REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

Application due date:
Round 1: April 30, 2021
Round 2 (if funds remain after Round 1): October 15, 2021

Award budget:
Small - up to $50,000
Large - up to $150,000

Award period:
Round 1: 18 or 24 months
Round 2: 12 or 18 months

Purpose
The Peter G. Peterson Foundation Pandemic Response Policy Research Fund was established with a $1 million grant from the Foundation (https://www.northwestern.edu/petersonfund/). The purpose of the funding is to advance understanding of effective policy responses to the COVID-19 pandemic and improve future preparedness through support for Northwestern University’s pioneering and interdisciplinary research on the U.S. economy and healthcare system.

Research projects
Projects are limited to the following topics:

- Assessing and tracking differences in performance and effectiveness of state-level responses to the COVID-19 pandemic including tracking impacts and outcomes
- Modelling the short- and medium-term economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the policies used to address it
- Developing actionable policies to prepare for and mitigate the impact of future pandemics on the future health and social and economic wellbeing of communities
- Adapting lessons learned during the COVID-19 pandemic to improve effectiveness, value, and resilience in healthcare delivery systems
- Understanding changes to the healthcare delivery system that occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic that improve healthcare performance and value, and could be continued going forward (e.g. telemedicine)
- Other similar, relevant topics as recommended by the University and approved by the Foundation

Eligibility
The PI must hold a faculty position at Northwestern University. All faculty tracks are eligible.

Application Preparation
A complete application should include the following components, in single-spaced text, 12-point font, 1-inch margins:

1. **Cover Page** (one page max)
   a. Proposal Title
   b. Principal investigator: Name, Rank, Department, School, Email, Phone
   c. Indicate whether you are applying for a small or large award
   d. Indicate what award period you are applying for
   e. Table of Key Personnel: Name, Rank, Department, School
2. **Lay Summary** (0.5-page max) that clearly articulates the proposal to colleagues outside the field
3. **Program Description** (5 pages max for sections a-e)
   a. **Objectives**; must include potential national/international/societal impact
   b. **Significance and contribution**
   c. **Research Plan**; must include description of data and methods
   d. **Project organization**; must include description of collaborators
   e. **Timeline**

4. Detailed budget using this Excel [budget template](#). No sub-awards are allowed.

5. **Narrative budget justification**

6. **Biosketches**; 4 pages max for each participating faculty member

**Application Submission**

1. Prepare a single pdf file named as follows: “LastName-FirstInitial-Peterson-RoundX 2021”, replacing “LastName” with your last name, “FirstInitial” with your first initial, and X with 1 or 2
2. Submit your application by completing this [web form](#).
3. To receive a confirmation email and copy of your submission, check the box (“send me a copy of my responses”) and enter your email address
4. Click “Submit”

**Application Review**
Applications will be reviewed by an internal committee of faculty leaders representing a diversity of disciplines, experience, and backgrounds. The committee will evaluate the proposals through a rigorous selection process and make recommendations to the Vice President for Research.

Primary selection criteria include:
- Potential to increase knowledge, understanding, and development of actionable solutions to prepare for and address medium- and longer-term impacts of COVID and future pandemics and crises in the United States
- Topics having broad near-term policy relevance for the US economic and fiscal outlook
- Quality of research plan - including a brief communicating and disseminating findings to target audiences, with appropriate metrics to evaluate progress
- Ability to complete work on given timeline
- Fit with Peterson’s mission in terms of addressing America’s long-term fiscal and economic challenges and improving the quality and lowering the cost of healthcare
- Quality & diversity of research team, including interdisciplinary collaboration within and across departments and diversity and inclusiveness of both the project staffs and the affected communities researched
- Appropriateness of the budget

**Notification**
Awardees will be notified on the outcome by June 1, 2021 (Round 1) and by November 15, 2021 (Round 2 - as applicable).

**Reporting**
Awardees are required to submit semi-annual progress reports.

**Contact Information**
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