The National Collaborative on Gun Violence Research (NCGVR)

Request for Research Proposals on Extreme Risk Protection Orders

Deadline for Receipt of Letters of Interest:
September 5, 2023
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 variety 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.

Since its inception in 2018, NCGVR has awarded more than $21 million in grant funding across 50 projects investigating a wide array of gun violence prevention topics. Moreover, the federal government has begun committing $25 million annually to restart a program of research within the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Institutes of Health to improve our understanding of gun violence and its prevention. More recently, the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) issued a 2023 call for research on extreme risk protection orders (ERPOs) (or “red flag” laws) related to firearm violence. The request for proposals (RFP) below is meant to complement the NIJ solicitation, funding a wider scope of ERPO research and creating opportunities for NIJ and NCGVR grantees to coordinate and learn from one another.

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. It was originally scheduled to end operations in June 2023, but a new gift from Arnold Ventures has extended NCGVR’s timeline by four years to allow for the current RFP and management of any resulting awards.

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 the 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 (DAF) operated by a reputable, independent public charity. NCGVR, through RAND, advises the DAF when and to whom to issue research funding.

Additional information about NCGVR, its funding, RAC membership, governance documents, and its RFPs may be found at www.ncgvr.org.

NCGVR’s Overall Strategy

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 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 use rigorous scientific research protocols that are subject to peer review.

NCGVR’s 2023 RFP

For this fifth NCGVR RFP, applicants may propose research projects on a broad set of questions related to ERPOs (see “Program Description” below).
Three types of awards will be available through this RFP:

1. New two-year research projects will focus on ERPOs.
2. Dissertation awards will be one-year awards open to individual students.
3. Postdoctoral awards will be one-year awards open to existing research groups or individuals who wish to offer funding to a postdoctoral fellow.

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. Selected LOIs will be those describing research that the committee believes offers the greatest likelihood of producing rigorous scientific information that will help 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.

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

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**Part 2. Program Description**

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 datasets 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 that combine, for example, public health, medical, public policy, 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.
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.

Priority Research Categories

For this RFP, NCGVR seeks proposals on ERPOs. ERPOs aim to prevent firearm suicides, mass shootings, and other gun violence by temporarily restricting access to firearms for individuals who may be in crisis or have demonstrated a potential threat of violence. ERPOs are court orders requiring the temporary removal of firearms from individuals the court determines pose a significant risk to themselves or others.

ERPO laws are a relatively recent innovation that have now been implemented in 19 states and the District of Columbia. Additional states and expanded state programs are likely in the short term because of incentives to states provided in the 2022 Bipartisan Safer Communities Act. Nevertheless, there is considerable variability in how states have designed their ERPO laws. Among other important differences, states differ in terms of who may petition the court for an ERPO. Law enforcement officials are typically eligible, although in some states family members or caregivers may also initiate proceedings. Another important difference among states concerns whether they enable the issuance of the order without providing prior notice or a hearing to the individual who is the subject of the order (ex parte orders). In such cases, the ERPO is issued by a judge based on the petitioner’s presentation of evidence of imminent danger.

The recent willingness of states and the federal government to consider ERPO laws, the variety of ways in which the laws are designed and worded, and the limited data on their use and effectiveness all suggest that there is a compelling need for research on a wide variety of questions concerning ERPOs. With this RFP, NCGVR requests proposals on any of the topics listed below that

- inform policy and practice
- use qualitative and mixed methods research designs when appropriate
- are connected to and informed by partnerships with practitioners and the communities in which the research is conducted and ERPOs are used
- are designed with equity—particularly racial equity—in mind.

The six priority categories are drawn from the “Extreme Risk Protective Order Research Agenda” (see the call for research on ERPOs on Arnold Ventures’ website) developed by April Zeoli, Ph.D., with support from Arnold Ventures.

