



**Focus on Underrepresented Racial and Ethnic Groups in Research: Pilot Program**  
***Request for Applications for Projects AY 2021-2022***  
***December 18, 2020***

**Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity**

The Kirwan Institute provides innovative, compelling, and strategic research to both academic audiences and the broader community. The Institute takes an intersectional approach to applied, clinical, and policy research focused on racial inequality to provide informed direction and assistance to social justice advocates, communities, funders, and policy makers. Currently, the Institute is working to consolidate its research focus, with four main initiatives centered on racial inequality in the comprehensive areas of:

- Neighborhood and Wealth Inequality
- Health Equity and Disparities
- Educational Equity and Disparities
- Public Policy

**Purpose of Call for Proposals**

The Kirwan Institute is seeking applications for a new research funding opportunity that focuses (1) on underrepresented racial and ethnic groups and (2) who are underserved, disadvantaged, and/or have limited access to essential health, educational, and/or community resources.

Applicants may focus on applied, clinical, and/or policy research. These racial and ethnic groups are often underrepresented in research, and historical misconduct has permeated a mistrust of engagement in research. Investigators often face challenges in engaging racial/ethnic minority communities, connecting racial/ethnic minority individuals with essential services, and recruiting and retraining racial/ethnic minority participants in research. The Kirwan Institute is committed to partnering with OSU investigators who seek to conduct ethical, acceptable, and inclusive research with racial/ethnic minority groups aligning with one of the Institute's four main initiatives and meeting the purpose described above.

**Eligibility**

Potential applicants are required to connect with at least one of the Institute's research specialists as a point of contact about the given strategic initiative(s) that their work aligns. The Interim Executive Director, Dr. Beverly Vandiver, and Executive Committee Research Team Members will oversee the implementation of the funded pilot projects. Projects may include prospective active recruitment of participants or utilization of existing secondary/administrative data.

To be eligible for funding, proposal need to address the following based on race/ethnicity:

1. Align with at least one of the four Institute's research initiatives

2. Focus on at least one underrepresented population
3. Seek to advance methodology, generate data, or address the needs of underserved, disadvantaged, and/or low access populations to essential health, educational, and or/community services
4. Partner with at least one of the Institute's staff.

Partnership with Kirwan. It is required that submitting PI consult and partner with at least one of the research specialists at the Institute on the strategic initiative. This partnership will involve an ongoing collaboration on the proposal from conception to implementation. Below is a description of the research initiatives and some examples of research Kirwan staff are conducting. Each submission should list a partner who is a staff member of the Kirwan Institute, and detail the consultation prior to submission. This partnership will allow additional OSU investigators to become familiar with and take advantage of the existing resources of the Institute.

#### Applicant Eligibility

Project Principal Investigators (PIs) must hold PI status and must be a tenure-track, clinical, or research faculty member at OSU. For PI eligibility at OSU see: <http://research.osu.edu/award-lifecycle/how-to-be-a-p-i/>. Prior to submitting a proposal, all OSU team members must have completed CITI training, Human Subjects Protections, and an eCOI. Interdisciplinary teams of OSU investigators are encouraged to apply from across OSU. Multi-PI status is permitted, but one Unit should be listed as the “primary” submitting entity.

#### **Timeline and Funding Information**

The Institute will fund an anticipated five proposals. Investigators may submit for a 12-month or 24-month award period, with the start date following the notice of award and IRB approval. Examples of proposals with a 12-month timeline include those utilizing existing datasets, electronic medical records, or publically available data. Proposals requesting a 24-month timeline are likely those conducting prospective data collection with human subjects. No-cost extensions will be permitted, and the investigator will forfeit funds not utilized within the funding period.

#### **Budget**

Budget requests must be justified in a budget narrative and listed in the budget form (Table 1 below). Funds may not exceed \$25,000. Student tuition and travel to present research are not allowable costs. Cost-sharing is encouraged but not a requirement for funding.

#### **Application**

Deadline. Applications are to be submitted electronically by 5:00pm on February 8, 2021. Questions related to eligibility or submission should be directed to the contacts listed below. Applications are uploaded to Qualtrics, with documents in the order listed below, in a single PDF file here: [https://osu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_3KmF5oWvtthNQuV](https://osu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3KmF5oWvtthNQuV).

