



Request for Proposals

# The National Collaborative on Gun Violence Research (NCGVR)

## Third Request for Proposals

Deadline for Receipt of Letters of Interest:  
8:00 p.m. EST, February 5, 2021

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## Part 1. Introduction

The mission of the National Collaborative on Gun Violence Research (NCGVR) is to fund and disseminate nonpartisan scientific research that offers the public and policymakers a factual basis for developing fair and effective gun policies. An early mandate for NCGVR's independent Research Advisory Committee (RAC) was to seek testimony from a wide range of organizations and individuals about gun policy and gun violence research priorities. A consistent message from these diverse stakeholders was that the federal government has underinvested in gun violence research for at least two decades, with the result that the public and policymakers lack basic information on which to base their decisions about gun policies and violence prevention. Indeed, by one estimate, the government spends about \$100 million a year **less** on gun violence research than it does on other leading causes of death that kill similar numbers of people (Stark and Shah, 2017).

There is reason, therefore, to suspect that important contributions to understanding and preventing gun violence remain to be discovered across a wide range of study types. NCGVR recognizes that an important consideration for this research will be the effects of gun policies on the interests of different stakeholders, including gun owners, and that these effects bear on the fairness and feasibility of many policies and interventions.

### NCGVR's Overall Strategy

To address this underinvestment in gun violence research, NCGVR is issuing more than \$20 million in research grant funding over a five-year period (July 2018 to June 2023). NCGVR seeks to fund research that will produce scientific knowledge that can be used to **save lives and reduce injuries due to gun violence** while minimizing harms to gun owners and other stakeholders. In developing this request for proposals (RFP), the NCGVR RAC has drawn on research priorities suggested not just in the testimony it received from multiple organizations but also in the findings of earlier studies about where critical gaps in knowledge exist (e.g., National Research Council, 2005, 2013; RAND Corporation,

2018) and in the many suggestions offered to the committee by gun policy researchers.

In addition to its focus on areas in which critically important information is not yet available, NCGVR's RAC has concluded that the scientific research it funds must have direct relevance to firearm violence reduction **in the United States** and must pursue a rigorous scientific research protocol. Within these parameters, the committee wants its portfolio of funded research to include projects examining a range of outcomes—for instance, firearm injuries, suicide, defensive gun use, firearm crime and its prosecution, and public attitudes.

### NCGVR's 2021 RFP

This is the third RFP issued by NCGVR. For this RFP, NCGVR has narrowed the scope of research topics it will include for funding; this was done to accommodate the fact that NCGVR will end in June 2023, and all research projects must be completed by that time. Awardees for this third RFP will be asked to propose one-year research projects—meaning that complex projects with extensive data collection, significant partnerships, or other complicating factors are unlikely to be feasible.

Because of the limited timeline and funds available to support research in this round of funding, the RAC has identified areas of highest interest to fill gaps in NCGVR's current funding portfolio. For this RFP, NCGVR will fund four types of research awards:

1. A new one-year **research project measuring the tangible and intangible impacts of gun policies on the rights and interests of gun owners and users**
2. New one-year **research projects on firearm suicides**
3. **Dissertation or postdoctoral research awards** on gun violence or its prevention
4. One-year **supplemental awards** to expand NCGVR-funded work already under way.

Dissertation, postdoctoral research, and supplemental funding projects are not restricted to focusing on policy impacts on gun owners or suicide topics; please refer to the "Award Types Available

Through This RFP” section below for guidance on what topics will be considered for these categories.

The application process involves two steps, beginning with the submission of short letters of interest (LOIs) describing the proposed research. NCGVR’s RAC will review these letters and request full proposals from among the LOIs that describe research that the committee believes offers the greatest likelihood of producing rigorous scientific information that will help to inform fair and effective gun policies—and thereby reduce deaths and injuries. Full proposals can be submitted only by applicants invited by the RAC to do so after all LOIs are reviewed.

All proposals must be submitted by the deadlines listed in “Key Activities and Timeline,” below.

## About NCGVR

NCGVR was established as an independent philanthropic organization, with seed funding from Arnold Ventures. Additional major donors include Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.; the Missouri Foundation for Health; the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation; and the Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation.

NCGVR is governed by the independent RAC. The role of the RAC is to ensure the intellectual quality, research effectiveness, and academic independence of the NCGVR program. It serves as the decisionmaking and oversight body that issues RFPs, selects grantees, and oversees all approved research under NCGVR. The RAND Corporation provides administrative and staff support to the RAC.

Grant funding for all NCGVR research is provided through a donor-advised fund operated by a reputable, independent public charity. NCGVR, through RAND, advises the fund when and to whom to issue research funding.

Additional information about NCGVR and its funding, advisory committee membership, governance documents, and RFPs may be found at [www.ncgvr.org](http://www.ncgvr.org).

## Part 2. Program Description

NCGVR will fund scientific research on topics likely to provide valuable information needed by the public and policymakers in their efforts to create programs and policies that will save lives and prevent violence. NCGVR seeks proposals for projects that use rigorous scientific methods and that forthrightly acknowledge the limitations of these methods and the projects’ data sources. More information on standards of scientific rigor that will be considered by NCGVR can be found below in the “Evaluation Criteria” section.

### Preferred Approaches for NCGVR Research

NCGVR prefers to fund research that will improve the quality and availability of data on gun policy or violence topics. Similarly, it prefers to fund research that integrates perspectives from multiple disciplines and research that is conducted collaboratively, as described below.

#### Improved Data

Research that integrates data from law enforcement agencies, public health departments, researchers, courts, prosecutors, and other systems may facilitate important new insights for reducing gun violence. Identifying ways to increase data availability and comparability across jurisdictions—as well as to enhance the communication and collaboration between jurisdictions—holds the potential to improve knowledge and operations related to firearm violence prevention. In addition, projects that include novel data collection, create data sets that synthesize data from multiple sources, or make existing data more accessible to other researchers are encouraged.

#### Multidisciplinary Approaches

NCGVR also encourages proposals from multidisciplinary teams, combining, for example, public health, medical, and criminology researchers. These teams could be from the same or different institutions.

## Collaborations

NCGVR encourages collaborative research that meaningfully includes relevant practitioners in the planning, implementation, and interpretation of intervention and evaluation research. NCGVR is especially interested in proposals that incorporate the perspectives of communities affected by gun violence, by including individuals or organizations from those communities in true collaborative efforts.