- **ERPO outcomes and effectiveness.** More high-quality research is needed to determine whether ERPO laws are effective in reducing firearm violence outcomes and what factors may mediate or moderate the effectiveness of ERPOs in reducing self-harm and violence against others. Research can also examine any additional consequences ERPO respondents may experience beyond the temporary suspension of firearm rights.

- **Equity and respondent groups.** Concerns have been raised that ERPO laws and their enforcement carry the risk of inequity, particularly among certain groups of people by age, gender, race, profession, or health condition. Variation in legislative language, jurisdiction-specific legal application, and court interpretation of the various laws could introduce bias toward or away from certain ERPO respondents or petitioners. NCGVR is interested in the examination of bias in ERPO application through research across multiple jurisdictions, which could identify sources of inequity and groups at risk.

- **ERPO implementation and process.** Understanding how ERPOs are being used and implemented can help refine jurisdictional and state-level protocols and amend or enact ERPO legislation that works as intended and is equitable and acceptable. Topics can include petitioner eligibility, risk factors for filing and granting ERPOs, the factors that influence whether ERPOs are more likely to be granted at the
temporary or final stages (some states allow for the quick issuance of an emergency ERPO and the later issuance of a final ERPO), and how ERPOs intersect with other criminal justice system involvement.

- **Policy provisions.** Differences in ERPO legislation across states could influence their effectiveness, acceptability, sensitivity, and other outcomes. Research comparing laws across different states is needed to supply evidence on which to base ERPO laws that meet the goal of gun violence reduction.

- **Due process.** The question of whether due process is met in ERPO cases can be investigated empirically through examination of the implications of ERPO on relevant factors. This can include research projects on how ERPOs might affect the private interest in the right to keep and bear arms, the extent to which ERPO petitions are filed in bad faith and result in wrongful firearm removals, and how court decisions differ between emergency rulings and those following a hearing at which the respondent appears.

- **Data.** To begin to evaluate the effectiveness of ERPO laws, access to high-quality data is fundamental. NCGVR is interested in projects examining the availability and quality of data from governmental and nongovernmental sources that can inform policy, legislation, implementation, and the effectiveness of ERPO laws in reducing gun violence.

### 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, acceptance, or adoption of new technologies.

- **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 and are designed to prevent firearm suicide and other firearm violence, if these programs are integral to state ERPO programs.

- **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 on 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 ERPO laws or programs 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 $3,100,000 in grant funding through this RFP. There is no maximum dollar limit on individual research awards. Dissertation awards will be provided in the amount of $25,000 each. Postdoctoral awards will be provided in the amount of $50,000 each.

Projects That Supplement Other Funded Projects or That Require Supplemental Funding

If a proposed project supplements existing work, either funded or in progress, the proposal must clarify how the NCGVR funds will add to (rather than duplicate) this work and where any efficiencies will be realized by doing the projects in tandem. This pertains in particular to work on ERPOs funded by NIJ. Although proposals under this RFP may be used to supplement NIJ-funded work on ERPOs (especially as NIJ funds cannot be used in research primarily focused on the prevention of suicide), the proposal should be clear on how the NCGVR funding would complement the already-funded work. Projects seeking only part of the total cost of the planned work must highlight that limitation and explain where any additional needed funds will be obtained.

Eligibility

Eligible organizations include 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charitable organizations in good standing with 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, or any organization whose purpose is not entirely charitable. The RAND Corporation, RAND Europe, their staffs, and their adjunct staff are ineligible to apply for NCGVR funding through this solicitation.

1 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).
Eligible organizations may submit more than one LOI. Individual researchers may be included in multiple LOIs but may be listed as the principal investigator (PI) or co-PI on only a single research award LOI. There is no requirement that individual researchers have a doctorate degree, although 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, must have passed all preliminary exams, and must have a dissertation research proposal on a topic related to ERPOs that has received all necessary departmental approvals by October 1, 2023. Students must have a plan to complete their dissertations and receive their degree between January 1, 2024, and September 30, 2024. 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. Awards can be provided to the organization to fund research by a specific individual (an individual award) or by a to-be-named individual (a research group award). Both individual applicants and those selected postaward by research groups 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. Funding will not be awarded until eligible postdoctoral fellows have been identified.

