



Global Health Institute Seed Grant Program Request for Proposals

Request for Proposals

The [Global Health Institute](#) (GHI) is pleased to invite proposals for the 2026 - 2027 GHI seed grant program. This program supports innovative projects that advance the intersection of global health and UW–Madison’s [RISE](#) research priority areas, with an emphasis on clear public and global health relevance. The program is designed to launch innovative global research initiatives, foster long-term partnerships and collaborations, and strengthen competitiveness for sustained external funding. Proposals are particularly encouraged to include work in countries identified in UW–Madison’s *Global, Together Featured Country Initiative*.

The 2026 - 2027 program will award two projects, with each grant providing up to \$20,000 in funding. Seed grant funding is made possible through the generous support of Dr. Henry Anderson and the Global Health Institute.

Eligibility

The lead applicant must be a UW-Madison faculty or academic staff member with a 50% or greater appointment whose work aligns with global health and RISE research priority areas. Proposals that demonstrate collaboration across disciplines, schools, centers, or institutes are strongly encouraged.

Proposal Requirements

Proposals should advance global health with an emphasis on clear public health relevance. Projects may represent a novel extension of existing research but should not significantly overlap with currently funded projects.

Applicants should explain why GHI seed funding is essential to the proposed work and why other funding sources are not currently available, while demonstrating how the project brings together multiple disciplines, sectors, or partners to address complex global health challenges. Proposals should describe opportunities for cross-institutional or international collaboration and are strongly encouraged to incorporate global health perspectives, partnerships, or applications—particularly work in countries identified in UW–Madison’s *Global, Together Featured Country Initiative*. Applicants should also describe the project’s potential to advance public health knowledge, capacity, or impact, particularly in ways that address challenges affecting diverse or underserved populations.

Timeline & How to Apply

Individuals interested in applying for a GHI Seed Grant must submit their application by 11:59 p.m. Central Time on October 30, 2026, via email to globalhealth@ghi.wisc.edu. Please use the subject line “GHI Seed Grant: PI’s First and Last Name” (e.g., *GHI GAP: Jane Smith*). The selection decision will be announced in late November 2026 with funds disbursed to recipients’ home unit in December 2026 or January 2027.

Application

Each application must include the following:

- A. Abstract in plain language about how the proposed activities will address the intersection of global health and RISE research priorities (1 page maximum)
- B. Project Overview (3 page maximum)
 - Background and preliminary data if applicable, but not necessary. If the submission is to develop an existing project, describe the progress made to date and how additional funding would take the work to the next level or in a new direction.
 - Approach/methods
 - Deliverables and intended outcomes
 - Timeline
 - Collaboration plans with multiple disciplines, sectors, and partners – locally and globally.
 - Plans for project growth/future external funding
- C. Budget (1 page):
 - A brief budget not to exceed \$20,000 documenting any additional sources of funding for the activities (no more than one page).
 - Funds cannot be used for tuition payments or remission, salaries (faculty and staff), or long-term housing.
 - Budget must be reviewed for compliance with UW System and divisional travel and financial policies by the appropriate grant administrator and/or financial supervisor in the PI's department or division prior to submitting the final application.
- D. Letters of support from unit head, department chair, or direct supervisor of the UW-Madison project lead.
- E. CV of project lead and Co-PI's.

Evaluation Criteria

The GHI Associate Director of Strategic Partnerships & Development will convene a subcommittee of faculty and academic staff to review GHI seed grant proposals. Proposals will be evaluated based on alignment with GHI and RISE research priorities, clear public health relevance, strength and feasibility of the proposed approach, potential for meaningful collaboration, and capacity to generate future impact and external funding. Reviewers will also consider how effectively the proposed work uses GHI seed funding as a catalyst for innovative research, partnerships, and sustainable growth.

Award Conditions

Funds must be used for proposed activities by December 31, 2027. Awardees must submit a final report by December 31, 2027, summarizing progress, outcomes, and plans for future funding. Reports should include photos, where appropriate, for GHI's use in sharing project impact. GHI may share awardee names, unit affiliations, project descriptions, and other award details in communications and may invite awardees to contribute content for newsletters, websites, and social media.

Awardees are also required to present a poster at the Annual Global Health Symposium on April 13, 2027, and acknowledge GHI funding in all resulting publications and presentations. Suggested language: *"This project was funded/partially funded through a seed grant from the University of Wisconsin–Madison Global Health Institute."*

For Additional Questions

Contact Calyn Ostrowski, Associate Director Strategic Partnerships & Development, Global Health Institute (calyn.ostrowski@wisc.edu) or 608-265-9608.