Although addressing each of these concepts is not required for all proposals, proposals that address any or all of these concepts are strongly encouraged by NCGVR.

## Award Types Available Through This RFP

Four types of research awards will be made through this RFP. They are described below.

### Measuring the Tangible and Nontangible Impacts of Gun Policies on Gun Owners and Users

When making decisions about gun laws and programs in the United States, policymakers should consider both the potential reduction in harm from firearm violence and the potential harm to the interests of gun owners and users that the policies may cause. These dimensions of a specific gun policy are difficult to evaluate objectively, however. Although it is sometimes possible to estimate the benefits resulting from a reduction in death and injury, little attention has focused on how to evaluate gradations of harms or benefits to the rights and privileges of those who own and use guns legally. Instead, any such harms are often conceptualized by stakeholders as all-or-nothing effects that programs or policies may impose. A more comprehensive assessment of the magnitude of effects on all relevant parties is necessary to evaluate the full range of costs and benefits associated with gun policies.

In June 2020, NCGVR issued a small award for the development of a concept paper on this topic. A draft of the concept paper produced under that award can be viewed on the OSF (formerly the Open Science Framework) website (<https://osf.io/n7x84/>).

NCGVR now wishes to fund a project that implements and validates a measurement strategy. The recipient of the concept paper award is eligible to apply for these funds, as are applicants who wish to propose their own approaches to measuring harms to gun owners and users. Proposers may, but are not required to, implement the approach suggested in the concept paper. Funding for the concept paper and this category of award in the present RFP has been provided by the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation.

### Firearm Suicides

As in the first two RFPs, NCGVR has an interest in further contributing to research on firearm suicides. Research is needed to improve understanding of specific risk factors for firearm suicide and prevention strategies. NCGVR is interested in proposals examining risk and prevention among less well-studied subpopulations, including women and minorities. Firearm suicides among women have increased sharply in recent years (Goldstick et al., 2019), yet much of the research on suicide mortality has focused on men. More research is needed to understand suicide risk factors for women and how to prevent firearm suicides among them. Firearm suicide is most common among white populations in the United States, and much of the existing research has focused on this group. More research is needed to understand the unique risk profiles and prevention strategies for firearm suicide among minorities.

NCGVR is also interested in suicides with a firearm among police officers, which represent 95 percent of police suicides (Police Executive Research Forum, 2019). Violanti and Steege (2020) found that suicide rates among police officers were significantly higher than those in other occupations, and prior descriptive work showed that police officers had higher rates of suicide than firefighters or members of the military—other high-risk occupations (Violanti, 2010). Yet a more recent review of literature on police suicides revealed inconsistencies in measuring police suicides and a lack of studies on suicide risk factors for police, especially by gender, race, and position in the police force (Violanti et al., 2019).

Finally, adverse mental health conditions have been reported anecdotally since the onset of the pandemic. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention conducted a survey in June 2020 and found that more than 10 percent of respondents had “seriously considered suicide” in the past 30 days (Czeisler et al., 2020). The web survey is not representative of the national population but points to the likelihood that suicide risk has risen during the COVID-19 pandemic. More research into this possible trend in firearm suicides may provide insights into how to prevent and address suicide risk when environmental factors cause widespread increases in individuals’ stress.

NCGVR plans to make one or more awards for exceptional proposals on these firearm suicide-related topics (risk factors by gender and race, police officer suicides, and pandemic-related suicides).

### Dissertation and Postdoctoral Awards

Eligible students (see “Eligibility,” below) may apply for one-year awards to support the final year of research on firearm violence or its prevention pursuant to a doctoral degree or to support a one-year postdoctoral fellowship working on a research project that concerns firearm violence or its prevention. Research topics for these awards are not restricted to the categories described above for new research awards. Instead, candidates may propose applied or descriptive research projects on urban gun violence, suicide, mass shootings, officer-involved shootings, firearm-related domestic violence, firearm violence prevention, or gun policy. For a more complete discussion of the range of topics of interest to NCGVR, please refer to the “Program Description” part of our 2020 RFP, available here: [https://www.ncgvr.org/content/dam/ncgvr/rfp/NCGVR\\_RFP\\_2020.pdf](https://www.ncgvr.org/content/dam/ncgvr/rfp/NCGVR_RFP_2020.pdf).

### Competitive Supplements for Currently Funded NCGVR Awardees

NCGVR will consider funding proposals from any current research awardees (except dissertation awardees) from the 2019 and 2020 funding cycles to extend or supplement their existing NCGVR research. This supplemental funding can be used

only to extend current NCGVR work, not research already funded through other sources. Supplemental funding cannot extend the timeline of any project beyond June 2022 or the planned end date listed in the project’s award notification, whichever is later.

With supplemental awards, NCGVR seeks to leverage existing work already under way and extend its impact. Supplemental funds could be used to, for example,

- expand a survey to include additional items, a larger sample, or an additional wave of data collection
- add to data already being collected to support an expanded scope of research
- conduct additional analyses with already-collected data that go beyond the originally planned research
- conduct more-extensive or enhanced dissemination activities with completed research findings.

Current awardees interested in applying are encouraged to be creative with proposed extensions and to propose activities that would require small amounts of additional funding but would significantly increase the project’s overall impact and ability to inform policy and practice.

### Study Categories That NCGVR Will Not Fund

NCGVR discourages LOIs in the following categories, as they will be determined to be nonresponsive to this RFP:

- **Pilot studies designed to inform later research.** NCGVR will not provide funding for projects that are primarily intended to plan and design a future, larger research project. NCGVR welcomes proposals that may lead to future research, but development of that future research cannot be the primary goal of the NCGVR-funded project.
- **Demonstration projects, educational programs, or other provision of services without a strong scientific research design likely to produce generalizable knowledge about the services.** NCGVR will not provide funding solely for program development or

implementation. Any programs or services receiving NCGVR funds must be a required part of a research project that has scientific discovery as its primary objective.

