



The AHA Institute for Cardiovascular Precision Medicine and Verily present

Increasing Awareness and Action for the Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease (CVD) and Cerebrovascular Disease in Millennial Women within Underrepresented Racial and Ethnic Groups

A Request for Application from Research Goes Red

Summary: The goal of this RFA is to conduct a study that will recruit and engage millennial women within underrepresented racial and ethnic groups in [Research Goes Red](#) and utilize the platform and tools of Verily and the AHA to increase awareness and inspire action in these women to prevent cardiovascular disease and cerebrovascular disease.

Who should apply:

- Researchers with expertise in the area of education, outreach, recruitment and/or engagement of millennial women, especially within underrepresented racial and ethnic groups.

Population cohort:

- Millennial women, especially within underrepresented racial and ethnic groups, will be recruited into Research Goes Red. The cohort may also include women who are already participating in Research Goes Red who identify as being from a racial and/or ethnic group.

Goals of study:

- Successful grantees will design and execute the study, which will include recruiting millennial women (women born between 1981 and 1996, ages 23 to 38 in 2019) within underrepresented racial and ethnic groups in Research Goes Red and may include asking women to answer surveys, join focus groups, and participate in additional activities to better understand how to raise awareness and inspire action about preventing heart disease and cerebrovascular disease.
- Investigators will utilize the e-consent tools built by Verily for the study and, without costs to the investigators, may use additional tools, including surveys, engagement tools, and the community dashboard in the Baseline and/or Research Goes Red platform.
- Investigators may utilize AHA educational materials to increase awareness and inspire action in millennial women, especially within underrepresented racial and ethnic groups.
- The awardees will be required to collaborate with each other, Verily, and the AHA via face-to-face meetings, conference calls, and teleconferences.



Application Submission:

The application requires the following documents. Instructions are contained in the [Application Instructions](#). All required documents must be uploaded to [Grants@Heart](#) by the applicant before the application can be submitted to the Grants Officer at the applicant's institution. The Grants Officer is responsible for sign-off and submitting the application to the AHA.

A. Research Proposal: (5 pages, 12-point Arial font, 3/4" margins.) Please address all of the following points:

1. Concept: Your creative idea or hypothesis related to recruitment of millennial women, especially within underrepresented racial and ethnic groups into Research Goes Red, and engagement of these women to increase their awareness and action to prevent CVD and cerebrovascular disease.

Include:

- a. How your plan will recruit millennial women, especially within underrepresented racial and ethnic groups into Research Goes Red;
- b. How your plan will engage these women with the goal of increasing their awareness and calling them to action in the prevention of CVD and cerebrovascular disease;
- c. How your plan will measure awareness and action amongst the millennial women within underrepresented racial and ethnic groups in Research Goes Red.

The study data from the Verily platform will be transferred into a secure, walled-off workspace on the AHA Precision Medicine Platform to which the PI and his/her team has access. The workspace will be used for analysis of the data.

2. Plan: Your research plan to produce compelling new knowledge prioritized in this call for proposals.

Include:

- a. A timeline of key milestones you would target in the two-year study;
- b. An estimated total budget requirement and brief rationale, including number and role of paid positions and/or approximate allocation between institutions within the team if applicable.

3. Team: Who will be on your team and why you selected them.

Include:

- a. Your team's capacity to develop new tools and methods that can be used on the Verily platform or use currently available tools on the Verily platform that support creative experimental approaches to questions, encompassing concepts or techniques from other disciplines;
- b. The lead applicant's and the applicant's institution's capacity to receive and manage research awards;
- c. A lay summary of no more than two paragraphs that can be understood by a non-scientist reviewer that answers the following questions:



1. What is the major problem being addressed by this study?
2. What specific questions are you asking and how will you attempt to answer them?
3. Overall, what is the potential impact of this work to the field of prevention of CVD and cerebrovascular disease.

