

Changemakers in Family Planning

Purpose

Institutionalized racism, past and present, is a barrier to the full participation of people of color in science. This systematic maldistribution of resources, power, and opportunity negatively affects scholars of color who enter the academic sphere and the research produced. The science of family planning is no exception; the underrepresentation of people of color limits the generation of research on abortion and contraception.

As a core strategy, the Society of Family Planning Research Fund (SFPRF) is seeking to build and support an inclusive, multidisciplinary, skilled, and well-connected community with a shared focus on family planning. Underlying this strategy is the knowledge that the full participation of scholars of color is essential to pursuing the ambitious vision of just and equitable abortion and contraception, informed by science.

A dedicated effort is needed to actively support scholars of color focused on abortion and contraception. To this end, we are offering the Changemakers in Family Planning Grant, with the goal of responding to institutionalized racism in the science of family planning by providing dedicated support to scholars of color.

The aim of the Changemakers in Family Planning grant award is to provide dedicated support for awardees to develop their research skills and leadership in the field of family planning research. Awardees will have the opportunity to spend 18 months honing research interests. Expected deliverables at the end of the award period are the development of a full proposal for future research and career development activities. Awardees will not be expected to conduct original research as part of this grant; rather, awardees will be granted support related to research interests, skills development, mentorship, and networking. Specific support includes:

Research

Up to 20% salary support (\$40,000)*. Indirect costs are permitted up to 20% of the amount requested for salary support.

Experience developing a proposal for a pilot or small research project ready for submission to SFPRF or other funding agencies.

Skills

Up to \$10,000 to pay expenses directly related to participation in a research skills development opportunity (e.g. program fees, travel expenses), released upon approval of the scholar-identified opportunity.

Mentorship

\$6,000 to support mentorship contracts (scope of work defined by the mentee) with two mentors (\$3,000 each), one scholar-identified (background in family planning not required) and one matched to the scholar by SFPRF and proposal reviewers, as well as support from SFPRF staff to define these scopes of work and administer the mentorship contract.

Networking

Complimentary membership to the Society of Family Planning (SFP) for two years during the award period (July 2019-2021).

Complimentary registration, hotel, and travel to attend the 2019 and 2020 SFP Annual Meeting.

Connections with the cohort of scholars who receive the grant this year, and, if available, in future years.

Attendance at private networking events designed to familiarize scholars with potential funding sources for future research.

Leadership

Opportunity to serve in a leadership role in one of the committees, subcommittees, or working groups of SFP.

** Scholars who already have protected time for career development are not eligible to receive an additional 20% of their time protected, but are eligible for all other aspects of the award.*

The award period is eighteen months: **September 1, 2019 through March 31, 2021**

Eligibility

Grants are made to organizations on behalf of a named Principal Investigator. A Principal Investigator need not be a current SFP member in order to apply. Organizations receiving grants are limited, without exception, to nonprofit entities with tax-exempt status, such as academic institutions, research organizations, and community-based organizations.

These grants are open to scholars who:

- self-identify as a person of color;
- have received less than \$250,000 to conduct family planning research as a Principal Investigator or have never served as a Principal Investigator for family planning research;
- reside in the US and plan to pursue a research career focused on US research (including territories of the US).

Review of applications

Applications will be reviewed by a committee comprised of members and partners of the SFP who bring content and mentorship expertise, have a vested interest in family planning research, and who self-identify as people of color.

Review criteria

Each application is assessed on these review considerations:

- Commitment to and passion for family planning research, as demonstrated by the personal statement.
- Readiness to participate in career development activities, as demonstrated by the applicant's reflectiveness and thoughtfulness in developing draft career development goals and sharing mentoring needs that will ready the scholar to lead an independent body of family planning research.
- Potential to enrich the field of family planning, gauged holistically considering all elements of the application.
- Ability to bring a unique perspective to the cohort of Changemakers in Family Planning. Preference will be given to those who: have completed a terminal degree program within ten years of submitting an application, have received less than \$350,000 to conduct family planning research as a Principal Investigator, are housed at institutions with limited track records of supporting family planning research, work in geographic areas underrepresented in the SFP's current membership, and represent diverse disciplinary backgrounds.

Proposal Instructions

- 1. Online application form:** Includes contact and demographic information for the applicant, institution, and parties responsible for accounts payable and grants management if the project is funded.
- 2. Summary (250 words):** Provide a brief summary of your educational and professional background, along with a short description of your research interests and your vision for your future leadership. This information may be used in our newsletter, website, and other educational and promotional purposes should the application be funded.
- 3. Personal statement (2 pages):** Tell the story of your commitment to and passion for family planning research. Outline your past academic training and future professional goals. Explain why becoming an SFPRF Changemaker in Family Planning is important to developing an independent research portfolio in family planning. Share the vision for how your future leadership will enrich the science on family planning.
- 4. Draft career development plan (1 page):** Share initial ideas. This plan will be further developed post-award. Chart a path to your future success by addressing the following questions, sequentially narrowing down from big picture to specifics:
 - a. What are your career goals?
 - b. What skills do you need to achieve your career goals?
 - c. What activities will you engage in to attain those skills?
 - d. Why is this additional skills development necessary?
How will it help you progress to the next stage of your career?
- 5. Mentoring needs (1 page):** First, describe your primary mentor (if you have one) and name the specific ways that individual supports your career development and the strengths of this relationship. Please note that if it proves a challenge to identify an existing mentor, SFP is able to match you with a primary mentor. Second, identify what type of mentoring support would be most beneficial to you in a secondary mentor specializing in family planning research. Consider skills, discipline, and content expertise when visioning a mentor. Information provided here will be used to match you with a mentor best suited to support you.
- 6. Budget and justification (1 page):** A budget and related justification that details the cost of up to 20% salary and costs associated with the career development opportunity.

7. Curriculum vitae (CV) of applicant

8. Guaranteed protection of time form (1 page, instructions on how to submit will be provided via the online submission portal): This form must be submitted by your employer or academic department to assure that up to 20% of your time will be protected for the entire period of the proposed award, if accepted.

9. Letter of recommendation (1 page, instructions on how to submit will be provided via the online submission portal): The letter should describe the qualities and attributes of the applicant, including applicant's perseverance in pursuing goals, need for additional training and support, and potential to become an independent researcher and leader in the field. Additional information that may help the reviewers evaluate the merit of the applicant may also be provided.

Required formatting: Font size must be at least 11 points, and 1.5 line spacing must be used. Please upload 1-7 as a single PDF file.

All grant applications must be submitted electronically through the online [Changemaker application portal](#).

SFPRF welcomes the opportunity to provide clarification around or assistance with any components of the application. Please contact Info@SocietyFP.org.

Note this funding mechanism is complementary to existing SFPRF funding mechanisms. Specifically, eligible awardees from the 2018 Emerging Scholars Grants are strongly encouraged to apply to this RFP. Additionally, awardees of the 2019 Changemakers in Family Planning Grants are encouraged to apply for funding as part of future SFPRF funding mechanisms. A Principal Investigator need not be a current SFP member in order to apply.

Application submission opens on
April 19, 2019 and closes **June 11, 2019**