- **Technology development research.** NCGVR will not provide funding that will primarily be used to invent, create, or design new technology or to fabricate technology already under development. NCGVR will consider funding research that concerns the use of technologies, such as studies that evaluate the use of new and existing technologies by, for instance, police, schools, or individuals at risk of committing or being victimized by firearm violence. Similarly, NCGVR will consider funding studies of public attitudes toward, acceptance of, or adoption of new technologies, such as smart guns or firearm storage devices.
- **Research on the treatment or rehabilitation of shooting victims.** NCGVR will not provide funding for research designed to improve the medical, psychological, or other treatment of shooting victims. NCGVR will consider research to evaluate programs that are implemented in, or in partnership with, hospitals and other medical care providers designed to prevent firearm suicide and other firearm violence.
- **Projects involving gun policy advocacy activities.** NCGVR will not provide funding for advocacy activities, including lobbying or public influence campaigns designed to change public policy. Projects proposed by or in collaboration with advocacy organizations must demonstrate a research approach that is objective and persuasively balanced. NCGVR will support investigators' efforts to broadly disseminate the findings of their NCGVR-funded projects.
- **Projects focused on firearm violence or policy outside the United States, unless that research has clear relevance to firearm policy or violence prevention in the United States.** NCGVR will not fund work that primarily investigates firearm use or violence in foreign countries or the effects of U.S.

firearm laws on foreign countries, unless that research is likely to provide valuable insights into how to save lives and reduce injuries in the United States. NCGVR will consider funding research focused on foreign countries when applicants can make a compelling case that the project will have clear implications for injury prevention in the United States.

- **Legal, historical, or journalistic research, unless that research is a required part of a scientifically rigorous study likely to yield generalizable information.** For instance, research on state implementation of specific laws as part of a rigorous study estimating the effect of those laws on firearm outcomes would be acceptable legal research.

## Part 3. Information for Prospective Applicants

### Available Funding

NCGVR expects to issue approximately \$1,100,000 in grant funding through this RFP. At least \$225,000 of this funding is set aside to support one award to measure the tangible and nontangible impacts of gun policies on gun users. NCGVR also hopes to fund up to four dissertation awards in the amount of \$25,000 each and up to two postdoctoral awards in the amount of \$50,000 each. The remaining funding will be used to support a small number of new project awards focused on firearm suicide and supplemental funding awards for existing NCGVR grantees.

### Eligibility

#### Research Awards

Eligible organizations include 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charitable organizations<sup>1</sup> in good standing with

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<sup>1</sup> Charity recipients cannot be classified as private foundations under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 509(a). Additionally, some charities classified as "supporting organizations" under Section 509(a)(3) do not qualify. 501(c)(3) refers to IRC Section 501(c)(3).

the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Organizations whose tax-exempt status has been suspended are not eligible.

International organizations, public universities, and public agencies that meet the same requirements as a U.S.-based 501(c)(3) public grantee under U.S. tax law and can demonstrate capacity to carry out the research funded by NCGVR are also eligible. Grants may be made to eligible charitable organizations described in Section 170(b)(1)(A) of the IRC, including qualified religious, educational, hospital or medical research, governmental, and publicly supported charitable organizations.

Ineligible grant recipients include non-functionally integrated Type III supporting organizations, private nonoperating foundations, lobbying and 501(c)(4) organizations, political campaigns or other political entities, any organization whose purpose is not entirely charitable, or certain organizations that receive a substantial amount of their support from Schwab Charitable. The RAND Corporation, RAND Europe, their staffs, and their adjunct staff are ineligible to apply for NCGVR funding through this solicitation.

Eligible organizations may submit more than one LOI. Individual researchers may be included in multiple LOIs but may be listed as the principal investigator or co-principal investigator on only a single research award LOI. There is no requirement that individual researchers have a doctorate degree, though researchers without doctorate degrees will need to persuasively demonstrate their research experience and expertise. NCGVR especially encourages researchers from underrepresented communities to submit applications.

### **Dissertation Awards**

Applicants for dissertation awards are accredited, nonprofit universities that meet the organizational eligibility criteria listed above and that agree to forgo all indirect costs and other fees for managing the grant award. These applications may list an advanced doctoral student or the chair of their dissertation committee as the principal investigator of the dissertation project award. To be eligible for a dissertation award, the student must be a U.S.

citizen or permanent resident and have completed all coursework, passed all preliminary exams, and have a dissertation research proposal on a topic related to gun violence or gun policy that has received all necessary departmental approvals by June 1, 2021. Students must have a plan to complete their dissertation and receive their degree between April 1, 2022, and September 30, 2022. Students who have already received a fellowship or grant to support the full cost to complete their dissertation are not eligible for NCGVR dissertation awards. Students may not accept additional fellowships or grant awards to support the same dissertation research supported through an NCGVR dissertation award.

Students applying for dissertation awards must be in a full-time Ph.D. or Sc.D. program, pursuing their first doctoral degree. Students studying outside the United States are eligible to apply. Doctoral students engaged in any research-oriented degree program that is relevant to gun policy or gun violence prevention research are eligible to apply, including students pursuing degrees in economics, political science, psychology, sociology, criminology, demography, public health, statistics, public policy, and psychometrics. Doctoral students at the Pardee RAND Graduate School are ineligible to apply for these dissertation awards.

### **Postdoctoral Fellowship Awards**

Applicants must be institutions of higher education or other nonprofit organizations meeting the organizational eligibility criteria listed above. Individuals seeking postdoctoral fellowships must show evidence of high academic achievement, demonstrate a commitment to a research career, and have potential to become productive, independent investigators in an area relevant to the program description for this RFP. Fellowship candidates must have exceptional mentorship identified at the time of the award. Candidates must have earned their doctoral degree (Ph.D., M.D., or equivalent doctoral degree) within 30 months of the fellowship award date. Awards are for full-time research training only. Awards are not available for postdoctoral students during their clinical residency training, and research clinicians may not have clinical duties



other than those directly related to their research training.

### Supplemental Funding Awards

Applications for supplemental funding must be submitted by principal investigators for projects currently funded by NCGVR. Proposed work must build on the NCGVR-funded work. All eligibility criteria for research awards described above also apply to supplemental awards. NCGVR principal investigators are not required to lead the proposed supplemental work but must commit to actively supporting the supplemental research activities.

Current dissertation awardees are not eligible for supplemental funding to extend work on their dissertation.