Format Instructions. Proposals should be single-spaced 12-point Times New Roman, with no less than .5 inch margins on all side. The page limit is 5 pages, excluding title page, references, and budget information. Applications should contain:

1. Title Page

- a. Title of project
  - b. Names of study team members, affiliations, roles on project, and contacts
  - c. Research initiative(s) of Kirwan that is the focus of the application
  - d. Name of Kirwan collaborator
  - e. Length of project 12 or 24 months
2. Specific Aims – objectives and significance of the project
3. Approach – justification for the study, innovation, study design, and evaluation/analysis plan
4. Project Timeline and Future Plans – 12 or 24 month timeline for planning and implementation; how this project will be used to leverage future potential funding and identification of those funders; anticipated publications and presentations
5. Budget Narrative and Table – included personnel and operating costs.
6. NIH format Biosketches for PIs, Co-Is, and key personnel.

### **Review Criteria**

1. Primary inclusion of at least one racial/ethnic minority population.
2. Fit with at least one of the Institute's research initiatives.
3. Potential for the project to lead to improvement in methods of recruiting, engaging, and/or retaining racial/ethnic minority populations in research.
4. Scientific merit and ability to lead to larger funding or implementation work.
5. Priority will be given to teams of collaborators with an interdisciplinary focus.

### **Review Process and Award Decisions**

At least two members of the Institute's Review Board will review each application, and objective and subjective feedback will be provided for each application. Review and funding decisions will be completed by the first week of March 2021. Anticipated start date will be May, pending IRB approval and transfer of funds. Funding with clarification may be awarded to an applicant if the review committee has deemed the proposal to be within a fundable range, but needs minor changes and/or clarifications. The applicant will be allocated up to two weeks to respond to a request for changes and/or clarification.

### **Post-Award Requirements**

Annual and final progress reports are required of all funded PIs, in which study progress, conference abstracts/presentations, publication submission/acceptance, and subsequent grant submissions are documented. At least one publication and planned submission of a grant using data obtained from this funding mechanism are required. Lack of follow through will invalidate awardees from future funding at the Institute. All presented and published work must include documentation of the funding source: *The Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity: Focus on Underrepresented Racial and Ethnic Groups in Research Pilot Program*.

### **Contacts for Questions**

For questions about the submissions and application process please contact Ms. Emily Steiner ([Steiner.303@osu.edu](mailto:Steiner.303@osu.edu)). For other questions contact Dr. Beverly Vandiver, Interim Executive Director ([vandiver.10@osu.edu](mailto:vandiver.10@osu.edu)).

Table 1. Budget						
Submitting PI:						
College:						
Department:						
ORG#:		Fund#:				
Budget Period:			Year 1	2021-2022	Year 2	2022-2023
1. Salaries/roles						
-						
-						
-						
-						
-						
TOTAL						
2. Fringe Benefits						
-						
-						
-						
-						
-						
TOTAL						
3. Materials/Supplies						
-						
-						
-						
-						
-						
4. Other costs						
- Travel						
- Publication costs						
- Incentives						
-						
TOTAL						

## **Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity: Research Initiatives**

The Kirwan Institute provides innovative, compelling, and strategic research to both academic audiences and the broader community. The Institute takes an intersectional approach to applied, clinical, and policy research focused on racial inequality to provide informed direction and assistance to social justice advocates, communities, funders, and policy makers. The Institute has four main initiatives centered on racial inequality in the comprehensive areas of the following:

1. Neighborhood and Wealth Inequality
2. Health Equity and Disparities
3. Educational Equity and Disparities
4. Public Policy

### **1. Neighborhood Wealth and Inequality**

The Institute engages in work that considers the systemic causes of racial disparities in wealth and location. Specific to neighborhoods, staff at the Institute focus on metropolitan neighborhood changes to understand historic and contemporary structural drivers of inequality. Metropolitan structures include education, housing, transportation, food systems, crime and policing, and employment. Staff at the Institute have assessed inequality in these structures through equity assessments, opportunity mapping, and civic engagement.

#### **Examples and Staff Contacts:**

Equity Assessments. The Kirwan Institute collaborates with organizations and jurisdictions to examine regional equity. This work can include spatial, quantitative, and qualitative analysis and often overlaps with our Opportunity Mapping and Civic Engagement work.

For more information about our equity assessments, contact Michael Outrich (outrich.1@osu.edu).

Franklin County Poverty Project. Working in partnership with the Franklin County Commissioners Office, the Kirwan Institute provided data analysis that highlighted racial and economic segregation throughout Franklin County, informing a county-wide poverty alleviation strategy. This work can be found [here](#).

