Equality State Research Network (ESRN), Heywood Telehealth Research Initiative -- 2022

Request for Proposals (RFP)

ESRN Student Research Awards

Due April 1, 2022

Guidelines:

Student Research Grant Proposal:

Overview:

Residents of rural states like Wyoming are faced with many unique healthcare challenges. Overall lack of access, limited availability of primary and specialty care, reduced focus on preventative care and mental health, and geographic barriers all contribute to higher morbidity and mortality for rural residents. Moreover, many of the healthcare solutions developed for urban areas do not work effectively in rural communities. Given these challenges, there is tremendous need to develop innovative solutions to meet the unique challenges faced by rural states.

The College of Health Sciences (CHS) through the Wyoming Institute for Disabilities (WIND) has received a grant from the Heywood Foundation to support the development of interdisciplinary training programs for telehealth, and to support the development of innovative solutions to meet the needs of Wyoming residents. To this end, we are making up to six (6) student research awards that will be administered by the Equality State Research Network (ESRN). Awards must be focused on innovations related to telehealth and rural healthcare and align with the funding priorities listed below. Awards will be made by beginning of April and funds must be spent by July 1, 2022. Grants will fund any type of inquiry relevant to the field of study, including, but not limited to applied, public health, clinical, basic science, technological, observational, translational, community-based participatory, community action research, quality improvement or other types of inquiry. Any robust method will be acceptable (e.g., quantitative, qualitative, secondary data analysis, case-series, etc.), as long as it is appropriate for the proposed research or project questions and the team has adequate resources to successfully complete the work.

Maximum Student Research Award: $2,000 graduate students; $1500 undergraduate

Number of awards: three graduate awards, three undergraduate awards

Announcement date: January 21st, 2022

Submission Deadline: April 1st, 2022

Funding Priorities: Applicants should align their proposals with the priorities of the Heywood Foundation. This includes the following

1. Telehealth infrastructure and telehealth technology
2. Clinical effectiveness of telehealth
3. Implementation of telehealth practice
4. Patient and provider experience of telehealth
5. Healthcare innovations, especially related to rural health and telehealth

Application Requirements:

1. Student applicants must have two mentors arranged prior to applying. One will be a primary faculty mentor who would be from the student's primary division (Communications Disorders, Kinesiology and Health, Nursing, Social Work, Pharmacy, WIND and WWAMI) and a second interdisciplinary mentor. The interdisciplinary mentor must come from a field other than that of the student and primary faculty mentor. For

example, if the student and primary mentor are proposing a basic science research approach, they should have a clinical, public health or other non-basic science faculty member as the interdisciplinary mentor. The interdisciplinary mentor may be faculty from any of the UW departments (e.g., psychology, economics, engineering, etc.) or Wyoming community colleges. Further, it is acceptable for the interdisciplinary mentor to be a practicing clinician (physician, nurse, pharmacist, social worker, etc.) or expert in the field not affiliated with the university. However, the mentorship team should represent complimentary perspectives.

2. The proposal must focus primarily on Wyoming. For instance, if the proposal will work with a patient population, that population must be primarily based in Wyoming. If lab-based science is proposed, it must be conducted in Wyoming. The proposal may include individuals or sites from outside the state, but this cannot be the bulk of the work. Proposals must be Wyoming centered.

3. Written proposals must be 2000 words or less (excluding Appendices) and must include the follows:

   - COVER SHEET (provided below)
   - ABSTRACT (that summarize the purpose, approach and significance of the research or project in 250 words, double spaced)
   - INTRODUCTION (that provides the general context for the research, double spaced)
   - APPROACH (that includes strategy, methodology and analyses of the research, double spaced)
   - SIGNIFICANCE (that addresses importance and scientific merit of the research, as well as its **relevance to the telehealth**, double spaced)
   - FUTURE PLAN (that describes how this research will help you in completing your current degree requirements, and how this research will help generate future research, double spaced)
   - APPENDICES **must include**
     o Proposed budget with justification, single spaced
     o Bibliography, single spaced
     o Two letters of support, one from each faculty mentor (primary and interdisciplinary), single spaced

Submission Directions:
Proposals including the cover page (attached below) should be submitted through online at the following link: https://redcap.uwyo.edu/surveys/?s=XWN3HM93RW. All documents should be compiled into a single PDF, and pages numbered. Please use Times New Roman, Arial or similar font. Text should be no smaller than 10-point font. Use 1-inch margins for all documents and spacing indicated above. Any citation standard is acceptable as long as it is consistently used (e.g., American Psychological Association, American Medical Association, etc.). All proposals must be submitted submission by March 1, 2022 at 5:00 PM.

NOTE: Proposals will be reviewed by members from all disciplines in the CHS. Therefore, avoid jargon and use an accessible writing style throughout.

Evaluation process:
Each proposal will be carefully reviewed by the review committee. This committee will be comprised of representatives from each of the CHS divisions. Each application will be reviewed by at least three members, but potentially more depending on the number of applications received. There will be at least one scientific reviewer, one clinical reviewer and one reviewer from within the student's discipline. Applications will be scored on the following four criteria and will use the scale indicated below.

Innovation:	The degree to which the proposal is highly original, and likely to lead to novel and effective improvements in telehealth that meet the unique needs of Wyoming's healthcare systems (see funding priorities)
Significance:	The degree to which the proposal is of high scientific merit and likely to create new knowledge that will improve the use, implementation or effectiveness of telehealth, especially for Wyoming.
Interdisciplinary relevance:	The degree to which the project is relevant to multiple fields or study, or able to bridge research and practice.
Feasibility:	The degree to which the proposal is likely to be accomplished successfully, and in the timeline proposed.

4 = Excellent

3 = Good

2 = Average

1 = Acceptable

0 = Unacceptable

The mean scores for each category will be computed, and applications ranked. The committee will discuss applications and make funding recommendations based on both the average scores and their discussion.

Additional requirements:

1. Funding cannot be used for student or faculty salaries
2. Indirect costs are not permitted
3. Students must submit to present their work to at least one conference. We encourage the students to submit to the annual CHS research day, but other venues may be appropriate as well.
4. A short final report will be required by August 1, 2022. A template will be provided. Students should work with their mentors to ensure this can be accommodated, especially if they are in their last year of study.

CHS Heywood Telehealth Research Initiative
Student Research Grant Proposal 2022
Cover Sheet

Student _____ **Phone number:** _____ **Email:**_____

Faculty Mentors:

Primary: _____

College unit: _____

Interdisciplinary mentor: _____

College unit or organization: _____

Title of Project

Budget Request: $ _____

Detailed Budget Proposal (see restrictions above)

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