**Individual Awards**

Individuals seeking one-year 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. Applicants must have exceptional mentorship identified at the time of the award.

**Research Group Awards**

NCGVR recognizes that the timing of the RFP process can make it difficult for potential postdoctoral researchers to apply for NCGVR funding as individuals, because at the time proposals are due, potential applicants may
not yet know where they will be working after graduation. To make the postdoctoral fellowship awards more accessible, NCGVR will allow research groups to apply for one-year postdoctoral fellowship funding without identifying a specific researcher for the position. Research groups may submit applications for no more than two fellows. This allows research groups (e.g., centers, labs, departments) to apply for NCGVR funds concurrently with the typical hiring period for postdoctoral fellows (spring semester). NCGVR defines a research group as a research center or lab within an institution of higher education, an academic department, or an individual with research funding for additional research project staff.

Eligible research groups are those at institutions of higher education that meet the eligibility criteria listed above. Applicants must identify a specific research project that the fellow will work on and who will serve as the fellow’s mentor on that research. NCGVR prefers that fellows are hired to work on a single research project but may consider proposals for a single fellow who works on multiple projects that are closely related.

Research groups seeking one or more postdoctoral fellowship awards must demonstrate a track record of high-quality research and dissemination in an area relevant to the program description for this RFP, a history of and commitment to mentoring new doctoral-level (Ph.D., M.D., or equivalent doctoral degree) researchers to continue in research careers, and an ongoing or newly funded research project that would benefit from the inclusion of one or more full-time postdoctoral fellows.

**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. Dissertation award funds may be used for research-related expenses, including tuition, travel to conferences, or data collection, books, and computer supplies. Postdoctoral research fellowship award funds may be used for research-related expenses, including tuition, living expenses, travel to conferences, or data collection, books, and computer supplies.

NCGVR plans to hold two meetings for all grantees to share progress and findings with other NCGVR grantees and, possibly, researchers funded under the NIJ or other ERPO research programs. These meetings are tentatively scheduled to take place in November 2024 and November 2025. Applicants for research projects should include travel to Washington, D.C., for the November 2024 meeting (the 2025 meeting will be virtual). All applicants should include time to prepare for and participate in both meetings.

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 by the project supported by a particular NCGVR grant. 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.

Indirect cost limits by award type are

- research awards, up to 40% of total direct project costs
- postdoctoral fellowship awards, up to 10% of total direct project costs
- dissertation awards, indirect costs not allowed.
Key Activities and Timeline

LOIs are due on September 5, 2023. Full proposals will be due on November 20, five weeks after applicants receive an invitation to submit a full proposal. Questions about this RFP may be submitted to proposals@ncgvr.org until August 28, 2023.

Applicants should take each deadline's time zone into account.

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<tr>
<th>Key Activities</th>
<th>Timeline</th>
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<tr>
<td>Last date to pose questions related to this RFP</td>
<td>8:00 p.m. ET, August 28, 2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>Responses to questions</td>
<td>8:00 p.m. ET, August 31, 2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>LOIs due</td>
<td>8:00 p.m. ET, September 5, 2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>Invitations for full proposals issued by NCGVR</td>
<td>October 16, 2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>Full proposals due</td>
<td>8:00 p.m. ET, November 20, 2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>Notification of awards</td>
<td>No later than January 22, 2024</td>
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<td>Earliest projected project start date</td>
<td>February 29, 2024</td>
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Part 4. Application Instructions

The application process for all awards includes two steps. First, all applicants must submit an LOI describing the proposed research, and selected applicants will be asked to submit a full proposal. Second, those applicants must submit a full proposal. 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.

