

# Later abortion service delivery, post-*Dobbs*

## 2023 Request for proposals

### Purpose

Access to abortion later in pregnancy has always been limited – especially for people of color, people who have difficulty making ends meet, and other people experiencing structural oppression – with pathways to obtaining care becoming even more burdensome and complex in the post-*Dobbs* environment. In order to understand how the *Dobbs* decision has impacted the service delivery landscape of abortion later in pregnancy, the Society of Family Planning is offering the *Later abortion service delivery, post-Dobbs* request for proposals. The purpose of this funding opportunity is to generate evidence that can be used to support people’s access to abortion throughout pregnancy, directing service delivery efforts and limited resources where they are most needed.

The deadline for proposals is August 8 at 8:59 pm PT/11:59 pm ET. Awards will be announced in October 2023 and funds will be available for immediate use.



## Research focus

We invite research proposals focused on documenting how the service delivery landscape of abortion later in pregnancy – defined for purposes of this funding opportunity as abortion beyond 13 weeks that requires a two-day procedure – has been impacted by the *Dobbs* decision. Proposals are welcome to explore topics related but not limited to:

- Shifts in the demand for and volume of abortion later in pregnancy
- Shifts in the characteristics of people seeking or receiving abortion later in pregnancy
- Shifts in the abortion ecosystem and service delivery (eg, finances, care processes and infrastructure, capacity, organizational structure) in response to demand or volume
- Shifts in people’s pathways to care and navigation experiences

Proposed research can focus on any site of interaction that people encounter when seeking abortion later in pregnancy, such as abortion funds, practical support organizations, or clinics and hospitals. Please note that proposals focused on research questions related to clinical science or medical education are outside the scope of this funding opportunity.

Proposed research must be positioned to produce empirical evidence with a clear, concrete, and strategic path to changes in the service delivery of abortion later in pregnancy. Teams must be attentive to the Society’s [Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Vision Statement](#) and how they can be part of bringing that vision to life in their work.

## Funds and duration

We invite proposals for research studies with budgets up to \$50,000 that can be completed within 18 months of award. Funding is also available to cover processing fees associated with open-access publication, provided the work is published within two years of grant completion. We anticipate supporting up to nine research projects via this funding opportunity.



Application submission opens on

**May 17, 2023** and closes **August 8, 2023.**

Awards will be announced in October and funds will be available for immediate use.

## Eligibility

Grants will be made to organizations on behalf of a named principal investigator (PI). Grants are limited, without exception, to tax-exempt organizations. Applicants do not need to be members of the Society. Funding is limited to projects studying US populations.

## Review process

All proposals will undergo peer review using specific criteria. The goal of peer review is to make recommendations for enhancing the research proposal and to identify the projects with the greatest potential impact. The funder of these awards may also be involved in the selection of grants; this helps ensure that the research funded through the Society is one of many strategic components working together to strengthen the family planning sector.

All proposals will be reviewed according to the following criteria. For more information about the review process, please see the proposal review guide:

<https://bit.ly/41G64Bu>

### Impact (35%)

The Society seeks to fund projects that are positioned to generate empirical evidence with a clear, concrete, and strategic path to changes in health service delivery.

### Methods (35%)

The Society seeks to fund methodologically sound and rigorous projects.

### Study population (15%)

The Society seeks to fund projects that focus on study populations that are aligned with the proposed research questions.

### Team (15%)

The Society seeks to fund projects where the team composition is an asset to the project, including teams that bring together individuals with diverse skill sets, backgrounds, and perspectives. The Society also prioritizes study teams that elevate the expertise and skills of Black and Indigenous researchers and researchers of color.

### *Additional review considerations (not scored)*

Reviewers are also asked to provide feedback on the reasonableness of the proposed budget and period of support; however, these factors are not scored.

## Proposal instructions

### 1. Online application form:

Includes contact and demographic information for the PI, institution, and parties responsible for accounts payable and grants management if the project is funded.

### 2. Summary (250 words):

Provide a brief summary of the proposed project. This information may be used in our newsletter, website, and other educational and promotional purposes should the application be funded.

### 3. Proposal narrative (7 to 9 pages):

All proposals should include:

a. **Background:** Describe the issue and justify how the proposed research project will generate data that will produce empirical evidence with a clear, concrete, and strategic path to changes in health service delivery.

b. **Research question(s):** Include the question(s) that will be answered through the proposed project.

c. **Methods:** Describe the research methods that will be used to answer the research question(s) at hand.

d. **Study population:** Describe the specific study population. The study population must align with the research question(s) and be specifically defined and justified. Sample size should be based on power calculations or other appropriate methods as determined by the study approach; sample size should account for subgroup analyses as appropriate.

e. **Timeline:** Describe the timeline for conducting research activities. Data collection and analysis must be feasible to complete within 18 months of receiving the award.

f. **Use of research results:** Narrate the target audience(s) with whom you plan to share your research findings, the actions you would like them to take in response to your findings, and the desired outcomes.

g. **Team composition:** Team composition must be an asset to the project, including teams that bring together individuals with diverse skill sets, backgrounds, and perspectives relevant to the proposed project. Elaborate on the expertise and skills of the individuals composing your study team. Describe the positionality (eg, the social and political context that creates your identity in terms of race, class, gender, sexuality, and ability status) of the team and its effect on the proposed project's design, feasibility, and impact. Note that the Society prioritizes study teams that elevate the expertise and skills of Black and Indigenous researchers and researchers of color.

h. **References:** Works cited should be listed as an appendix to the proposal; reference page is not included in the 7 to 9 pages of the proposal narrative.

#### 4. Study team:

List key team members, including contact and demographic information.

#### 5. Budget and budget narrative:

Studies should be \$50,000 or less. The budget narrative must provide sufficient detail to assess feasibility and suitability in the peer review process and must justify the relevance of requested resources to the project's success. Additional secured or requested funds for the proposed project must be named, if applicable. Direct project costs include personnel, research expenses (eg, equipment, supplies, travel, materials), activities related to use of research results, and other related costs. Indirect costs are permitted at no more than 20% of total direct costs. For subcontracts and sub-awards, the budget itself may include the 20% indirect cost charges, but the subcontract total may not be included in the main budget when calculating the overall indirect cost charges. Budget documents should be included as an appendix and are not included in the 7 to 9 pages of the proposal narrative.

#### 6. Team information:

NIH-style biosketches are encouraged for all established scientists. Professional resumes are encouraged for those whose careers have not focused on research. Team members can submit the format that works best for the individuals on the team; however, each submitted biosketch or resume should not exceed 10 pages in length. These documents must be included as an appendix and are not included in the 7 to 9 pages of the proposal narrative.

#### 7. Agency/institution's federal 501(c)(3) status determination letter or proof of tax-exempt status:

Proof of the agency/institution's tax-exempt status determination letter must be included as an appendix and is not included in the 7 to 9 pages of the proposal narrative. Documentation should also be included for subcontracts with tax-exempt organizations that exceed 20% of the budget. These documents must be included as an appendix and are not included in the 7 to 9 pages of the proposal narrative.

**Required formatting:** Font size must be at least 11 points and 1.5 line spacing must be used. Please upload as a single PDF file. All grant applications must be submitted electronically through the [online application portal](#).

The Society welcomes the opportunity to provide clarification around or assistance with any components of the application. Please contact [Grants@SocietyFP.org](mailto:Grants@SocietyFP.org).

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