVERSITY POLICY & FEDERAL LAW

➤ **Does this project involve the use of human subjects?**

Yes No

If Yes, the project MUST be reviewed and approved by the appropriate Institutional Review Board (IRB) prior to funding start. Please provide:

- IRB Protocol Number: _____
- Date Approved: _____
- If not approved yet, IRB date submitted _____



DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION
UNITED IN TRUE RACIAL EQUITY (UNITE)
RESEARCH PRIORITY AREA



College of
Health Sciences

UNITED IN TRUE RACIAL EQUITY (UNITE) GENERAL PILOT GRANT APPLICATION

Section G. ABSTRACT (300 words or less)