

Bridging investments in abortion and contraception research

2025 Request for proposals

Purpose

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) is the world's largest biomedical research funder. Its investment in research is critical to understanding the causes and distribution of health burdens and developing strategies to improve the health and well-being of individuals and communities. Under the current administration, there is a risk that impactful research projects may be disrupted due to the unprecedented termination of funding based on topical foci. [Efforts to understand the scope of terminations](#) are underway and litigation to address the legality of such terminations is ongoing.

The Society of Family Planning deeply understands the potential loss of knowledge if NIH grants are ended abruptly without resources. As such, the Society is offering the *Bridging investments in abortion and contraception research* funding opportunity. The purpose of this funding opportunity is to support the completion or partial completion of terminated NIH grants focused on abortion and/or contraception in the US, ensuring that research efforts still have their intended impact on just and equitable abortion and contraception informed by science.

Proposals may be submitted on a rolling basis. Awards will be announced to applicants within a month of submission and funds will be available for immediate use.



Research focus

This funding opportunity will support proposals focused on completing or partially completing a terminated NIH grant related to abortion and/or contraception in the US. Proposals must:

- Clearly articulate how the proposed work aligns with the Society's mission.
- Provide a detailed plan that outlines the activities that will be completed with the requested funds.
- Include an appropriate and justified budget and timeline for the proposed work.

Please note that this funding opportunity does not support the development and/or implementation of new research that has not yet secured NIH funding or research that continues to be funded by the NIH. Funding from the Society may be combined with other sources of support, with transparent disclosure at the time of application.

Funds and duration

We invite proposals with budgets up to \$100,000 that can be completed within 24 months. We anticipate supporting five grants in 2025 and five grants in 2026. The funding opportunity will close when the funds for the given year are exhausted.

Eligibility

Grants will be made to organizations on behalf of a named principal investigator (PI). Grants are limited, without exception, to tax-exempt organizations and to the named PI of the NIH grant. Applicants do not need to be members of the Society.

Funding is limited to grants focused on abortion and/or contraception in the US that were terminated by the NIH after January 20, 2025. NIH research grants (eg, R series) and research training and career development grants (eg, K series) are eligible for funding. Terminated grants from other federally-funded agencies will be considered on a case-by-case basis; those that have not been peer-reviewed will not be considered.

If you are engaged with litigation around a grant positioned for submission to the funding opportunity, please consult your legal counsel about the relationship between potentially receiving these funds and litigation efforts.

Review process

All eligible proposals will undergo peer review using specific criteria after undergoing eligibility screening to ensure they are focused on abortion and/or contraception in the US. A standing pool of reviewers will assess proposals on a rolling basis, evaluating submissions in hand monthly. For more information about the review process, please see the proposal [review guide: https://bit.ly/3YBNbzU](https://bit.ly/3YBNbzU)

Proposed work (60%)

The Society seeks to fund projects with clearly described activities and a plan that explicitly outlines how it addresses the original NIH grant goals.

Budget (20%)

The Society seeks to fund projects that adequately justify the requested resources within the \$100,000 limit.

Timeline (20%)

The Society seeks to fund projects with a realistic timeline that can be completed within the 24-month award period.

Proposal instructions

1. Online application form:

Includes contact and demographic information for the PI, and contact information for the institution, study team, and parties responsible for accounts payable and grants management if the proposal is funded. The [application form is linked here](#), and on page 5.

2. Summary (250 words):

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

3. Proposal narrative (2-3 pages, plus citations if relevant):

All proposals should include:

Background: Describe the original NIH-funded project and the impact of its potential termination.

Alignment with Society's mission: Describe how your project will advance knowledge related to abortion and/or contraception in the US.

Proposed work: Detail the specific activities that will be completed with the requested funds, including data collection, analysis, and/or dissemination plans, as relevant. Describe how the proposed plan addresses the original goals of the NIH grant, clearly narrating which aims can be achieved with this funding and which cannot.

Timeline: Describe the timeline for conducting research activities. It must be feasible to complete activities within 24 months of receiving the award.



Proposal instructions (continued)

4. Budget and budget narrative:

The budget maximum for this award is \$100,000. The budget narrative must provide sufficient detail to assess feasibility and suitability in the peer review process and justify the requested resources' relevance 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 the use of research results, and other related costs. Indirect costs are permitted at no more than 20% of the 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 2-3 pages of the proposal narrative.

5. NIH proposal:

The final proposal, as submitted to the relevant Institute, must be included in the submission as an appendix and is not included in the 2-3 pages of the proposal narrative.

6. 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 2-3 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 2-3 pages of the proposal narrative.



Required formatting

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](#).

Submission deadline

Proposals may be submitted on a rolling basis. Awards will be announced to applicants within a month of submission and funds will be available for immediate use.

Questions

The Society welcomes the opportunity to clarify or assist with any application components. Please contact Grants@SocietyFP.org.



This funding opportunity is made possible by an investment of the Society of Family Planning's reserve funds.