

Improving Access to and Use of Safe and Appropriate Caesarian Section: A Grand Challenge

Application Instructions

Your complete application package will consist of the following components:

- (1) Applicant profile – completed via our application portal
- (2) Two-page proposal – uploaded as a Microsoft Word or Adobe PDF file
- (3) Budget table and narrative – uploaded as a Microsoft Word or Adobe PDF file
- (4) Additional informational requirements

Details on each section can be found below.

Proposal Guidelines

Please enter proposal text in Sections I and II according to the instructions within each section. If you choose to include charts, graphs, or references, add them within the appropriate section.

Your proposal must be formatted as follows:

- No longer than two (2) pages
- 11 point font or larger
- At least 0.5” margins all around
- Single line spacing
- Standard character spacing (neither expanded nor condensed)
- Arial or Times New Roman font
- Microsoft Word or Adobe PDF filetype
- The entire file should be 2MB or less

Proposals that do not adhere to these restrictions may be blocked from submission and/or review.

Section I. What is your idea?

Use this section to briefly describe your idea. Read the topic description carefully to make sure that your idea directly fits the topic; otherwise your proposal may be disqualified.

- Indicate in one or two sentences **in bold** the essence of your idea.
- Why is your idea an unconventional or creative approach to the problem outlined in the topic?
- Describe the hypothesis for your proposal and why you expect it to succeed.

Section II. How will you test it?

Use this section to briefly describe the project design and implementation plan.

- Describe your project plan
- How will the work you describe be performed within the budget and time period allocated?

- What essential data will you generate? How will you measure whether your idea is a success?
- If your experiments are successful, what are the next steps?

Budget Table and Narrative

Please use the template (found [here](#) and on the application portal) to include a brief breakdown of allowable direct costs under the following categories:

- Personnel
- Supplies
- Subcontracts
- Subgrants
- Travel
- Other expenses (equipment)

Please review the [Rules & Guidelines](#) for more guidance.

Additional Questions

This Grand Challenge will have 2 funding levels, each with its own specific requirements for additional materials. Applicants must select to which level they are applying.

Seed Grants – USD \$100,000 for up to 24 months. **In addition to** the applicant profile, 2-page proposal, and budget table and narrative (as described above), applicants for **Seed Grants** must also:

- Verify that they have conducted a thorough literature search using a major database confirming their proposal is novel
- Briefly describe the databases searched and the exact search terms used

Answers to these essential questions will be provided within the application portal and will not require uploading additional documents.

Validation Grants – USD \$300,000 for up to 24 months. **In addition to** the applicant profile, 2-page proposal, and budget table and narrative (as described above), applicants for **Validation Grants** must also describe how their concept replicates, confirms, or more rigorously tests one intervention (or multiple interventions) that have previously demonstrated proof of concept at a smaller scale.

Please upload a separate document – 1 page maximum – that describes what evidence exists for proof of concept of this intervention (or interventions). Please adhere to the same formatting guidelines as listed under [“Proposal Guidelines”](#) above.