To submit an LOI for consideration in any award category, applicants must complete an online form that is available at https://answer.rand.org/ncgvr-2023 and includes the information listed for their award category. Applicants will then be able to upload a single PDF document of their LOI. Once an LOI is submitted, neither the LOI nor the information in the online form can be modified.

If a full proposal is requested, applicants will receive a new URL to upload their proposal. At this point, applicants will be able to update any administrative information that has changed since the LOI stage. Applicants should follow the instructions in the section pertaining to their award type regarding what to include in a full proposal. Once a proposal is submitted, neither the proposal nor the information in the online form can be modified.

Both the LOI and the proposal stage require a PDF submittal with all required information combined into one PDF. All PDFs must have no smaller than 12-point font, one-inch margins, and may be single-spaced. If there are word or page limits, these are provided in the specific instructions for each award type.

Failure to comply with these instructions or provide all materials by the deadlines in the “Key Activities and Timeline” section above could result in the proposal not being reviewed.
Research Project Awards

LOI Instructions

Submit administrative information via the online form and upload the LOI narrative as a PDF.

1. Administrative information
   a. Proposed PI’s name, title, and email address (If there is more than one PI, list the person to whom any correspondence should be addressed.)
   b. Organization/university and department name
   c. Organization mailing address
   d. Organization tax ID number
   e. Authorized organizational representative's name, title, and email address (This should be an official who is authorized to sign a grant award if one is made.)
   f. Project title
   g. Total requested amount (direct and indirect costs combined) (Do not complete the full budget proposal included in the appendix; this is not required at the LOI stage.)
   h. The proposed level of effort of the investigator(s) on the project (days per year or percentage of time)
   i. Select all categories that describe the type of research you are proposing: ERPO outcomes and effectiveness, equity and respondent groups, ERPO implementation and process, policy provisions, due process, data, or other (if other, describe).
   j. Start date (no earlier than the projected start date in the “Key Activities and Timeline” section)
   k. Duration of the proposed grant project (NCGVR will provide up to 24 months of funding for research projects, so a project that starts, for example, on April 15, 2024, must end no later than April 14, 2026.)
   l. List of key staff
   m. Describe the experience of proposed investigators(s) conducting research of similar complexity, requiring similar skills or expertise (up to 200 words total, across all investigators).
   n. Describe the organization, its past related experience (within three years), and any key resources the organization has that will support project performance (up to 200 words).
   o. If you have previously submitted this project to NCGVR, please describe any revisions made (up to 200 words).
   p. Acknowledge that your organization meets the eligibility criteria listed above.

2. LOI narrative (up to three pages for sections 2a through 2d)
   a. Project title
   b. Problem analysis and statement: Describe the project’s research objectives, explain the gap(s) in the scientific literature the objectives address, and explain how addressing these gaps could make an important contribution to the ERPO research agenda described in this RFP.
   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 (not included in the page count limit)
   f. Optional: letters of support (not included in the page count limit).

Full Proposal Instructions

All sections 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.
1. Project title
2. Project summary (up to 500 words)
3. Table of contents
4. Project narrative (up to ten pages)
   a. **Problem analysis and statement:** Describe the project’s research objectives and research questions and document the gap in the scientific literature the objectives address, either by referencing 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, including subgroup analysis, for the sample size decisions 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 datasets, 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.² 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

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² For information about what preregistration entails and how to complete the process, see the OSF webpage: https://www.cos.io/initiatives/prereg?_ga=2.170302304.1756820500.1608243920-617135959.1602700895.
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, PIs and 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 budget template and budget narrative instructions). Include travel costs to Washington, D.C., for the in-person meeting in November 2024 and costs to prepare for the virtual workshop in November 2025.

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. Projects should begin no earlier than the date listed in the “Key Activities and Timeline” section and can last up to two years.
   c. Résumés or curricula vitae of the 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 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 on their scientific merit, for which five primary criteria will be used.