### Allowable Direct and Indirect Costs

NCGVR permits grantees to request funding for all of the direct costs associated with a project, including salaries and federally required benefits for employees, travel, meetings and conferences, data access fees, and payments to third-party consultants and subgrantees that are directly attributable to or created specifically for the purpose supported by a particular grant. Moreover, NCGVR also recognizes that, to successfully accomplish the purpose of a grant, grantees often need additional financial support to cover a portion of their indirect costs. NCGVR defines indirect costs as organizational costs incurred for a common or joint purpose benefiting more than one project and not exclusively attributable to or created for the project supported by a particular NCGVR grant. Therefore, NCGVR permits grantees to receive an indirect cost rate of no more than 40 percent of total direct project costs, with the exception of dissertation awards, for which indirect costs are not allowed. Indirect costs consist of costs of executive management (e.g., CEO, COO, CFO) and central operational functions (e.g., accounting, HR, IT, legal), equipment that can be used by the institution for other purposes or projects (e.g., computers, telephones, office furniture), office space rental, utilities, communications,

subscriptions, memberships, organizational insurance, and other costs associated with general operations.

### Key Activities and Timeline

LOIs are due by 8:00 p.m. EST on February 5, 2021, via an online application portal:

<https://answer.rand.org/2021-loi>.

Full proposals will be due approximately 30 days after applicants receive an invitation to submit a full proposal and will be submitted via a link that will be provided by NCGVR before the application deadline. Applicants should take the deadline's time zone into account.

Key Activities	Timeline
Last date to pose questions related to this RFP	8:00 p.m. EST January 21, 2021
NCGVR responses to questions	8:00 p.m. EST January 25, 2021
LOIs due	8:00 p.m. EST February 5, 2021
Invitations for full proposals issued by NCGVR	By the end of February 2021
Full proposals due	By the date listed in the invitation for full proposals, approximately 30 days after receipt of the invitation
Notification of awards	May–June 2021

## Part 4. Application Instructions

The application process for all awards includes two steps. First, an LOI describing the proposed research must be submitted by the date listed in “Key Activities and Timeline.” Selected applicants will be asked to submit a full proposal. Second, applicants who receive a request for full proposals must submit those by the corresponding deadline listed in “Key Activities and Timeline.” NCGVR will consider full proposals only from those applicants who have been invited by NCGVR to submit a full proposal, after review of their LOI.

## Research Project and Supplemental Awards

If you are planning to submit a proposal to support research measuring the effects of gun policies on gun owners and users or on suicide, or if you intend to request supplemental funding for your existing NCGVR award, your work is considered a research award.

### LOI Instructions

To submit an LOI for consideration, applicants must complete an online form at <https://answer.rand.org/2021-loi> that includes questions on the information listed below. Applicants will then be able to upload a single PDF document consisting of their LOI. Once an LOI is submitted, neither the LOI nor the information in the web form can be modified.

Proposers should have the following information prepared before beginning the application process:

1. Administrative information (to be completed on the web form prior to submitting an LOI)
  - a. Organization's name
  - b. Organization's address
  - c. Organization's tax ID number
  - d. Organization's authorized representative name, title, email, and direct telephone number
  - e. Total requested amount (direct and indirect costs combined; do not complete the full budget proposal included in the appendix, as this is not required at this LOI stage)
  - f. Start date and duration of the proposed grant project (NCGVR will provide up to 12 months of funding through this RFP, except for supplemental research awards, which cannot extend project timelines beyond June 2022 or the end date listed in the existing NCGVR project's award notification, whichever is later)
  - g. Proposed investigator(s) name, title, email, and direct telephone number
  - h. The proposed investigator(s) level of effort on the project (days per year or percentage of time)
  - i. List of expected key staff
- j. In 200 words or fewer (total, across all investigators), describe the experience of proposed investigator(s) conducting research of similar complexity, requiring similar skills or expertise
- k. In 200 words or fewer, describe the organization, its past related experience (within three years), and any key resources the organization has that will support project performance
1. Priority research category (policy impacts on gun owners or suicide), up to three keywords; keywords are available for selection, and you will be able to input additional keywords not already on the list
2. LOI narrative (a single PDF document)
  - a. Project title
  - b. Problem analysis and statement: Describe the project's research objectives, explain the gap(s) in the scientific literature they address, and explain how addressing these gaps could make an important contribution to understanding or preventing gun violence
  - c. Approach: Summarize your study design, outcomes, independent variables, and planned analytic methods, as well as any planned intervention; NCGVR is most interested in funding projects with rigorous research methodologies likely to yield reproducible, generalizable, and actionable evidence
  - d. Proposed partners or subgrantees, if applicable, and their roles and responsibilities
  - e. Bibliographic references (references are not included in the page count limit)

The project narrative may not exceed three single-spaced pages, using one-inch margins and no smaller than 12-point font. LOIs that violate these instructions might not be reviewed. Letters of support from proposed partner organizations are not required to be included with the LOI but may be submitted as attachments to the project narrative, and these will not count toward the project narrative page limits.

## Full Proposal Instructions

Those who receive written notification that NCGVR would like to review their full proposals should prepare and submit a full proposal by the deadline listed in “Key Activities and Timeline,” above. Applicants selected to submit full proposals will receive a unique submission link prior to the proposal deadline. Applicants will again need to complete a web form before uploading a single PDF document consisting of all parts of their full proposal. Once the proposal is submitted, it can no longer be accessed.

Proposals should carefully follow the guidance in this section, as failure to comply with these instructions or provide all materials by the deadline could result in the proposal not being reviewed.

Proposals should be prepared single-spaced, using one-inch margins and no smaller than 12-point font. The project summary has a word limit, listed below, and the project narrative (4a through 4e, below) may not exceed ten pages. No other parts of the proposal are subject to page or word limits. All sections of the full proposal listed below are required, with the exception of letters of support (6d), which are required only if the project entails a collaboration with outside organizations or individuals. The proposal and all appendixes must be assembled into a single PDF document for submission.

Full applications consist of

1. Project title
2. Project summary (no more than 500 words)
3. Table of contents
4. Project narrative, including
  - a. **Problem analysis and statement:** Describe the project’s research objectives and research questions and document the gap in the scientific literature they address either by reference to a systematic review or by explaining how you established this as a gap in the literature. Explain how addressing these gaps could produce important and actionable information for understanding or preventing gun violence. Specify whether the proposed research is confirmatory or exploratory. If

confirmatory, specify the hypothesis to be tested.

b. **Study design and implementation:**

Describe the study design and planned analytic methods, including a detailed description of any planned intervention. If the proposed study involves an intervention, the applicant must demonstrate having the partnerships necessary to execute the study—for example, with agencies or community organizations whose cooperation may be required. Any description of partnerships should be accompanied by attached letters of support indicating what the organization has agreed to. Explain how interventions or exposures, outcomes, and relevant covariates will be measured and the quality of those measures. If proposing significance testing, present a power analysis for the sample size decisions, including subgroup analysis, that are implied by key aims. The power analysis should include a theoretical or empirical justification for the effect sizes being assumed.

