

Grant Program for Evaluating Outcomes:



Fundamental Role of the Arts and Humanities in Medical Education



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Tomorrow's Doctors, Tomorrow's Cures®

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Background Information

Academic medicine must continuously build and improve upon educational practices and environments to allow learners to provide optimal care for their patients, collaborate with their fellow health care professionals, and care for themselves. A growing evidence base suggests learning experiences that integrate humanities and arts within medical education curricula support a variety of important learning outcomes. These include relational outcomes such as empathy, communication, cultural humility, and teamwork; transformational outcomes at the level of professional identity formation and advocacy; and skills-based outcomes such as honing observation and interpretation skills. Moreover, in this era in which burnout and physician suicide are epidemic, the humanities and arts can spark joy, enhance renewal, and restore meaning.

While these approaches are being increasingly integrated into many medical schools, teaching hospitals, and continuing education programs, there is a lack of understanding of the outcomes of this integration into curricula across medical schools. There is more to be understood about the qualities of the arts that facilitate learning, pedagogical strategies that support engagement with the arts, and ways to translate humanities-based learning experiences to clinical practice.

Project Goals

As part of the AAMC Fundamental Role of the Arts and Humanities in Medical Education (FRAHME), a multi-faceted initiative, and in response to the recommendations made in the 2018 National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) report,¹ the AAMC seeks to offer five grants of \$25,000 each, partially funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities,² to medical educators at U.S. member institutions that advances the integration of humanities and arts in health professions education over an 18-month period.

Grantees will design new methodology or enhance existing methodology to evaluate the impact of existing integrative arts and humanities programs or curricula. The intended audience of these programs may be anywhere across the developmental spectrum (undergraduate, graduate, and continuing medical education), including in an interprofessional setting. All programs must include a strong focus on the humanities; however, the programs may or may not include the arts. Priority will be given to programs that serve learners who are veterans and underrepresented minorities (e.g., African American, Hispanic American, and Native American populations).

The arts and humanities in medical education are defined as the knowledge, modes of inquiry, and pedagogical approaches and experiences grounded in meaning-making through creative expression and integrated into the teaching and learning of medical students, trainees, and practicing physicians. These approaches and experiences are often interprofessional, interdisciplinary, and co-designed to teach and sustain diverse competencies for better health outcomes for patients, communities, and populations.

1. National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. *The Integration of the Humanities and Arts with Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine in Higher Education: Branches From the Same Tree*. Washington, DC: National Academies Press; 2018.

2. The Fundamental Role of the Humanities and Arts in Medical Education has been made possible in part by a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (Federal Award ID Number: AH-268665-19).

Eligibility

AAMC-member institutions in the United States.

Proposal Requirements and Guidelines

Application packages should not exceed 10 pages overall. All applications must include:

- **Proposal narrative** (maximum of five double-spaced pages, with page numbers and one-inch margins, using unreduced 12-point Times New Roman font) addressing the following:
 - Humanities and/or arts program background, goals, and objectives.
 - Relevant literature to support the educational innovation.
 - Strategies or methods: the strategy, approach, and/or methods to evaluate the impact of the program(s).
 - References.
 - Note: If the application represents more than one institution, a lead institution must be identified.
- **Additional required information** (not counted toward proposal narrative page limit, but counted toward 10-page maximum for overall application):
 - Biosketches of key personnel on the project team (maximum of one page per individual).
 - Budget and budget justification:
 - Budget cannot exceed \$25,000 and should include itemized costs and justifications.
 - If there are multiple institutions, submit one budget for the entire project, and break out how the funds will be divided among the lead and partnering institutions.
 - Allowable costs include administrative or technical support to carry out specific project-related work, supplies, communication expenses, salary support for specific work related to the project, and travel support for collaborators and/or dissemination of the resource(s).
 - Unallowable expenses include indirect costs, overhead, travel unrelated to the development and/or dissemination of the resource(s)
 - Letter from the host institution indicating a strong statement of support for the investigator, program, and willingness of the institution to sustain this program.



Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Contains all required information.
- Meets eligibility requirements.
- Aligns with project goals.
- Plan for evaluating the program's impact is systematic and aligns with goals.
- Project team is sufficiently diverse and qualified.
- Timeline is clear and aligns with the grant period.
- Appropriate use of the budget.
- Focus on arts and humanities as defined above.
- Inclusion of learners who are veterans and/or underrepresented minorities (not required).

Timeline and key dates:

- May 2020: Release of Request for Proposals.
- **Sept. 15, 2020, at 11:59 p.m. ET: Deadline to submit completed grant proposals. Send as a single PDF file to FRAHME@aamc.org.**
- October 2020: Anticipated announcement of grant awardees.
- Jan. 1, 2021-June 30, 2022: Funding cycle.
- Approximately 6 and 12 months following the issuance of the Notice of Award: Interim progress report and financial report due to the AAMC.
- Approximately 18 months following the issuance of the Notice of Award: Final progress report (including program evaluation outcomes) and financial report due to the AAMC.
- Present outcomes and lessons learned to a national audience of AAMC members.
- Specific reporting deadlines and requirements will be included in the terms and conditions of the Notice of Award.

Award Information

Funds will be distributed in the form of cost reimbursements in two installments, after review and approval of the reports required at 6 and 12 months following the Notice of Award.

For More Information

Address inquiries to Virginia Bush, project manager, Strategic Initiatives and Partnerships in Medical Education, at vbush@aamc.org.