For the LOI, although NCGVR asks that applicants address the selection criteria detailed below, applicants are not expected to have finalized every aspect of the study. Therefore, reviewers will focus on the first two selection 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 related to the ERPO research agenda described earlier in this RFP.
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 the project team and organization are to carry out the proposed project. NCGVR prefers projects that involve multidisciplinary teams and collaborations that integrate relevant practitioners into the research process, although 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

Applicants for dissertation awards are the institutions of higher education at which the beneficiary of the award is an advanced doctoral candidate (see “Eligibility,” above). Before submitting an LOI, doctoral candidates 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 advisor to submit a full dissertation grant proposal, if one is requested by NCGVR after review of the LOI.

LOI Instructions

Submit administrative information via the online form and upload the LOI narrative as a PDF.

1. Administrative information
   a. Doctoral candidate’s name and email address
   b. Advisor’s name, title, and email address
   c. University and department name
   d. University mailing address
   e. University tax ID number
   f. Authorized organizational representative’s name, title, and email address (This should be an official who is authorized to sign a grant award if one is made.)
   g. Dissertation title (Please append “Dissertation Award:” to the beginning of the title.)
   h. Requested amount ($25,000)
i. Select all categories that describe the type of research you are proposing: ERPO outcomes and effectiveness, equity and respondent groups, ERPO implementation and process, policy provisions, due process, data, or other (if other, describe).

j. Start date (no earlier than the projected start date in the “Key Activities and Timeline” section)

k. Acknowledge that you meet the dissertation award eligibility criteria listed above.

2. LOI narrative
   a. Project description: 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 (up to two pages).
   b. Project status: Describe what work has been completed, what remains, the timeline, and the expected completion date; also indicate the date on which your dissertation project was approved or is expected to be approved, if it has not yet been (up to 200 words).
   c. Personal statement: Describe your academic performance and accomplishments to date, including any publications or presentations; describe how the award will facilitate completion of your dissertation (up to one page).
   d. 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 (no page limit).

Full Proposal Instructions

All sections below are required.

1. Applicant’s name, address, phone number, and email address
2. University tax ID number
3. A budget describing how the award money will be spent (See the appendix for a link to budget template and budget narrative instructions.)
4. A copy of the applicant’s résumé or curriculum vitae
5. A 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 (the same as item 2d from the LOI)
6. University transcripts for all courses taken by the applicant in pursuit of a degree; these may be emailed directly to proposals@ncgvr.org if required by the university
7. Dissertation narrative (up to five pages)
   a. Address any comments or questions received from reviewers on your LOI.
   b. Provide more detail on elements of your dissertation previously described in the LOI, including the dissertation study design, research objectives, gap(s) in the scientific literature that your objectives address, and procedures, analytic methods, and data sources.
   c. References (these do not count against the five-page limit).

In addition, the applicant’s advisor or chair must submit a letter directly to proposals@ncgvr.org, with the name of the applicant in the subject line of the email. The letter should

1. confirm the applicant’s eligibility to receive this dissertation award, including that the applicant’s dissertation research proposal will have been approved by October 1, 2023, and the expected date when a Ph.D. or Sc.D. degree will be conferred on the applicant
2. describe the applicant’s progress on their dissertation work and potential to successfully complete the dissertation by September 30, 2024.
3. describe the applicant's outstanding characteristics or performance that make them a worthy recipient of this dissertation award
4. describe the advisor's or chair's role in monitoring the applicant's work and present evidence of both the department's and the dissertation committee chair's abilities to mentor doctoral candidates through the completion of their degrees.

Evaluation Criteria
Dissertation award decisions will be made by the NCGVR RAC after considering the applicant's scholarly excellence, the significance of the applicant's dissertation research objectives, the quality of the research design, the feasibility of the project and schedule, the applicant's qualifications, the advisor's nominating comments, and the applicant's potential to make a significant contribution to gun violence prevention research or gun policy research.
Individual Postdoctoral Fellowship Awards

Applicants are the universities or nonprofit organizations 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.