Specify what new or existing data will be collected and the source of the data. Applicants must demonstrate access to the necessary data—which may include partnerships with agencies or organizations from which data will be collected. Letters of support from data sources should be provided to indicate that the applicant will have access to those data, unless data are publicly available.

If the published literature contains criticisms or identifies limitations of the proposed measures or data sources, discuss how these will be addressed. Similarly, discuss any expected limitations because of unmeasured confounds or unavailable covariates. Discuss how missing data will be handled in analyses (including possible survey nonresponse and attrition from longitudinal panels). If linking data sets, explain the data

elements on which those linkages depend, their availability, and their reliability.

Describe the limitations of the data, design, and analytic methods for drawing reliable and generalizable inferences. Indicate a plan to preregister the research protocol on the OSF website.<sup>2</sup> Explain likely implementation challenges or other project risks.

**c. Study deliverables and dissemination**

**plan:** Describe each of the planned deliverables, including reports, data and code that will be released, and other products. If it will not be possible to make some data or code produced for this study public on the OSF website (<https://osf.io>), explain that here (see “Terms and Conditions,” below). Describe your plan for ensuring that deliverables are seen and understood by stakeholders who will benefit from them (e.g., the public, policymakers, other researchers).

**d. Quality assurance plan:** NCGVR funds research to provide a more objective, scientific basis for discussions about gun violence and gun policy. It is important, therefore, that grantees do not use NCGVR funding to promote political or advocacy positions that are not directly supported by their empirical research. Proposals must discuss the quality assurance steps they will take to ensure that the research findings they report are independently and carefully reviewed before they are disseminated in venues likely to attract widespread attention. This review should consider not only the soundness of the methods and conclusions but also (1) whether the report acknowledges alternative arguments when they are relevant and (2) that the report avoids

adopting advocacy positions that are not thoroughly evaluated in the report. If prepublication of reports is anticipated (e.g., on SSRN.com, as a National Bureau of Economic Research working paper, or in another widely accessible venue), describe what quality assurance steps will be taken before the report is posted.

**e. Relevant organizational and project staff experience:** Describe the experience and capabilities of the applicant organization, key staff, and any proposed subgrantees (including consultants) that are relevant to the successful performance of this project, highlighting any previous experience implementing projects of similar scope, design, and complexity.

5. Project budget and budget narrative providing the justification for each planned expenditure (see the appendix for a link to the budget template and budget narrative instructions)

6. Appendixes

a. Bibliographic references

b. Timeline and milestones: Provide a project timeline indicating when key phases of the project begin and end and the dates on which key deliverables will be completed; time required for institutional review board (IRB) review and approval should be accounted for in the project timeline

c. Résumés or curricula vitae of the key investigators

d. Letters of support or agreement from partner organizations or individuals (only for projects engaging partner organizations or individuals)

e. IRB approval is required for all NCGVR research; please indicate the organization that will conduct the IRB review of your research and its Federalwide Assurance number

f. List of all other funding organizations currently considering a substantially similar proposal from the applicant and list of all previous projects the applicant has received grant or contract funding for to

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<sup>2</sup> For information about what preregistration entails and how to complete the process, see the OSF “What Is Preregistration?” webpage: [https://www.cos.io/initiatives/prereg?\\_ga=2.170302304.1756820500.1608243920-617135959.1602700895](https://www.cos.io/initiatives/prereg?_ga=2.170302304.1756820500.1608243920-617135959.1602700895).

- pursue similar project aims, specifying the aims of those similar projects
- g. **Conflict of interest disclosure:** Describe any real or potentially perceived organizational conflicts of interest the applicant organization may have and the plan for mitigating that conflict in pursuing the proposed research. Describe any real or potentially perceived financial conflicts of interest that any member of the study team may have and the plan for mitigating that conflict.

### Evaluation Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated primarily on their scientific merit, for which five primary criteria will be used.

For the LOI, although NCGVR asks that applicants address the evaluation criteria detailed below, we do not expect applicants to have finalized every aspect of the study. Therefore, reviewers will focus on the first two evaluation criteria—“Significance” and “Approach”—in determining which applicants to invite to submit a full proposal.

For full proposals, the overall score for each proposal’s scientific merit will be a weighted combination of each criterion. Weights are listed in parentheses:

1. *Significance (30%):* The potential for the project to advance knowledge and to reduce gun violence
2. *Approach (25%):* The extent to which the study plan is scientifically rigorous and likely to produce interpretable and generalizable findings
3. *Innovation (20%):* The extent to which the project is original, creative, and potentially transformative
4. *Research team (and resources) (20%):* An assessment of how well qualified and resourced the project team is. NCGVR prefers projects that involve multidisciplinary teams and collaborations that integrate relevant practitioners into the research process, though neither of these is a requirement for funding

5. *Dissemination plan (5%):* The likelihood that those who could best use the results to reduce violence, improve policy, or advance scientific research will learn of the research and understand how it should inform their decisions

Cost will be separately evaluated for reasonableness but not assigned a score. Reviewers will assess the proposed level of effort (e.g., proposed number of days, percentage of time, number of calendar or academic months) and other resources requested against the proposed approach to conducting the research or completion of tasks, data requirements, dissemination efforts, and expected work products.

### Dissertation Awards

The objectives of the dissertation awards program are to improve scientific knowledge and to build research capacity in the domains of gun violence prevention and gun policy research in the United States. NCGVR anticipates making four awards designed to support the final year of work on a student’s dissertation.

Dissertation award funds may be used for research-related expenses, including tuition, living expenses, travel to conferences or to collect data, books, and computer supplies. Recipients of the award will be required to prepare a final report on their research accomplishments at the conclusion of the funding period.

Applicants for dissertation awards are the universities at which the beneficiary of the award is an advanced doctoral candidate (see “Eligibility,” above). Before submitting an LOI, doctoral students must confirm in writing with their university’s office of sponsored research or office of research, grants, and contracts that the university agrees to work with the student and their dissertation adviser to submit a full dissertation grant proposal, if one is requested by NCGVR after review of the LOI.

Advanced doctoral students whose dissertation research concerns U.S. gun policy or gun violence prevention wishing to be considered for these awards should submit LOIs, being careful to include all the required information listed below.

