

Leveraging existing resources to document the impact of *Dobbs*

2023 Request for proposals

Context

In anticipation of the Supreme Court's landmark ruling in the *Dobbs v Jackson Women's Health Organization* case, the Society of Family Planning launched #WeCount, a time-limited, national abortion reporting effort. [#WeCount](#) collects monthly abortion volumes, by state, to [document](#) the changing abortion landscape as a result of the *Dobbs* ruling. In addition and as a companion to #WeCount data, the Society has supported the development of two other essential datasets:

- [Post-Dobbs State Abortion Restrictions and Protections Database](#) created and maintained by the Center for Public Health Law Research at Temple University. This longitudinal database captures all policy changes relevant to service delivery in a shifting post-Roe legal landscape.
- [Abortion Access Dashboard](#) created and maintained by Caitlin Myers, PhD, an economist at Middlebury College, to describe the impact that abortion policy has on access by describing appointment availability and travel distance to the nearest clinic.

These datasets have been and continue to be valuable resources for understanding the impact of *Dobbs* on abortion access, and there are many other potential uses of these data. To that end, the Society is offering the Leveraging existing resources to document the impact of *Dobbs* funding opportunity. The purpose of this funding opportunity is to encourage the use of these datasets to expand our understanding of the impact of the *Dobbs* ruling.

The deadline for proposals is June 14, 2023 at 8:59 pm PT/ 11:59 pm ET. Awards will be announced in August 2023 and funds will be available for immediate use.



Research focus

The Society invites brief proposals that leverage one or more of these resources ([#WeCount](#), the [Abortion Access Dashboard](#), and/or the [Post-Dobbs State Abortion Restrictions and Protections database](#)) in support of new research. Proposed projects may explore a range of research questions and use the datasets in a variety of ways. Innovative methodological approaches are encouraged, as are projects seeking to bring one or more of these resources in conversation with other existing monitoring efforts or data.

Central to this funding opportunity is the understanding that shifting abortion volume, clinical capacity, and/or legal status alone do not fully describe the implications of the *Dobbs* ruling and its cascading impact on the health and economic well-being of people with the capacity of pregnancy and their families. As such, proposed research must generate knowledge that contributes to a broader understanding of the impact of *Dobbs* and is positioned to produce empirical evidence with a clear, concrete, and strategic path to changes in clinical practice, public policy, and/or health service delivery.

Applicants 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.

Please note that grantees will not be expected to work with the Principal Investigators (PIs) of these datasets to carry out their research nor will they be required to obtain approval from PIs for any outputs generated from their research. However, PIs of these datasets will be available, upon request, should applicants or grantees have questions about the datasets and their use, either in the proposal development phase or during implementation.

Funds and duration

The Society invites proposals of up to \$10,000 that can be completed within 18 months of award. Funds can be used to support projects with already secured or requested funds. Grantees will also have access to funds to support the communication of research findings to target audiences, available upon request during the grant period. We anticipate supporting up to ten research projects via this funding opportunity.

Application submission opens **May 8, 2023** and closes **June 14, 2023**.

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

Eligibility

Grants will be made to organizations on behalf of a named 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 focused on the US.

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/42b7d4o>.

Methods (50%)

The Society seeks to fund methodologically sound and rigorous projects that leverage existing datasets.

Impact (30%)

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

Project leadership (20%)

The Society seeks to fund projects where the PI and/or team's expertise, skills, and positionality are an asset to the project. The Society prioritizes PIs and/or teams that elevate the expertise and skills of Black and Indigenous researchers and researchers of color.

Proposal instructions

Application components

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. Study team:

List key team members, if relevant, including contact and demographic information.

4. Proposal narrative (3-5 pages)

All proposals should include:

a. Background: Describe the issue and justify how the proposed research project will generate evidence that contributes to a more robust understanding of the impact of the *Dobbs* ruling.

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

c. Relevant resource: Describe how one or more of these resources ([#WeCount](#), the [Abortion Access Dashboard](#), and/or the [Post-Dobbs State Abortion Restrictions and Protections database](#)) will be used in the context of the proposed research project. Name what, if any, additional technical support related to the named resources above is needed to leverage these data.

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

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. Project leadership: PIs and/or teams must be an asset to the project and include those with skill sets, backgrounds, and perspectives relevant to the proposed project. Elaborate on the expertise, skills, and positionality (eg, the social and political context that creates your identity in terms of race, class, gender, sexuality, and ability status) of the PI and/or team and its effect on the proposed project's design, feasibility, and impact. Noting the size of awards, the Society welcomes both independent researchers and small teams. Note that the Society prioritizes PIs or 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 3-5 pages of the proposal narrative.

4. Budget narrative:

Budgets should be \$10,000 or less. Funds can be used in combination with already secured or requested funds, but these sources must be named. The budget narrative must provide sufficient detail to justify the relevance of requested resources to the project's success. 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. Budget documents should be included as an appendix and are not included in the 3-5 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. 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 3-5 pages of the proposal narrative.

7. 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 3-5 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 3-5 pages of the proposal narrative.

Required formatting and submission instructions

Please use a font size that is at least 11 points and 1.5 line spacing. Upload all materials as a single PDF file. All proposals must be submitted electronically through the online application portal: bit.ly/3Vvt4ko.

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

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