LOI Instructions

Submit administrative information via the online form and upload the LOI narrative as a PDF.

1. Administrative information
   - Postdoctoral researcher’s name and email address
   - Advisor’s name, title, and email address
   - University/organization and department name
   - University mailing address
   - University tax ID number
   - Authorized organizational representative’s name, title, and email address (This should be an official who is authorized to sign a grant award if one is made.)
   - Postdoctoral research project title (Please append “Fellowship Award:” to the beginning of the title.)
   - Requested amount ($50,000)
   - Select all categories that describe the type of research you are proposing: ERPO outcomes and effectiveness, equity and respondent groups, ERPO implementation and process, policy provisions, due process, data, or other (if other, describe).
   - Start date of one-year period over which award is requested (no earlier than the projected start date in the “Key Activities and Timeline” section)
   - Acknowledge that you meet the postdoctoral award eligibility criteria listed above.

2. LOI narrative
   - 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) (up to two pages).
   - Project status: Describe what work has been completed, what remains, the timeline, and the expected completion date (up to 200 words).
   - Personal statement: Describe (1) your academic performance and accomplishments to date, including any publications or presentations; (2) your postgraduate research experience, to date, and the position you will hold at the university during the postdoctoral research fellowship award funding period; and (3) how the award will facilitate the completion of your postdoctoral research (up to one page).
   - Letter from the university’s office of sponsored research or office of research, grants, and contracts. The letter should indicate that the candidate meets the eligibility requirements to receive a postdoctoral research fellowship award (no page limit).

Full Proposal Instructions

All sections listed below are required.

1. Applicant’s name, address, phone number, and email address
2. University tax ID number
3. A budget describing how the award money will be spent (See the appendix for a link to budget template and budget narrative instructions.)
4. A copy of the applicant’s résumé or curriculum vitae
5. A 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 (the same as item 2d from the LOI)
6. University transcripts for all courses taken by the applicant in pursuit of their doctoral degree. These may be emailed directly to proposals@ncgvr.org if required by the university.
7. Project narrative (up to five pages)
   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 referencing a systematic review or by explaining how you established this as a gap in the literature. Explain how addressing this gap 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 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.
      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.

In addition, the applicant’s mentor or mentoring team must submit a letter directly to proposals@ncgvr.org with the name of applicant in the subject line of the email. The letter should

1. confirm the applicant’s eligibility to receive this postdoctoral research fellowship award
2. describe the applicant’s role in the research project proposed for the award
3. describe the applicant’s outstanding characteristics or performance that makes them a worthy recipient of this postdoctoral research project
4. describe the mentor’s role in supporting the applicant’s research training and their completion of the proposed research project
5. provide any evidence of successful mentoring of other postdoctoral researchers.

Evaluation Criteria
Postdoctoral research fellowship award decisions will be made by the NCGVR RAC after considering the applicant’s scholarly excellence, the significance of the proposed research project’s objectives, the quality of the research design, the feasibility of the project and schedule, the applicant’s qualifications and the mentor’s nominating comments, and the fellow’s potential to become an independent, productive researcher who will make a significant contribution to gun violence prevention research or gun policy research.
Research Group Postdoctoral Fellowship Awards

Applicants are the universities or nonprofit organizations at which the beneficiary of the award will receive advanced research training (see “Eligibility,” above). Before submitting an LOI, research groups 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.

Research groups with funded research in areas related to NCGVR’s areas of interest may apply for postdoctoral fellowship awards before identifying the candidates who will fill them. Groups may apply for up to two awards, although if NCGVR chooses to award postdoctoral fellows for a research group, it may award fewer than the number requested. If funding of fewer than the requested number of postdoctoral fellowships will materially affect either the performance of the research project or the quality of the training received by funded fellows, this must be explained in the project narrative.