## LOI Instructions

To submit a dissertation award LOI, please include the following:

1. Administrative information
  - a. Dissertation title (please append “Dissertation Award:” to the beginning of the title)
  - b. Doctoral student’s name, address, phone number, and email address
  - c. University name
  - d. University address
  - e. Adviser’s name, title, and department
  - f. Statement acknowledging that you meet the dissertation award eligibility criteria listed above
  - g. Letter from the university’s office of sponsored research or office of research, grants, and contracts, indicating that it is prepared to accept an NCGVR dissertation grant award on which it will forgo indirect costs and all other fees for managing the award
2. Dissertation narrative
  - a. **Study design:** Describe the dissertation study design, specifying research objectives, and explain the gap(s) in the scientific literature that your objectives address, as well as procedures, analytic methods, and data sources
  - b. **Project status:** Describe what work has been completed, what remains, timeline, and expected completion date; also indicate the date your dissertation project was approved
  - c. **Personal statement:** Describe your academic performance and accomplishments to date, including any publications or presentations; describe how the award will facilitate the completion of your dissertation

Receipt of dissertation awards is conditional on the student providing documentation confirming eligibility, which will be requested as part of the second-stage application. The dissertation narrative for the LOI may not exceed three (3) single-spaced pages, using one-inch margins and no smaller than

12-point font. LOIs that violate these instructions might not be reviewed.

## Full Application Instructions

Full applications will be requested by NCGVR from doctoral students whose LOIs were judged to be outstanding. Do not submit full application materials unless you receive a written request from NCGVR to do so.

Full applications include

1. Administrative information
  - a. Doctoral student’s name, address, phone number, and email address
  - b. University’s tax ID number
  - c. A budget describing how the award money will be spent
  - d. A copy of the doctoral candidate’s résumé or curriculum vitae
2. A letter from the university official who will administer the grant award acknowledging that no overhead or fees will be charged to the grant or student for this service
3. University transcripts for all courses taken by the doctoral candidate in pursuit of their degree
4. Dissertation proposal narrative
  - a. Use the full proposal narrative to address any comments or questions received from reviewers on your LOI.
  - b. In addition, the full proposal narrative should provide more detail on elements of the dissertation previously described in the LOI. Describe the dissertation study design, specifying research objectives, and explain the gap(s) in the scientific literature that doctoral student’s objectives address, as well as procedures, analytic methods, and data sources.
5. A letter from the applicant’s adviser or chair that
  - a. confirms the doctoral student’s eligibility to receive this dissertation award, including that the student’s dissertation research proposal will have been approved by June 1, 2021, and the expected date

- when a Ph.D. or Sc.D. degree will be conferred on the applicant
- b. describes the doctoral student's progress on their dissertation work and potential to successfully complete the dissertation by September 2022
- c. describes the doctoral student's outstanding characteristics or performance that makes them a worthy recipient of this dissertation award
- d. describes the adviser or chair's role in monitoring the student's work and presents evidence of both the department's and the dissertation committee chair's abilities to mentor doctoral students through the completion of their degrees

Receipt of dissertation awards is conditional on the student providing documentation confirming their eligibility, which will be requested as part of the second-stage application. The dissertation narrative for the full proposal may not exceed five (5) single-spaced pages, using one-inch margins and no smaller than 12-point font. Dissertation narratives that violate these instructions might not be reviewed.

The letter from the student's adviser (element 5, above) should be sent directly by email from the adviser to proposals@ncgvr.org, noting in the subject line the name of the applicant. Required elements 1-4 should be combined into a single PDF file and sent by the applicant to proposals@ncgvr.org by the submission deadline.

### Evaluation Criteria

Dissertation award decisions will be made by the NCGVR RAC, after considering the doctoral student's scholarly excellence, the significance of the student's dissertation research objectives, the quality of the research design, the feasibility of the project and schedule, the student's qualifications, the advisers' nominating comments, and the student's potential to make a significant contribution to the field of gun violence prevention research or gun policy research.

Proposal materials sent to NCGVR will not be returned to the applicant.

### Postdoctoral Research Fellowship Awards

NCGVR makes postdoctoral research fellowship awards to support the research training of individuals who show great promise of becoming independent and productive researchers in an area related to the program description contained in this RFP. NCGVR anticipates making up to two one-year postdoctoral fellowship awards in this funding cycle.

Postdoctoral research fellowship award funds may be used for research-related expenses, including tuition, living expenses, travel to conferences or to collect data, books, and computer supplies. Recipients of the award will meet by phone with an NCGVR scientist several times over the year to discuss progress and will be required to prepare a final report on their research accomplishments at the conclusion of the funding period.

Fellowship applicants are the universities or nonprofits at which the beneficiary of the award will receive advanced research training (see "Eligibility," above). Before submitting an LOI, fellowship candidates must confirm in writing with their university's office of sponsored research or office of research, grants, and contracts that the fellow will have a full-time research training position for the duration of the award. Fellows must also have one or more mentors who confirm that they will provide ongoing support to the fellow in pursuit of the project during the award funding period.

Recent recipients of graduate degrees who meet the eligibility criteria described earlier should submit LOIs that include all the required information listed below.

### LOI Instructions

To submit a postdoctoral research fellowship LOI, please include the following:

1. Administrative information
  - a. Postdoctoral research project title (please append "Fellowship Award:" to the beginning of the title)
  - b. Fellowship candidate's name, address, phone number, and email address
  - c. University name
  - d. University address

