



AAMC Nurturing Experiences for Tomorrow's Community Leaders (NEXT) Award

These awards are supported by Cooperative Agreement Number 5
NU36OE000007-04-00 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
For more information, please visit aamc.org/cdc.

Background

Health and health care inequities remain a national concern, and medical schools and teaching hospitals frequently see them in their patients and local communities. With the implementation of health care reform and the challenges associated with rising health care expenditures and lagging population health outcomes, our member institutions are increasingly engaging with community partners to address local health issues. Community-partnered solutions are necessary as the United States continues to confront racial and ethnic disparities exacerbated by two pandemics: COVID-19 and systemic racism.

Opportunities to further educate and train the next generation of health professions leaders in how best to work with community and multidisciplinary partners are essential as medical schools and teaching hospitals develop programs and activities to improve population health. Health care providers must be equipped with the knowledge and skills to provide high-quality, equitable health care in their communities and know how to engage in collaborative environments.

To further enhance the teaching and application of population health principles in our nation's medical schools and teaching hospitals, the AAMC is seeking applications from accredited U.S. medical schools and teaching hospitals and U.S. residency programs accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) for the AAMC Nurturing Experiences for Tomorrow's Community Leaders (NEXT) Award. This award, now in its second year, provides funding to develop or enhance a learning opportunity for students and trainees that addresses local community health needs.

Project Goals

The primary goals of this competitive award are to:

- Create or enhance opportunities to engage learners in a project that seeks to address COVID-19 inequities, systemic racism, or both.
- Increase learners' knowledge about and ability to apply population health concepts and leadership principles within the context of a community-level issue.
- Promote collaboration across the clinical, education, and research missions to advance health equity.

Eligibility

Successful applicants will be from **AAMC-member institutions** that represent accredited U.S. medical schools and teaching hospitals and **ACGME-accredited U.S. residency programs**. Applications must include an institutional faculty sponsor. Only one application per institution or residency program will be accepted. Proposed projects must target medical students, residents, or both. We also strongly encourage the inclusion of interprofessional learners.

Award Information

These awards are made possible by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) through a cooperative agreement with the AAMC (Grant No. 5 NU36OE000007-04-00). The AAMC expects to issue at least five awards to accredited U.S. AAMC-member institutions or ACGME-accredited U.S. residency programs, each of which will receive \$10,000 to support the development or expansion of experiential community-partnered learning opportunities involving medical students, residents, or both. Projects must focus on addressing COVID-19 inequities, systemic racism, or both.

Funds will be distributed in two payments following a fully executed agreement outlining deliverable and reporting requirements between the AAMC and the awardee. **All projects must be completed by June 30, 2021.**

Funding may be used to support project-related salaries, fringe benefits, and indirect costs. Examples of other allowable expenses include project materials, supplies, student or resident conference fees, stipends (e.g., speakers or standardized patients), contractual and consultant costs, project-related travel fees, and marketing and communications. Costs that are not allowed include food, meals, alcoholic beverages, and subawards to other institutions.

Application Submission

The application form must be completed **online**. Applicants are encouraged to develop and save their responses in a separate document before submitting the online application form. In addition to the online application form, please email the following documentation to **CDC@aamc.org**:

- Curriculum vitae or résumé of the primary faculty sponsor listed on the application form.
- Itemized project budget narrative outlining proposed direct and indirect costs (e.g., salaries, fringe benefits, supplies, project-related travel, contractual and consultant costs).

Submission Deadline

Applications must be received by **Oct. 12, 2020, at 11:59 p.m. ET**. Please submit the online application form and send supplemental documentation to **CDC@aamc.org**. Incomplete applications will not be considered or reviewed.

Selection Criteria

An AAMC staff review panel will evaluate completed applications using the following criteria:

- Focus on COVID-19 inequities, systemic racism, or both in the local community.
- Knowledge of community-informed issues (e.g., linked to a community health needs assessment).
- Collaboration across institutional mission areas to address community health needs.
- External partnerships that include diverse stakeholders (e.g., other health professions programs, community-based organizations, community residents, health departments).
- Proposed plan to educate learners to develop population health leadership skills (e.g., advocacy, communication, cultural humility, epidemiology, program management, research, teamwork).
- Demonstration of community benefit through shared leadership with the local community, partner organizations, and relevant stakeholders.
- Evaluation plan detailing how project goals will be met and how they can be measured.

Application Review

An AAMC staff review panel that represents work units across the association will judge completed applications based on the selection criteria. Applicants will be notified of final decisions by Nov. 13, 2020.

Deliverables

- Awardees will be expected to provide project status updates to the AAMC program staff by email as needed or during at least two teleconference meetings scheduled between January and June 2021.
- Awardees will submit a project work plan describing the activities and desired outcomes of the community-partnered learning opportunity and a midcycle progress report.
- At the end of the project (June 30, 2021), awardees will submit a narrative summary highlighting key project successes and lessons learned. Awardees may also be featured as an institutional exemplar via AAMC media outlets (e.g., news article, infographic, video, webinar).

Application Checklist

- Submit online application form by Oct. 12, 2020, at 11:59 p.m. ET.
- Email the primary faculty sponsor's curriculum vitae or résumé and itemized project budget narrative to CDC@aamc.org by Oct. 12, 2020, at 11:59 p.m. ET.
- Retain AAMC email confirmation of receipt of the curriculum vitae or résumé and budget narrative.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Will an application be considered if the proposed project does not involve addressing COVID-19 inequities, systemic racism, or both?

No. Successful applicants for this AAMC NEXT Award cycle must propose to develop or expand projects that focus on addressing COVID-19 inequities, systemic racism, or both.

2. Are schools of osteopathic medicine eligible to apply?

No. Applicants must be **U.S. AAMC-member institutions** or **ACGME-accredited U.S. residency programs**.

3. Are students eligible to apply?

Yes. Because awards are made to the institution, though, student applicants must have a faculty sponsor at an accredited **U.S. AAMC-member institution** or **ACGME-accredited U.S. residency program**.

4. Can an institution or residency program submit more than one application?

No. Only one application per institution or residency program will be accepted.

5. What are the allowable expenses for this award?

Funding may be used to support project-related salaries, fringe benefits, and indirect costs. Examples of other allowable expenses include project materials, supplies, student or resident conference fees, stipends (e.g., speakers or standardized patients), contractual and consultant costs, project-related travel fees, and marketing and communications. Costs that are not allowed include food, meals, alcoholic beverages, and subawards to other institutions.

Additional Questions

Please direct all inquiries and communications to:

Sherese Johnson, MPH, PMP
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AAMC
CDC@aamc.org