

SFP NIH Navigation Cohort

Overview

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) is the nation's medical research agency and a critical source of funding for health-related science, including family planning. However, according to NIH RePORTER, of the over \$331 billion in NIH funding awarded between 2009 and 2018, only 0.3% was related to family planning.

Feedback from Society of Family Planning (SFP) members has highlighted our community's need for guidance navigating the NIH application process and mentorship from family planning researchers with success writing NIH proposals. To this end, we are offering the **2020 SFP NIH Navigation Cohort**, a proposal development program for SFP members actively developing an R01 proposal focused on a family planning topic in the US. The goal of the program is to support SFP members to develop NIH family planning proposals and to strengthen the important scientific exchange between family planning researchers and the NIH.

Program

This writing-intensive program, facilitated by two family planning researchers with substantial NIH experience, is designed to help participants refine and enhance their proposals in a peer-review setting. The program is intended to complement participants' other sources of NIH support, such as institutional grant writing workshops, by providing participants with a unique opportunity to receive feedback on their proposals from subject matter experts.

Participants will take part in ten sessions over a five-month period focused on key components of the R01 application. Participants will share drafts of sections of the application in advance of each session and then come together to receive critical feedback from peers and program leaders, with the expectation of submitting their final proposal for NIH funding consideration. The cohort will be capped at six participants in order to maximize opportunities for feedback and dialogue; however, depending on the success of this pilot program, there may be an opportunity to support additional cohorts in the future.

We invite members to **express interest** in joining the SFP NIH Navigation Cohort by July 1, 2020. In addition to participation in the program, selected participants will receive complimentary registration, hotel, and travel to attend the 2020 SFP Annual Meeting and up to \$3,300 for concrete proposal support needs. In addition, participants that do not have institutional or grant support for their time may be eligible to receive a small stipend.

Express interest in joining
by **July 1, 2020**

Eligibility and selection process

The program is open to individuals that:

- Are current SFP members;
- Are developing an R01 application focused on a family planning topic in the US (including US territories);
- Have not previously served a Principal Investigator on a funded R01 grant; and
- Can commit to full participation in the program as detailed below:
 - Session 1 - August 19th
 - Session 2 - August 26th
 - Session 3 - September 16th
 - Session 4 - September 30th
 - Session 5 - October 14th
 - Session 6 - October 21st
 - Session 7 - October 28th
 - Session 8 - November 4th
 - Session 9 - December 9th
 - Session 10 - December 16th

All sessions will be held via Zoom from 3:00-5:00 pm ET.



Applicants will be selected by SFP staff, in consultation with program leaders, based on the following:

- Applicant's enthusiasm about participating in program;
- Applicant's potential to benefit from program;
- Potential of program to provide support that is distinct from other proposal development support available to applicant;
- Applicant's readiness to participate in program, including prior grant writing experience and having research ideas and preliminary data that are developed enough to allow for proposal writing during the program; and
- Applicant's readiness to lead the proposed research (see NIH [criteria](#) for applying for an independent research grant).

In addition, as part of SFP's commitment to building and supporting an inclusive, multidisciplinary, and diverse community of family planning scholars, SFP is particularly interested in building a cohort that includes people of color, people from across the US, and people with diverse disciplinary backgrounds.

Questions? Contact Grants@SocietyFP.org