LOI Instructions

Submit administrative information via the online form and upload the LOI narrative as a PDF.

1. Administrative information
   a. Advisor or mentor’s name and email address (list secondary advisor or mentor, if applicable)
   b. University/organization name, department, and research group
   c. University mailing address where the research group is headquartered
   d. University tax ID number
   e. Authorized organizational representative’s name, title, and email address (This should be an official who is authorized to sign a grant award if one is made.)
   f. Title of project for which postdoctoral fellow will conduct research (Please append “Fellowship Award:” to the beginning of the title.)
   g. Requested amount ($50,000 per fellow)
   h. Number of postdoctoral fellows requested in application
   i. Select all categories that describe the type of research you are proposing: ERPO outcomes and effectiveness, equity and respondent groups, ERPO implementation and process, policy provisions, due process, data, or other (if other, describe).
   j. Start date of one-year period over which award is requested (no earlier than the projected start date in the “Key Activities and Timeline” section)
   k. Describe the research group within which the postdoctoral fellow(s) will be working, including past experience (within three years) and any key resources the organization has that will support the postdoctoral position (up to 200 words).
   l. Describe the organization, its past related experience (within three years), and any key resources the organization has that will support project performance (up to 200 words).
   m. If you have previously submitted this project to NCGVR, please describe any revisions made (up to 200 words).
   n. Acknowledge that funding will not be provided until a postdoctoral fellow has been identified and meets NCGVR’s eligibility criteria.
   o. Acknowledge that your university and research group meet the postdoctoral award eligibility criteria listed above.

2. LOI narrative. If research groups are requesting multiple postdoctoral awards, and fellows will be working on different projects or with different mentors, separate LOI narrative sections can be submitted for each.
a. Project description and status: 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) (up to 600 words).

b. Fellow’s contribution: Describe the portion of the research on which the fellow will be expected to work (up to 200 words for each requested position).

c. Mentor description: Identify the mentor who will be responsible for overseeing the work of the fellow, particularly addressing any prior mentoring experience and background of research in topics relevant to NCGVR (up to 400 words).

d. Postdoctoral fellow hiring plan: Briefly describe the ideal postdoctoral fellow, including expected methodological skills required to accomplish planned research; approach to hiring the fellow; and plans for mentoring the fellow (up to 200 words for each requested position).

e. Curriculum vitae or résumé of principal mentor(s)

f. Letter from the university’s office of sponsored research or office of research, grants, and contracts. The letter should indicate that the organization meets the eligibility requirements for a postdoctoral research group fellowship award (no page limit).

Full Proposal Instructions

All sections listed below are required.

1. Research group name, mentor name, phone number, and email address

2. University tax ID number

3. A budget describing how the award money will be spent (See the appendix for a link to budget template and budget narrative instructions.)

4. A letter from the university official who will administer the grant award acknowledging that the organization meets NCGVR eligibility requirements for postdoctoral research group fellowship awards (the same as 2f from the LOI)

5. Project narrative addressing the following (up to five pages). If multiple awards are requested and fellows will be working on separate projects, up to five pages per project.

   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 referencing a systematic review or by explaining how you established this as a gap in the literature. Explain how addressing this 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 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.

   c. 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 likely implementation challenges or other project risks.

6. Recruitment and mentorship plan (up to one page)

   a. Describe a plan to recruit and provide mentorship to the research fellow. NCGVR encourages research groups to identify fellowship candidates with diverse backgrounds and experiences. Include
information about the fellow’s planned integration into the existing research group, the fellow’s access to research resources outside those needed for the planned project, the potential for productive interaction with other senior researchers and practitioners (if applicable), and support for identifying permanent positions at the end of the fellowship.