For more information about the Franklin County Poverty Project contact Glennon Sweeney (sweeney.270@osu.edu).

Building Equitable and Inclusive Civic Engagement Environments. Working in partnership with the City of Columbus Department of Neighborhoods, the Kirwan Institute is embarking upon a research study of the city's Area Commissions. The goal of the work is determine how effective the environment provided by commission meetings are at fostering a sense of racial equity and inclusion among participants. The results of this project are aimed at informing equitable civic engagement strategies locally and nationally.

For more information, contact Kip Holley (holley.17@osu.edu).

### **2. Health Equity and Disparities**

The Institute has made recent progress in building partnerships in the areas of medicine, public health, and community health to improve clinical and place-based outcomes. The Institute has experience conducting work focused on health equity and disparities with governmental agencies

and organizations both locally and nationally. Guiding principles for work in this area at the Institute is informed by The Social Determinants of Health, defined as the conditions in which people are born, grow, work, live, age, and the wider set of forces and systems shaping the conditions of daily life. The Institute looks to focus on racial disparities based on SDH that contribute to health behaviors and the clinical care that people receive.

#### **Examples and Staff Contacts:**

Program Evaluation. This study is through the Ohio Commission on Minority Health that is aimed at developing policy recommendations to address the social determinants of health that impact infant health.

For more information about this line of research on health disparities, contact Kierra Barnett (Barnett.433@osu.edu).

The Health Equity Action Transformation (H.E.A.T) project. Kansas City, KS Health Opportunity Mapping Project, involved gathering and analyzing data to explore many of the social determinants of health in Kansas City, KS and Wyandotte County and their distribution relative to the county's vulnerable populations.

For more information about this line of research on educational equity, contact Mi-Kyung Baek (baek7@osu.edu).

### **3. Educational Equity and Disparities**

The Institute is engaged in expanding work around racial disparities in access to education and educational outcomes. The current research involves racial equity in service learning, civic discourse in educational settings to early childhood education.

#### **Examples and Staff Contacts:**

Education: Erase the Space. [Erase the Space \(EtS\)](#) was founded in 2016 by an English teacher from Olentangy Local Schools and an English teacher from Columbus City Schools. EtS endeavors to bring students together across segregated schools and neighborhoods to practice civic discourse. The Erase the Space model asks students to reflect on their own positionality within systems, listen to others' reflections, learn about systemic inequality across communities in central Ohio, and plan to act in a way that disrupts inequality.

For more information about Kirwan's collaboration with Erase the Space contact Glennon Sweeney (sweeney.270@osu.edu).

Early Childhood Education. This is landscape study in selected Columbus neighborhoods in collaboration with the Crane Center for Early Childhood Research and Policy:

Research goals include: (a) To precisely identify early education and care availability for children 5 years of age and under in Franklin County generally as well as three targeted communities in Columbus (Linden, Hilltop, Southside); b) To identify salient ECE experiences for children 5 years of age and under in Franklin County, including caregiver mindset and time investments; and (c) To identify barriers and enablers of ECE participation among primary caregivers.

For more information about this line of research on educational equity, contact Mi-Kyung Baek (baek.7@osu.edu).

### **4. Public Policy**

The Institute local and national policy work related to civil rights issues, criminal justice reform, fair housing policies, and equitable access to education. Additionally, the Institute focuses on big equitable and just data policies, and perpetuation of racial bias through big data and technology platforms.

**Example and Staff Contact:**

Anti-Racist Data Policy. A brief guide for policy makers to consider, which have to do with privacy, surveillance and the use of algorithms to make public decisions. Defines anti-racist policy principles and offers brief discussions of proposed policies to address systemic racism in tech (e.g. facial recognition bans, algorithmic screening governance, data privacy rights).

For more information about this line of research with public policy, contact Kelly Capatosto (capatosto.3@osu.edu).

**Note:** These are examples of the research falling under these initiatives. Kirwan staff frequently work across initiatives and take an interdisciplinary approach. You are welcome to invite any Kirwan staff to work on any of the initiatives, which should be based on a conversation about their expertise in a particular area or areas.

**For more information in the four initiatives, go the following website:**

<https://kirwaninstitute.osu.edu/research-strategic-initiatives>

**For more information on Kirwan staff, go the following link:**

<https://kirwaninstitute.osu.edu/staff>