Formatting Requirements:

The research proposal must be created as a Word-processed document, converted to a Portable Document Format (PDF) file, and uploaded to [Grants@Heart](#). Only PDF files will be accepted. When creating the Research Proposal, you must comply exactly with the association's format/type requirements and page limit. Failure to comply will result in the administrative withdrawal (disqualification) of the application.

- Document must be single-spaced.
- No more than 15 characters per inch (cpi) or an average of no more than 15 cpi (cpi includes symbols, punctuation and spaces).
- No less than ¾" margins allowed.
- 60 lines per page are the maximum allowed. (The average number of lines per page using the font and point size below will be approximately 50-55 lines).
- Arial Font style, 12 point font size for Windows users; Helvetica Font style, 12 point font size for Macintosh users.
- Fonts for figures, charts, tables, graphics, and legends may be smaller but must be clear and legible.
- Five-page limit.

B. Biosketch/Bibliography for PI and Co-PIs (5-page limit for each Biosketch)

Use of the [NIH Non-Fellowship Biosketch](#) is required for all AHA programs.

C. Literature Cited (1-page limit)

Provide a list of up to 20 relevant or important publications. Standard abbreviations are acceptable with two exceptions: full titles and full paging must be provided. Use of [EndNote](#), [Mendeley](#), [RefWorks](#) or similar programs is encouraged.

Each reference must list:

- Authors in the same order as they appear on the paper (list all or up to 15)
- Title
- Name of the book or journal
- Volume number
- Page numbers
- Year of publication



D. [Budget Justification Form](#) (2-page limit)

The budget should include costs of required coordination and collaboration (see below). Allowable budget items include salary and fringe for the PI and co-PIs, travel, and publication costs. Verily will provide no-cost usage of its platform, study and survey tools, including recruitment and e-consent tools, survey and other engagement tools, and the community/participant dashboard and related analytical tools. Up to 10% may be used for indirect costs.

Award Characteristics

Awards, Amount, and Duration:

- Awards – three
- Duration: 2 years
- Amount: Up to \$200K per year for a total of up to \$400K per award, including direct and indirect costs.

Precision Medicine Platform

Data will be transferred into a workspace on the [Precision Medicine Platform](#) (PMP) for the applicant and team to store and perform analyses on the data. The PMP is both [HIPAA](#) and [FedRAMP](#) compliant. Datasets will reside in a secure, walled-off workspace for which only the applicant has access. It is possible to grant collaborators access to the workspace, but it is the applicant's responsibility to ensure they have the appropriate data access approvals when adding them.

- Learn more about the Precision Medicine Platform [here](#).
- Explore the capabilities of the Precision Medicine Platform [here](#).

Interim and Final Assessments

All three awardees and their teams must report collective progress on a quarterly basis. Progress reporting may take the form of written reports, phone calls and/or face to face visits. Reporting will be focused on achievement of stated milestones as indicated in the project timeline.

Upon completion, the awardee will be evaluated on the successful completion of the experiments outlined in the specific aims and stated milestones, as well as abstracts and publications produced. Final assessment may be in the form of written reports, phone calls, and/or face-to-face meetings.

As stated above, the awardees will be required to collaborate with each other, Verily, and the AHA via face-to-face meetings, conference calls, and teleconferences.



Review Panel

The AHA will convene appropriate volunteer reviewers from among existing Oversight Advisory Committees and Research Committee and Subcommittee members. The review panel will evaluate, score, and rank the proposals for funding consideration.

Review Criteria will include:

- **Collaboration and Inclusion:** The proposal demonstrates significant collaboration among investigators and the Research Goes Red cohort. Collaboration plans and activities promote team science, networking, and synergy to advance scientific knowledge and discovery.
- **Significance:** The proposal addresses a critical need related to increasing awareness of CVD and cerebrovascular disease and inspiring action among millennial women within underrepresented racial and ethnic groups.
- **Impact:** The proposal directly relates to and supports the mission of the AHA *to be a relentless force for a world of longer, healthier lives*, and its commitment to work for health equity for *all Americans*.
- **Feasibility:** The proposal is feasible, as demonstrated by timeline, budget, and goals.
- **Outcome:** Proposed outcomes from this project are clearly defined.

