Strengthening Data Science Capacity and the Ecosystem: Enabling Data-Centered Public Health Interventions

Application Instructions

Information required for application

Please refer to the following guidelines as you prepare your application to the RFP "Strengthening Data Science Capacity and the Ecosystem to Enable Data-Centered Public Health Interventions"

Your application includes:
- ➢ Applicant profile and information – completed via our application portal
- ➢ Proposal – uploaded as a Microsoft Word® or Adobe® PDF file
  - o Maximum 4 pages
  - o Figures and references are included in this page count
- ➢ Budget table and narrative (1 page, use template provided) - uploaded as a Microsoft Word® or Adobe® PDF file

Please note that templates for the proposal and budget narrative and table can be found within the application portal within the corresponding upload task. Details on each section can be found below.

Applicant Profile

To begin your application, please click on the "Apply for this opportunity" button at the top of the challenge page. Through this link, you will be able to access the "Strengthening Data Science Capacity and the Ecosystem: Enabling Data-Centered Public Health Interventions" program. Either create a new account, or log-in to the system if you have previously created an account and begin your application by filing out the applicant profile.

Proposal File – 4 pages maximum

Proposal Format

Your proposal must be formatted as follows.

- No longer than 4 pages maximum
- 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
- Entire file size of 3MB or less
- Please do not include a cover sheet with your proposal. A cover sheet will be automatically generated from your registration data.

Applications that do not adhere to these restrictions may be blocked from submission and review.

Proposal Content

Along with this application instructions document, we encourage you to reference the request for proposals overview document and the challenge rules and guidelines to ensure that your proposal responds to the challenge. You are required to submit either a Microsoft Word® or PDF® document; no more than 4 pages in length describing your project as well as a one-page budget table and narrative. Please do not include a cover sheet with your proposal. A cover sheet will be automatically generated from your registration data.

Please include the following in your proposal: (suggested lengths in parentheses)

(Indicated page limits are guidelines only for individual sections, but **your entire proposal document may not exceed 4 pages**.)

1) **Executive summary (~1/2 page)** The summary should indicate the specific problem that the proposal seeks to address, the approach proposed to solve this problem, and the expected impact of the project – if successful – at the end of the grant period. At the beginning of this section, include one or two sentences in bold that capture the essence of your idea.

2) **Proposal information (~ 1.5 pages)**
   a. Describe the specific goals of the project and how they are responsive to coordinated program objectives noted in the Request for Proposals. Describe how your project would collaborate and support other funded projects, under the 2 other categories, to enable the coordinated program within the two-year funding timeframe?
   b. Include a brief presentation of any relevant ongoing initiatives and/or existing resources you'll be leveraging.
   c. Describe the project plan and the key milestones and deliverables your project will generate throughout its lifespan. Include any key dependencies between activities or interim milestones that will influence project decisions or directions.

3) **Core team (~1/2 page)**: Include a table summarizing the composition of the core team, including their affiliation/s and geographical location, the role of each collaborator and their skills/experience relevant to this call. This should include data partners, if any. Briefly describe the collaboration and how it will contribute to achieving the project goals. This table should include information about your mentor.

4) **Data Sources (~1/2 page):**
   a. If you're applying for a data re-use project, please describe the data you intend to use for this project and include in the description whether you already have access to the data or not. If you' re using multiple data sources, we recommend you include a table summarizing this information.
   b. If you're applying for one of the cores, please include how you intend to leverage data sources used by the data re-use projects and if you plan to use any other data sources.

5) **Stakeholders and community engagement (1/2 page):** Describe briefly how you intend to get stakeholders and the wider public/communities involved throughout the process. How would they contribute? How will the project impact them?

6) **Path to impact (1/2 page):** What would your next steps be if you are successful in this work? How would this proposal contribute to accelerating data-centered health research and improving health emergency preparedness?

Budget Table and Narrative – 1 page maximum

Please use the budget template (linked and on the application portal) to include a breakdown of allowable direct costs under the following categories.

- Personnel
- Subcontracts
- Subgrants
- Capital Assets/Equipment
- Travel
- Supplies
- Other Expenses
- Indirect Costs (please review the Indirect Cost Policy)

Additionally, please provide a one (1) paragraph Budget Narrative to explain the major cost drivers, how costs relate to planned activities and target outcomes and how the funding would be distributed across partner organizations.

Frequently Asked Questions
Answers to many application questions can be found on the frequently asked questions document.

Inquiries
Please direct all questions about this initiative, selection criteria or application instructions by e-mail to the following address: grandchallenges@gatesfoundation.org