

Documenting the impact of US policy and legal stressors on contraceptive care

2025 Request for proposals

Purpose

Contraceptive care in the US has never been equitable and the threat of even greater inequity looms. Among other stressors, the US administration's actions in April 2025 to deny funding to Title X providers threaten to destabilize the only federal grant program dedicated to providing contraception and other preventive health services to low-income people. Additionally, in June 2025, the Supreme Court is expected to decide on [*Medina v Planned Parenthood South Atlantic*](#), a case that could allow states to block Medicaid beneficiaries from choosing their family planning providers, further destabilizing an already strained public health system.

While the outcomes of this case and other actions are unknown, the likelihood of profound changes, especially within the contraceptive care safety net, is evident. These legal and policy stressors are layered upon systemic barriers to contraception that disproportionately affect people of color, low-income individuals, and others experiencing structural oppression. To understand these impacts, the Society of Family Planning is offering the *Documenting the impact of policy and legal stressors on contraceptive care* funding opportunity.

The deadline for proposals is July 7 at 8:59 pm PT/11:59 pm ET. Awards will be announced in late August and funds will be available for immediate use.



Research focus

We invite research proposals focused on documenting the impact of policy and legal stressors on contraceptive care in the US, with a focus on people who depend on the contraceptive care safety net. Teams are welcome to explore this topic at the healthcare system, institution, clinician, and/or patient level. Due to the rapidly evolving contraceptive care landscape, teams must prioritize research questions with enduring relevance and demonstrate thoughtfulness about how they can adapt their research methods in response to policy, legal, and service delivery changes.

Proposals must be positioned to produce empirical evidence with a clear, concrete, and strategic path to changes in clinical practice, public policy, or health service delivery. Teams must be attentive to the Society's [Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Vision](#) and the Coalition to Expand Contraceptive Access's [equity-informed principles for contraceptive access research](#). In addition, teams working with data related to race and racism or sex and gender should be attentive to [recommendations](#) for working with these data.

Funds and duration

We invite proposals for research studies with budgets up to \$150,000 that can be completed within 24 months. The Society anticipates supporting up to five projects. Funding is also available to cover processing fees associated with two open-access publications, provided the work is published within two years of grant completion.

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 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 selecting 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.



Review criteria

All eligible 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/3R5ryUO): <https://bit.ly/3R5ryUO>

Relevance (10%)

The Society seeks to fund projects that document the impact of policy and legal stressors on contraceptive care in the US, with a focus on people who depend on the contraceptive care safety net.

Impact (20%)

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

Methods (40%)

The Society seeks to fund methodologically sound and rigorous projects that demonstrate the ability to effectively adapt to ongoing policy, legal, and service delivery changes.

Equity (5%)

The Society seeks to fund projects informed by the [equity principles](#) developed by the [Coalition to Expand Contraceptive Access](#).

Team positionality (10%)

The Society seeks to fund projects demonstrating thoughtful reflection on how team members' race and ethnicity, and other relevant identities and lived experiences, influence the project. The Society prioritizes study teams that elevate the expertise and skills of Black and Indigenous researchers and researchers of color.

Team expertise (10%)

The Society seeks to fund projects led by teams with the necessary skills, backgrounds, perspectives, and/or lived experiences to successfully carry out the project.

Budget (5%)

The Society seeks to fund projects up to \$150,000 that can be completed within 24 months of receiving the award.

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 project is funded. The [application form is linked here](#), and on page 6.

2. Summary (250 words):

Provide a brief summary of the proposed project. 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 (8-10 pages):

All proposals should include:

Background: Describe the issue and explain how the proposed research project will produce empirical evidence with a clear, concrete, and strategic path to changes in clinical practice, public policy, or health services delivery.

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

Methods: Describe the research methods that will be used to answer the research question(s). Articulate how your methods will be adapted to be responsive to evolving policy, legal, and service delivery changes.

Study population: Describe the specific study population. The study population must align with the research question(s) and be specifically defined and justified with attention to how social location shapes that population's experience with contraception. 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.

Equity principles: Describe your plans for upholding [equity-informed principles](#) throughout the research project.

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.

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

Team positionality: Describe how team members' racial and ethnic identities, alongside other relevant identities and lived experiences, influence the proposed project. Explain how these identities and experiences shape the proposed project's design, feasibility, and impact. Please refer to [these recommendations](#) for information about positionality. Note that the Society prioritizes study teams that elevate the expertise and skills of Black and Indigenous researchers and researchers of color.

Team expertise: Describe team members' expertise, specifying their skills, backgrounds, perspectives, and/or lived experiences as they relate to the project. Explicitly address the team's capacity to adapt research methods to address policy, legal, and service delivery changes.

References: Works cited should be listed as an appendix to the proposal; the reference page is not included in the 8-10 pages of the proposal narrative.

Proposal instructions (continued)

4. Budget and budget narrative:

The budget maximum for this award is \$150,000. 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 8-10 pages of the proposal narrative.

5. 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. These documents must be included as an appendix and are not included in the 8-10 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. Documentation should also be included for subcontracts with tax exempt organizations that exceed 20% of the budget. These documents are not included in the 8-10 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

The deadline for proposals is **July 7 at 8:59 pm PT/11:59 pm ET**. Awards will be announced in late August 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.



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