



## Request for Proposals Duke Global Health Institute Pilot Research DEADLINE: November 4, 2024

Duke University is at the forefront of groundbreaking research that intersects artificial intelligence (AI) with health, emphasizing ethical and equitable data science. “AI” is typically used to describe when computers are learning independent of human interaction - for example the ability to perform tasks in complex environments without constant guidance by a user or the ability to improve performance by learning from experience.

The Duke Global Health Institute (DGHI) encourages ethical data governance and use, promoting appropriate aspects of data science, machine learning, and/or artificial intelligence. As such, we are happy to invite interdisciplinary teams to submit proposals that drive innovation, foster collaboration, and shape the future of global health, leveraging the broad scope of AI technologies. Research and collaboration around data, machine learning and innovation are important to DGHI, Duke School of Medicine, and Duke University. Through this RFP, DGHI seeks to provide pilot funds to stimulate interdisciplinary research collaborations, with the goal of enabling investigators to leverage preliminary findings and data to obtain larger awards of external funding.

- Collaborative and interdisciplinary proposals are required. Teams including new investigators, investigators new to global health, and/or investigators from low and middle-income countries, are encouraged.
- DGHI is looking to support global health research ideas that will improve health equity and benefit hard-to-reach populations, low-resourced areas or global health partners.
- We encourage cross-cutting investments that span multiple disciplines or topics (e.g. something that would aid both noncommunicable and infectious diseases, like heart disease, malaria or cervical cancer elimination). We welcome proposals that integrate diverse scientific approaches, from implementation science to genomics or sociobehavioral science, to create impactful, cross-cutting proposals. Proposed research can also focus on other aspects of AI, such as data equity, legal barriers to AI implementation/data access, or perceptions and acceptability of AI in your population.
- Topic areas which have not previously received support and proposals that support and describe a sustainable line of global health research will be prioritized.

### Eligible Applicants

Duke faculty are eligible to apply for funding. Proposals that include collaborators from other institutions are encouraged. Study teams that include investigators from more than one Duke School, Institute, or Department will receive priority review.

### Budgets

The budget may include: supplies, support for technicians, research assistants, and graduate students; research-related travel; and other justifiable and allowable research expenses. Faculty salary, travel to scientific meetings, and indirect costs are not allowable expenses. Applicants may apply for up to \$25,000 for a 12-month project. Smaller proposals for shorter periods are also encouraged.

### Application Requirements

Proposals must be for activities in low, lower- and upper- middle-income countries <sup>1</sup> (a listing of eligible countries can be found at the World Bank website: <http://data.worldbank.org/about/country-and-lending-groups>) OR focused on health disparities in the American South. Applicants are encouraged to identify collaborating in-country/local investigators, and should describe plans for how the results generated will be applied to future external funding, as this will be an important criterion in the review.

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<sup>1</sup> If you wish to propose a global health project that does not include LMIC or American South activities, please contact Kelly Deal to discuss and receive approval.

1. Cover Page. Must include the following information:
  - Proposal title
  - Name, title, departmental affiliation, address, email address, and telephone number of all proposed investigators
  - Designation of a Principal Investigator or Co- Principal Investigators
2. Abstract (250 words maximum)
3. Research Plan (3 page maximum; single-spaced, 12 point font, 1" margins) including:
  - Statement of research objectives
  - Significance of the research (including significance to DGHI and/or Global Health and to research setting)
  - Proposed methods and plans for data analysis (specific details recommended)
  - Work already completed related to the proposed work (if relevant)
  - Description of the research team and research setting, including site collaboration plan
  - Potential for future external grant support
4. Appendix Materials (1 page maximum each; single-spaced, 12 point font, 1" margins) including:
  - Research timeline and milestones
  - Letter of support from a collaborating researcher at research site
5. Budget and Justification (1 page maximum)
  - Please submit a detailed and specific line-item budget with explanations for why items are included
6. NIH Biosketch OR Curriculum Vitae
  - Include current grant support and limit to 5 pages for each investigator

#### Submission Format

Please combine all required elements into a single pdf document and submit via email to [kelly.deal@duke.edu](mailto:kelly.deal@duke.edu) with the subject line of "DGHI Pilot Grant Submission."

#### Schedule

Application receipt date: November 4, 2024

#### Inquiries

We welcome the opportunity to answer questions from potential applicants. Please submit inquiries related to this funding announcement to:

Kelly Matthews Deal, MPH  
Assistant Director, Research  
Duke Global Health Institute  
Telephone (919) 681-7159, Email: [Kelly.deal@duke.edu](mailto:Kelly.deal@duke.edu)