YANKELOVICH CENTER CALL FOR SEED FUNDING GRANTS

2019-20

The Yankelovich Center for Social Science Research provides seed funding to UC San Diego faculty for research projects that show promise of significant impact in addressing pressing social problems. These could include social mobility, governance, the effects of climate change, and many others where policy improvement is needed.

Who can apply

Projects may have one or multiple principal investigators from UC San Diego and may also include researchers at other universities or research institutions. Graduate and undergraduate students are encouraged to apply with faculty co-PIs.

Funding for: Research-related expenses, such as pay for student researchers (graduate and undergraduate), travel, participant compensation, summer salary (assistant professors only), equipment, etc.

Criteria on which proposals will be judged

1. Focus on solutions. Projects should aim to discover or verify one or more feasible solutions that promise to make a significant contribution to pressing social problems.

2. Quality of the proposed research, especially the appropriateness of the design and methods to be used.

3. Proposals should explicitly address how the solution(s) they examine could be brought to national scale.

4. Our grants are intended to fund the initial stages of potentially larger projects with significant prospects for raising extramural funding, including formulating promising hypotheses and gathering preliminary evidence on their potential for making a major impact. Possible funding sources and research capabilities for next steps should be clearly specified in the proposal.

5. Proposals that indicate a partner, or written expression of interest in the study, from government institutions (local, state, and/or federal), schools, nonprofits, and/or business organizations will receive special consideration.

Maximum funding amount

$25,000

Requirements

Recipients of grants will agree to write a 1-3 page write-up of results and lessons for policymakers, even if preliminary, for posting on the Yankelovich Center website. Where appropriate, recipients may be asked to participate in a briefing regarding the research with relevant audiences in the policymaking or media sectors.

Proposal content

A. Project description [maximum 2 pages, single-spaced]

    1. Description of project and activities that will be supported.

    2. Explanation of how this project fits into the faculty member's broader research agenda

    3. Description of the project's significance for the field
    4. Subsequent external funding proposals that this project will lead to, specifying viable funding opportunities.

B. Budget and Budget Narrative [maximum 2 pages, single-spaced]

    1. Other funding the researcher(s) has/have been awarded for this and other current projects

    2. Evidence of financial need (for instance, lack of startup or existing grant resources).

    3. Budget Narrative

    4. Draft Budget

C. A brief description (maximum 100 words) for a general audience of the proposed activity and its impact, to be used in public communication about divisional activities.

Submission deadline
March 2, 2020 (notification by early April).

How to submit
Email your submission as a pdf document to the Yankelovich Center for Social Science Research at yss@ucsd.edu.

Selection committee
Yankelovich Center Advisory Board