

Q: May I submit more than one LOI?

A: Yes; however, if more than one LOI is approved, each PI will only be able to submit one application. We do not have a limit on the number of applications that we may request from an institution.

Q: May I speak with someone at the foundation about my idea before the LOI deadline?

A: Due to our blinded LOI review process, the Foundation cannot receive questions via phone calls, so please be sure to email Shamira Chappell at chappell@donaghue.org with any inquiries. If a call is needed, we will schedule one with you. Correspondence regarding research proposal ideas is only utilized to help interested applicants ascertain if their project topics fit within the scope of the grant program. Communication at this stage does not provide applicants with feedback regarding other factors of their potential proposal.

Q: One of the standards for selection is the “project’s potential for practical benefit in bringing greater value to health and healthcare.” How is this assessed?

A: There is no defined rubric to judge this, but reviewers do have specific criteria to consider when assessing LOI’s and invited full applications. The standard criteria are as follows:

- Does the study design include multiple sites or systems to increase the external generalizability?
- What is the likelihood that this intervention could be adopted given the structures of most healthcare systems in the U.S.?
- Are the applicant and their institution well-positioned to gain the attention of healthcare leaders and policymakers?
- Is the lack of research a barrier to the adoption of this intervention, or will additional research be inadequate to overcome barriers to adoption?
- Is it likely that this intervention will be adopted? Is it currently being adopted without the need for additional research?
- If the intervention is still in the early stages of development, would smaller, more exploratory studies be more beneficial?

Q: Does the application allow for dual PIs or just one PI per application?

A: Yes.

Q: Why can only research institutions be the applicant organization?

A: After applications have been reviewed and our trustees make final decisions about which projects will be funded, Donaghue works with the PI’s host institution to develop a funding agreement. We expect the agreement to be mutually supportive to the PI in being able to conduct their proposed research (i.e., protecting the staff time that is written into the project, honoring any subcontracts that are developed between institutions, providing basic infrastructure), and protective of Donaghue’s investment by having the expertise and specialized resources dedicated to maintaining high standards of research subject protection,

research integrity, and management of grant funds. The foundation is confident that organizations that have research as a core mission will be able to provide this support.

Q: Can current Donaghue grantees apply for GVP?

A: Current Donaghue grantees cannot apply for a GVP award if their current grant term would overlap with the time the GVP grant would begin.

Q: Does the grant award include an indirect?

A: Yes. The Foundation will allow up to a maximum of 10% indirect on top of the grant award. For the GVP program, this would be a total maximum award of \$440,000.

Q: How do you define healthcare services? Does this mean only organizations that deliver clinical services qualify as applicants or partnering organizations?

A: The Foundation defines healthcare service as encompassing activities that may be broader than clinical medical care. For example, payers such as an employer or state sponsors of benefits plans or other organizations that design, direct, or evaluate health services delivery may be suitable as a partnering organization. To see the types of organizations represented in current GVP grants, please review the list of [past awardees](#).

Q: Can I serve as both the PI and the Project Lead of the partnering organization?

A: We would not accept an application where the applicant serves as both the PI and the Project Lead of the partnering organization. Even within a health system that has research capacity, we anticipate a successful proposal including the researcher (PI) and someone with direct clinical or operational positions who would be using or implementing the intervention.

Q: Will research projects that focus on COVID be looked upon favorably?

A: We have not changed our focus on value but believe there are many research questions related to our nation's response to the COVID-19 pandemic that could fit within this topic. At this point, there are no plans to change our guidance to reviewers about whether research topics related to COVID-19 would be weighted more favorably.

We will be adding to this FAQ list as we receive additional questions. If you have any questions, please email your inquiries to chappell@donaghue.org