- e. Mentor’s name, title, and department
  - f. Statement acknowledging that you meet the postdoctoral research fellowship award eligibility criteria listed above
  - g. Start date of one-year period over which the award is requested (the earliest possible start date is June 15, 2021, and the latest is October 1, 2021)
  - h. Letter from the university’s office of sponsored research or office of research, grants, and contracts indicating that the candidate meets the eligibility requirements to receive a postdoctoral research fellowship award
2. Narrative
- a. **Project description:** Provide the title of the research project and a brief discussion of the study, and explain the significance of this work and where the data for it will come from (if applicable) (two pages, at most).
  - b. **Project status:** Describe what work has been completed, what remains, timeline, and expected completion date (200 words, at most).
  - c. **Personal statement:** Describe your academic performance and accomplishments to date, including any publications or presentations. Describe your postgraduate research experience, to date, and the position you will hold at the university during the postdoctoral research fellowship award funding period. Describe how the award will facilitate completion of your postdoctoral research (one page, at most).
- a. Fellowship candidate’s name, address, phone number, and email address
  - b. University’s tax ID number
  - c. A budget describing how the award money will be spent
  - d. A copy of the candidate’s résumé or curriculum vitae
2. Project narrative, including
- a. **Problem analysis and statement:** Describe the project’s research objectives and research questions, and document the gap in the scientific literature they address either by reference to a systematic review or by explaining how you established this as a gap in the literature. Explain how addressing these gaps could make an important contribution to understanding or preventing gun violence. Specify whether the proposed research is confirmatory or exploratory. If confirmatory, specify the hypothesis to be tested.
  - b. **Study design and implementation:** Describe the study design and planned analytic methods, including a detailed description of any planned intervention. If the proposed study involves an intervention, the applicant must demonstrate that it has partnerships necessary to execute the study—for example, with agencies or community organizations whose cooperation may be required. Any description of partnerships should be accompanied by attached letters of support indicating what the organization has agreed to. Explain how interventions or exposures, outcomes, and relevant covariates will be measured and the quality of those measures.

### Full Application Instructions

Full applications for postdoctoral research fellowship awards will be requested by NCGVR from Fellowship candidates whose LOIs were judged to be outstanding. Do not submit full application materials unless you receive a written request from NCGVR to do so.

Full applications include

1. Administrative information

Describe the limitations of the data, design, and analytic methods for drawing reliable and generalizable inferences. Indicate a plan to preregister the research protocol on the OSF website (see “Terms and Conditions,” below). Explain the likely implementation challenges or other project risks.

3. A letter from the university official who will administer the grant award acknowledging



that the fellowship candidate meets NCGVR eligibility requirements for postdoctoral research fellowship awards

4. University transcripts for all courses taken by the applicant in pursuit of a doctoral degree
5. A letter from the applicant's mentor or mentoring team that
  - a. confirms the candidate's eligibility to receive this postdoctoral research fellowship award
  - b. describes the candidate's role in the research project proposed for the award
  - c. describes the candidate's outstanding characteristics or performance that makes them a worthy recipient of this postdoctoral research project
  - d. describes the mentor's role in supporting the candidate's research training and their completion of the proposed research project
  - e. provides any evidence of successful mentoring of other postdoctoral researchers

The project narrative for the full proposal may not exceed five (5) single-spaced pages, using one-inch margins and no smaller than 12-point font. Proposals that violate these instructions might not be reviewed.

The letter from the candidate's mentor (element 5, above) should be sent directly by email from the adviser to [proposals@ncgvr.org](mailto:proposals@ncgvr.org), noting in the subject line the name of applicant. Required elements 1-4 should be combined into a single PDF file and sent by the applicant to [proposals@ncgvr.org](mailto:proposals@ncgvr.org) by the submission deadline.

### Evaluation Criteria

Postdoctoral research fellowship award decisions will be made by the NCGVR RAC, after considering the candidate's scholarly excellence, the significance of the candidate's research projects' objectives, the quality of the research design, the feasibility of the project and schedule, the candidate's qualifications, the mentor's nominating comments, and the candidate's potential to become an independent, productive researcher who will make a significant

contribution to the field of gun violence prevention research or gun policy research.

Proposal materials sent to NCGVR will not be returned to the applicant.

## Part 5. Terms and Conditions

This RFP lists some of the key terms and conditions that will be required of grantees if selected for award. These include, but are not limited to, demonstrating adequate performance completing project milestones and deliverables as documented in routine progress reporting and periodic phone calls with NCGVR grants monitors, preregistering research protocols at OSF (<http://osf.io>) and fulfilling other open-science expectations listed in the grant agreement, adherence to a human subject's protection plan approved by an accredited institutional review board, and adhering to quality assurance review procedures specified in the proposal or subsequently agreed to as part of the grant agreement.

1. **Prohibited uses.** Grantee may not use Grant funds or the income therefrom for any of the following purposes: (1) to fulfill any existing legally binding pledge of the Research Advisory Committee, the Administrative Entity, or any other adviser to the Account; (2) to provide more than an incidental benefit to the Research Advisory Committee, Administrative Entity, or any other adviser to the Account, any family member thereof, or to any individual who is not an appropriate beneficiary of the Grantee's charitable programs; or (3) for any purpose other than one specified in Section 170(c)(2)(B) of the Code. Grantee will not provide any tax substantiation letter in connection with this grant.
2. **Reporting schedule.** All progress and financial reports should, in each case, compare actual expenditures and accomplishments during the period being reported.
  - a. **Semiannual progress report(s)** documenting grant activity and interim research results for the period being reported.

- b. **Final progress report** due 30 days before the end of the project term.
  - c. **Semiannual financial report(s)**.
  - d. **Final financial report** due no later than 60 days after the project term.
  - e. If the Grant funds are not fully expended by Grantee in accordance with the budget as set forth in Grantee's proposal, Grantee will disclose this in the final financial report, and Schwab Charitable, in consultation with the Research Advisory Committee through the Administrative Entity, will make a determination about such funds upon receipt of such information, including whether Grantee shall be required to return unspent funds to Schwab Charitable. Grantee may not reallocate any unspent funds and may not spend or retain unspent funds after the Ending Date without prior written approval from Schwab Charitable, in consultation with the Research Advisory Committee through the Administrative Entity.
  - f. Reports shall be delivered electronically to [SFCGgrants@schwabcharitable.org](mailto:SFCGgrants@schwabcharitable.org). Copies must also be provided to [grants@ncgvr.org](mailto:grants@ncgvr.org).
3. **Registration and openness.** For any empirical research study performed under this Agreement, Grantee must meet (and must ensure that any third parties involved in the research meet) certain transparency requirements, as further elaborated in a document prepared by Arnold Ventures entitled "Guidelines for Investments in Research," available at the Arnold Ventures website (the "Guidelines").<sup>3</sup> The Guidelines' specific applicability to Grantee's empirical research study may vary as determined by the NCGVR Research Director. Moreover, both the applicability of the Guidelines and the requirements of this section may be modified by the NCGVR Research Director during the Term as

deemed appropriate by the NCGVR Research Director. Grantee acknowledges and agrees that the obligations imposed by this section shall continue for the duration of the empirical research study or evaluation related to the Purpose, even if such duration expands beyond the Term.

