Request for Proposals

INSPIRE Research Award

The INSPIRE network is excited to announce a broad funding opportunity for investigators in pediatric simulation-based research.

Background

The International Network for Simulation-based Pediatric Innovation, Research and Education was established in 2011 from a group of simulation-based pediatric researchers from a variety of disciplines looking to improve collaboration, mentorship, and productivity. Our mission is to improve the delivery of medical care to acutely ill children and ultimately improve survival from acute illness in the pediatric population.

INSPIRE is committed to innovation and is seeking studies that are both innovative and have strong potential for a positive impact on healthcare delivery. INSPIRE is proud to announce a broad funding opportunity for simulation-based research in pediatrics.

Summary

1. Two projects will be funded of a one-year duration with a maximum budget of $30,000 USD each. This project must be simulation-based and have strong potential for a positive impact on healthcare delivery processes and outcome.

2. Award proposals will be due on June 30, 2020.
The INSPIRE Research Award

Full Proposal Instructions

I. Overview and Eligibility

The INSPIRE Awards and Funding Committee is providing funding for two projects of one-year duration (maximum duration 18 months) with a total budget of $30,000 USD each.

This award is open to all investigators in INSPIRE. This is a broad announcement, but the projects must be simulation-based and utilize rigorous scientific methodology. Quantitative, qualitative or mixed methods research approaches are equally welcome.

Only one project submission will be accepted from each Principal Investigator across the two major categories of submissions for 2020 (i.e. the INSPIRE Research Award and the INSPIRE Novice Researcher Award).

Please note as well that all INSPIRE members involved with the selection process for this award are excluded from reviewing potential applications in which they are investigators.

II. Timeline

Completed applications will be due by 11:59pm EDT on June 30, 2020, and final recipients of the award will be notified September 30, 2020 and announced at INSPIRE at IMSH 2021. Awardees will be required to present an ALERT on their research for this meeting. Funding will be disbursed within one month of this announcement at INSPIRE at IMSH 2021.

III. Project Duration

The project’s stated aims must be completed within 12 months. Extensions will be considered on a case-by-case basis and must be requested in writing no later than two months prior to the expiration of the award.

IV. Application Submission

Please submit all required documents in one PDF to the following link: [link]. You will receive a confirmation email when your documents have been received.

V. Award Notification and Funding

Final recipients of the award will be notified by September 30, 2020 and awardees will be announced at the January 2021 INSPIRE meeting at IMSH. Funds will be disbursed within one month of the announcement.
VI. Proposal Requirement and Format

Proposal format in general follows United States National Institute of Health formats using PHS398 forms. Each line should have no more than 15 words. All pages must be numbered and include a footer with the Principal Investigator’s name. Page limit does not include: Cover letter, Budget, Resources, and Supporting Documents.

VII. Proposal IRB Requirement and Human Subject Protection

All proposals submitted must include evidence of submission to the Institutional Review Board (IRB) or Ethics Board from all institutions where the proposed work will take place, regardless of whether human subjects are used. Approval from IRB or Ethics Board is not required at the time of application but will be required before funds are given. For human subjects usage definitions guidelines, please refer to the following NIH regulatory documents:


The following online questionnaire may also be of assistance in determining whether a given proposal qualifies as human subjects’ research.

https://humansubjects.nih.gov/questionnaire

VIII. Proposal Content Instructions

Note: Please submit only requested documents within page limits and follow instructions carefully. Nonconforming applications will not be forwarded to reviewers.

Format

The primary proposal itself (including the Cover Letter, Executive Summary, Research Plan, and Budget) must be no more than 10 pages (though fewer are acceptable). In addition to this, further supplemental information is required (these pages are not included in the page count). This information includes a Biosketch of the Primary Investigator, a brief description of Resources available at the site, and any additional Supporting Documents. Please use single-spaced, 11-point Arial font.

Description of Primary Application

Components

Cover Letter

1 page: Please use NIH PHS398 Cover Letter form downloadable at
Project Executive Summary

1 page. Max: 450 words

This important section serves as a succinct and accurate project description with clear statement of the project’s long-term objectives and specific aims. It should explain how this proposal reflects the mission of INSPIRE. Describe concisely the research design and methods for achieving the stated goals.