Evaluation Criteria

Postdoctoral research fellowship award decisions will be made by the NCGVR RAC, after considering the applicant’s or research group’s scholarly excellence, the significance of the proposed research project’s objectives, the quality of the research design, the feasibility of the project and schedule, and the fellow’s potential to become an independent, productive researcher who will make a significant contribution to gun violence prevention research or gun policy research. For research group applicants, this last criterion will be based on the group’s prior record of producing researchers working in relevant fields and supports in place for the fellow’s professional development.
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 demonstrating adequate performance completing project milestones and deliverables as documented in routine progress reporting and periodic phone calls with NCGVR grant monitors, preregistering research protocols at OSF (http://osf.io) and fulfilling other open-science expectations listed in the grant agreement, adherence to a human subjects protection plan approved by an accredited IRB, and adhering to quality assurance review procedures.

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 RAC, the Administrative Entity, or any other advisor to the Account; (2) to provide more than an incidental benefit to the RAC, Administrative Entity, or any other advisor 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 other 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. Research award grantees are required to submit semiannual progress reports and a final report. All progress and financial reports should compare actual versus proposed expenditures and accomplishments during the period being reported. Reports should be sent via email to grants@ncgvr.org.
   a. Semiannual progress report(s) documenting grant activity and interim research results for the period being reported.
   b. Final progress report due 30 days after the end of the project term.
   c. Semiannual financial report(s).
   d. Final financial report due no later than 30 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 the DAF, in consultation with the RAC 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 the DAF. Grantee may not reallocate any unspent funds and may not spend or retain unspent funds after the Ending Date without prior written approval from DAF in consultation with the RAC through the Administrative Entity.

   Dissertation and postdoctoral grantees need to provide a final report, but financial reporting is not required.

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”).

   The Guidelines’ specific applicability to Grantee’s empirical research study may vary, or be modified, as determined by the NCGVR Research Director. Grantee acknowledges and agrees that the obligations imposed by the Guidelines shall continue for the duration of the empirical research study or evaluation related to the Purpose, even if such duration expands beyond the Term. Generally these obligations include:
   a. Grantee must establish an account with OSF (www.osf.io) and create a new project for any new empirical research study. Unless there is an express legal restriction on doing so, Grantee must
(1) add Dr. Andrew Morral and Liisa Ecola (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 (2) 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 matter satisfactory to the NCGVR Research Director.

c. To the maximum extent allowed under any applicable federal or state law, IRB procedures, memorandum or contract signed with a government agency (including any regulations applicable thereto), and/or license, all of the datasets, computer code, and other materials (such as codebooks, protocols, survey instruments, administrative records) related to the empirical research study must be (1) 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 (2) 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). The grant agreement will identify the dataset(s) to be posted in OSF.

d. Notwithstanding the above, to the extent that any dataset 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 dataset 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 dataset with a third-party researcher if that researcher has first (1) obtained official written approval from all governmental agencies that provided data access to Grantee, (2) obtained written approval from an accredited IRB, and (3) signed a nondisclosure agreement pertaining to all private and/or confidential data. The third-party researcher’s access to the dataset 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 dataset is not downloaded to the researcher’s local computer, or the removal or alteration of personally identifiable information).

4. 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(s) generated from the empirical research study’s dataset. 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 (1) make a copy of the publication freely available on the OSF webpage (if allowed under the journal’s copyright policies) or (2) 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.
5. **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 IRB has reviewed and approved the procedures that 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.

6. **Quality Assurance.** 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. Any policy recommendations in NCGVR-funded work must be supported by empirical research, and research findings and recommendations must have gone through quality assurance review.

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**Appendix. Budget Template and Budget Narrative**

An Excel version of the budget template is available at [https://www.ncgvr.org/rfp](https://www.ncgvr.org/rfp). All full proposals, regardless of award type, must include a budget in this template and an accompanying budget narrative.

**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, personnel, fringe benefits, travel, other direct costs, subcontractors and 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” webpage, [https://www.gsa.gov/travel/plan-book/per-diem-rates](https://www.gsa.gov/travel/plan-book/per-diem-rates). 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/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% 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.*