- a. Grantee must establish an account with OSF (<http://osf.io>) and must create a new project for any new empirical research study. Unless there is an express legal restriction on doing so, Grantee must (i) add Dr. Andrew Morral and Dr. Meagan Cahill (or their delegates) as collaborators with "Administrator" permissions on the OSF project webpage so that they can view the empirical research study materials saved there and (ii) make the empirical research study publicly viewable by selecting the "Make Public" option on the study's project, unless the NCGVR Research Director agrees to allow the project or a component thereof to remain private.
- b. The project's OSF webpage must include an analysis plan describing the hypothesis or hypotheses to be examined in the empirical research study, the primary and secondary outcomes, the statistical model(s) and methodologies to be used, and further details as specified in the Guidelines. This analysis plan must be completed, approved, and registered in a manner satisfactory to the NCGVR Research Director. To the extent that a particular research design changes substantially after the first preregistration but before statistical analyses have been completed, Grantee should create a subsequent preregistration for the empirical research study in a manner satisfactory to the NCGVR Research Director.
- c. To the maximum extent allowed under any applicable federal or state law, institutional review board ("IRB") procedures, memorandum or contract signed with a government agency (including

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.arnoldventures.org/guidelines-for-investments-in-research>

any regulations applicable thereto), and/or license, all of the data sets, computer code, and other materials (such as code-books, protocols, survey instruments, and administrative records) related to the empirical research study must be (i) saved at the OSF's project webpage in the version-controlled system there or linked to in a trusted digital repository, such as DataVerse, and (ii) made publicly available at the time of a final evaluation report or scholarly article publication (unless the NCGVR Research Director agrees to a later date).

Notwithstanding the above, to the extent that any data set contains information subject to privacy and/or confidentiality duties or obligations under applicable law or agreement, Grantee shall release as much data as is allowed, subject to compliance with such privacy and/or confidentiality duties or obligations. For example, only if, and to the extent, legally permissible, Grantee shall release a public-use version of a data set after removing certain identifying variables or taking any necessary actions that statistically anonymize the data. Further, even for private and confidential data, Grantee shall share that data set with a third-party researcher if that researcher has first (a) obtained official written approval from all governmental agencies that provided data access to Grantee, (b) obtained written approval from an accredited IRB, and (c) signed a nondisclosure agreement pertaining to all private and/or confidential data. The third-party researcher's access to the data set shall take place on whatever terms are negotiated with the governmental agencies mentioned above (such as, by way of example, password protection, access via remote software such that the data set is not downloaded to the researcher's local computer, or the removal or alteration of personally identifiable information).

- d. The final results of Grantee's research must be made available at the project's OSF webpage, including but not limited to any final evaluation report and/or a link to any publication generated from the empirical research study's data set. In cases where the results may be published in a journal that embargoes results before publishing, this information may remain private until the article is published. For any publication in a journal that imposes subscription or per-article fees, Grantee must either (i) make a copy of the publication freely available on the OSF webpage (if allowed under the journal's copyright policies) or (ii) write a report on the same finding(s) and make that report freely available on the OSF webpage directly or via a link to a preprint server. If no official report or publication is otherwise available, the OSF webpage must be updated within one (1) year of the endpoint of data collection (unless the NCGVR Research Director agrees to a later date) to include a detailed written report of the findings or to provide a link to the detailed written report of the findings on a preprint server.
4. **Human subjects.** If human subjects data are used in the conduct of the work supported by this Agreement, Grantee warrants and agrees to comply with the applicable federal laws, regulations, and policies that govern the ethical treatment of individuals who are participants of the work supported by this Agreement through observation, intervention, interaction, or use of data about them. Grantee further agrees to provide certification within thirty (30) days of request that an institutional committee has reviewed and approved the procedures which involve human subjects. Grantee shall bear full responsibility for the proper and safe performance of all work and services involving the use of human subjects under this Agreement.
5. **Quality assurance.** Grantee shall not use NCGVR funding to promote political or advocacy positions that are not directly supported

by their empirical research. Grantee's quality assurance review plan shall ensure that the research findings reported are independently and carefully reviewed before they are disseminated in venues likely to attract widespread attention.

## Appendix. Budget Template and Budget Narrative

An Excel version of the budget template is available at <https://www.ncgvr.org/rfp>.

### Budget Narrative Requirements

The budget narrative is where detailed information is provided to assist reviewers in evaluating estimated costs for reasonableness.

Budget narrative categories may include, but are not limited to, the following: personnel, fringe benefits, travel, other direct costs, subcontractors or collaborators, and indirect costs.

**Personnel:** Provide a description of each individual's role and responsibilities related to the proposed research. Personnel categories may include

- Project director, principal investigator, scholar, fellow
- Project staff
- Administrative staff (if normally charged direct)
- Other staff

**Fringe benefits:** Provide the percentage, basis of calculation, and whether the rate is approved for estimating or pricing by a U.S. federal government agency.

**Travel:** Provide details on each proposed itinerary, including origin and destination, purpose of trip, and number of travelers. Travel costs must

be estimated using the most economical means of travel and in accordance with the Federal Travel Regulations. For domestic travel, please go to the General Services Administration's "Per Diem Rates Look-Up" webpage, <https://www.gsa.gov/travel/plan-book/per-diem-rates/per-diem-rates-lookup>. For international travel, please go to the Department of State's "Foreign Per Diem Rates by Location" webpage, [https://aoprals.state.gov/web920/per\\_diem.asp](https://aoprals.state.gov/web920/per_diem.asp).

**Other direct costs:** Provide a description of each item and a brief justification for its cost to assist reviewers in evaluating its applicability and direct allocability to the project. Equipment that could be used for general purposes or benefit more than one project is not allowed.

**Subcontractors and collaborators:** Provide a brief description of each organization's role and responsibilities and list of key staff. Subcontractors and collaborators must also provide a detailed budget and budget narrative in the same format as required in this RFP.

**Indirect costs:** Provide your organization's negotiated indirect rate agreement, if applicable. Also include the percentage used in estimating indirect costs and basis (or bases) of calculation to assist reviewers in evaluating your organization's methodology for allocating indirect costs and determining reasonableness. NCGVR limits indirect costs to no more than 40 percent of total direct project costs. Provide your organization's negotiated indirect rate agreement, if applicable. Also include the percentage used in estimating indirect costs and the basis (or bases) of calculation to assist reviewers in evaluating your organization's methodology for allocating indirect costs.

**Applying fee or profit to any and all cost categories is not allowed.**

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