Research Plan (Max: 6 pages)

Sections:

Specific Aims and Hypotheses (1 page)

List the goals and objectives of your study, (i.e., to test the hypothesis of your research questions). The hypothesis must be clearly stated for quantitative research. For qualitative research, a hypothesis is not necessary, but guiding research questions should be stated instead. Please note that this component of the research plan should not exceed 1 page.

Background and Significance

Include a succinct overview of the field to be studied, including what is known about the topic and what remains to be explored. Describe how and why the proposed research will advance understanding in the field, bridge gaps in knowledge, and have a positive impact on healthcare delivery, processes and outcomes. Of note, the background literature should include any supporting theoretical or conceptual framework if dictated by the specific research areas. Please include a brief section that describes how this project is innovative. This could include but not be limited to the approach, measurement development, or new application of simulation methodology.

Innovation

Describe the innovation of your proposed study. This includes challenging or seeking to shift current research or clinical practice paradigms by utilizing novel theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions.

Methods

In general, describe the methods that will be used to achieve the specific aims listed above. It is often useful to organize an award proposal by listing each aim in the methods section and then delineating the methods to be used to accomplish that specific aim. It is important to list
and discuss proposed inclusion and exclusion criteria of subjects, outcome measures that are well defined, statistical methods, anticipated sample size, data collection and management. Be as specific as possible without unnecessary detail.

**Project timeline**

List important sequential steps in the timeline that will allow successful completion of the entire proposed project of 12-month duration. This should include a brief 6-month progress report.

**Budget**

2 pages: Please use the 1-page NIH PHS398 Budget form downloadable at

http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/fp4.doc

**IMPORTANT:** Please note that this award does not cover indirect or facilities and administrative costs, and they thus should not be requested in the budget.

A 1-page budget justification should be included to explain how the award will be spent to ensure that adequate support and time is dedicated towards the completion of the stated goals. Please indicate any funds or in-kind resources that will be provided by the institution or other entities.

The investigator may apply the award funds toward any research-based salary and stipends for faculty/staff, postdoctoral trainees/fellows, technical support staff (including statistician, data analyst) required. Other expenses such as travel, membership fees, and conference registration fees are allowed, but justification will be required. A sample budget can be downloaded at the following link: INSPIRE Sample Budget.

**Description of Further Supporting Documents**

**Biosketch** (Max: 5 pages)

Please use NIH Biosketch form as a template. The form is downloadable at the following link: https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm

Biosketches should only contain information relevant to the application.

**Resources** (Max: 1 page)

This page allows the assessment of the capability of the organizational resources available to perform the project proposed. Please include a brief description of the relevant facilities and resources that are directly applicable to the PI (e.g., space, computers, simulators,
administrative support, etch). Specific focus should be given to any previous collaborations by
the investigators and infrastructure already in place to complete this research. Do not include a
detailed description of the institution’s intellectual environment.

**Bibliography:** Include the references of publications relevant to proposed study. Using

**Institutional Review Board approval or copy of submission letter.** In situations where
IRB submission is preferred after the notification of award, the approval letter must be
submitted before the actual funding takes place.

**Letters of Support:** Letters of support are required from all members of the study team.
Applicants are encouraged to include letters from their department chair or program director, or
simulation institutions (if applicable) addressing their level of support and available resources
to help with the research. One page each.

**IX. Scoring of Applications**

Applications will be scored based on the following criteria: Significance, Investigators,
Innovation, Approach and Environment.

**X. Progress Reports and Dissemination**

PIs are required to submit a 6-month progress report and a final report once the study is
complete. Awardees are also expected to present their yearly results at an INSPIRE meeting.
INSPIRE must be explicitly acknowledged on all forms of dissemination (abstracts,
manuscripts, posters, etc.). The use of official INSPIRE templates is strongly encouraged.
Finally, awardees are encouraged to leverage INSPIRE resources and presentations in future
budget or program proposals resulting from the completed work.