Timeline

RFA Published: November 17, 2019
Application Deadline: January 15, 2020
Review of Submissions: February 2020
Awards Announced: March 1, 2020
Start Date: March 15, 2020

Eligibility

Each applicant must be an AHA Professional Member. Join or renew when preparing an application in [Grants@Heart, online](mailto:Grants@Heart), or by phone at 301-223-2307 or 800-787-8984. Membership processing takes 3-5 days. ***Do not wait until the application deadline to renew or join.***

This grant opportunity is open to all scientists. Collaboration is highly encouraged. Applicants are to provide proposals that adhere to the above broad objectives, while specifically addressing the outlined goals.



Faculty/staff members must be conducting independent research at time of application. At application, principal investigators must hold an M.D., Ph.D., D.O., or equivalent terminal doctoral degree and must meet institutional requirements for grant submission. There is no field of study restriction. Applicants must demonstrate the ability to complete the project proposal with the allotted time and money made available by the grant.

Other than the requirement that the Principal Investigator be independent, eligibility for AHA Institute for Precision Cardiovascular Medicine Grants are not restricted by experience level or seniority. While no minimum percent effort is specified, the principal investigator must demonstrate that adequate time will be devoted to ensuring successful completion of the proposed project. Percentage of effort must be documented for each named collaborating investigator.

AHA Institute for Precision Cardiovascular Medicine research awards are limited to non-profit or public institutions, such as medical, osteopathic and dental schools, veterinary schools, schools of public health, pharmacy schools, nursing schools, universities and colleges, public and voluntary hospitals and other non-profit institutions that can demonstrate the ability to conduct the proposed research. For Institute awards only, applications will be accepted from federal employees and Veterans Administration employees.

At the time of application, the principal investigator must have one of the following designations:

- U.S. citizen
- Permanent resident
- Pending permanent resident. Applicants must have applied for permanent residency and have filed form I-485 with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services and have received authorization to legally remain in the United States (having filed an Application for Employment Form I-765).
- E-3 Visa - specialty occupation worker
- H1-B Visa - temporary worker in a specialty occupation
- J-1 Visa - exchange visitor
- O-1 Visa - temporary worker with extraordinary abilities in the sciences
- TN Visa - NAFTA Professional
- G-4 Visa - family member of employee of international organizations and NATO

The awardee must meet AHA eligibility criteria throughout the duration of the award.

Relevant Policies

AHA Open Science Policies:

Public Access: The AHA requires that all journal articles resulting from AHA funding be made freely available in PubMed Central within 12 months of publication. It will be the responsibility of the author to ensure this occurs.



Open Data: Any research data that is needed for independent verification of research results must be made freely and publicly available in an AHA approved repository within 12 months of the end of the funding period (and any no-cost extension, when applicable). For more information, see the [Open Data Policy](#).

Any inventions, intellectual property, and patents resulting from this funding are governed by the [AHA Patent, Intellectual Property and Technology Transfer Policy](#).

The projects described can have no scientific or budgetary overlap with other funded work. Awards are not intended to supplement or duplicate currently funded work. Rather, it is expected that submitted applications will describe projects that are clearly distinct from ongoing research activities in the applicant's laboratory. Minor variations from existing research projects are not sufficient to constitute independent and distinct projects. Additional policies may be applied in the award agreement, if awarded.

Awards are transferable to other institutions. The grantees will maintain fiscal responsibility for the entire award.

Award Selection and Other Policies

Final funding recommendations will be approved by the AHA Institute Executive Committee.

Please refer to our [Frequently Asked Questions](#) for more information.

For all other relevant policies and, please see the [Application Information website](#).

For questions, please contact:

Vicki Sussman, MA, JD
Research Administration Manager
Institute for Precision Cardiovascular Medicine
Vicki.Sussman@Heart.Org
607-319-9977