




**Cumulative Health Impacts at the Intersection of  
Climate Change, Environmental Justice,  
and Vulnerable Populations/Lifestages:  
Community-Based Research for Solutions**



**Informational Webinar for Applicants**

**EPA STAR RFA**

**October 5, 2021**

- Review application Information for the EPA STAR RFA:
  - “Cumulative Health Impacts at the Intersection of Climate Change, Environmental Justice, and Vulnerable Populations/Lifestages: Community-Based Research for Solutions”
- Provide guidance for eligibility, submission, technical aspects of application process 
- Answer questions about the application process

## Webinar Ground Rules

- Please hold your questions until all EPA presentations have been made.
- You may type your questions in the comments box. 
- No specific research project or idea can be discussed but, clarifying questions regarding what is written in the RFA announcement may be answered.
- These slides will be provided after the webinar.
- Please keep yourself muted during the presentation. 



## Agency Contacts

- **Technical Contact:** Intaek Hahn, Project Officer ([hahn.intaek@epa.gov](mailto:hahn.intaek@epa.gov)); phone: 202-564-4377
- **Eligibility Contact:** Ron Josephson, Eligibility & Peer Review Officer ([josephson.ron@epa.gov](mailto:josephson.ron@epa.gov)); phone: 202-564-7823
- **Electronic Submissions:** Debra M. Jones, Administrative Officer ([jones.debram@epa.gov](mailto:jones.debram@epa.gov)); phone: 202-564-7839





## RFA & Award Information

- RFA will close on November 16, 2021 at 11:59:59 pm Eastern Time
- Estimated Number of Awards: 6
- Anticipated Funding Amount: \$1.35M total for 3 years.
- Cost sharing is not needed or allowed
- Proposed budget must not exceed \$1.35M.
- Details in the section **II. Award Information** of the RFA.

**Read the RFA very carefully, all necessary information is provided**



# Research Interest and Questions

## Research Interest: **Section I. Funding Opportunity Description**

“Cumulative Health Impacts at the Intersection of Climate Change, Environmental Justice, and Vulnerable Populations/Lifestages: Community-Based Research for Solutions”



## Research Questions: (Must address all 3 in proposed research project)

- (1) What may be the most influential community-, population- or lifestage-specific vulnerabilities caused by ongoing climate change that would elevate exposure to pollutants or contaminants and further exacerbate the health effects from exposure to pollutants or contaminants in underserved communities?
- (2) What are the cumulative health impacts of climate change related stressors on vulnerable groups or susceptible lifestages in underserved communities?
- (3) How can community-based scientific research results be translated and/or applied to provide effective solutions to reduce climate change impacts on human health in underserved communities?



## 5 Research Components

- Partner with underserved community(ies). (Please refer to the required Community Engagement Plan in Section I.D. and Section IV.C.6.e).
- Collaborate with the underserved community(ies) to examine their human health vulnerabilities to climate change (Refer to Fig. 1). Identify specific ongoing climate change impact(s) expected to increase adverse health impacts either/both by increasing risk of exposure to pollutants/contaminants or by influencing modifying factors (Refer to Fig. 2). Identify specific populations and/or lifestages to study differential impacts within the underserved community(ies).
- Provide a hypothesis regarding the specific intersection of climate change impact(s), the underserved community(ies), and increased vulnerability or risks to study the potential impacts on the health of the community(ies) most vulnerable populations/lifestages.
- Include social, health, and economic impacts in the proposed research. Identify how historic and/or current societal and environmental conditions intersect to affect how climate change contributes to acute and/or chronic changes to the natural, built, and/or social environment in the identified underserved community(ies).
- Research results should be generalized so that they can be applied to other underserved communities or populations with similar EJ concerns and vulnerabilities.



## Important Reminders for Applicants

- Impact or mitigation of climate change alone will not be considered.
- Must identify and work with specific underserved communities.
- Contaminated Sites, Natural Disasters, Changing Environmental Conditions and Vulnerable Communities: Research to Build Resilience (2019 SHC STAR RFA)
- The RFA has a heavy emphasis on social science.
- The RFA seeks practical solutions: “The research results should lead to effective solutions that will address specific EJ concerns of the underserved community(ies) your project is investigating. They should provide solutions to the underserved community(ies) in **reducing exposure** to pollutants/contaminants and climate change related stressors, **mitigating cumulative health impacts**, and **building adaptive capacity** with particular attention paid to vulnerable groups/lifestages.”





# Eligibility Information

## Eligible to Apply (Section III. Eligibility Information)

Public and private nonprofit institutions/organizations

Public and private institutions of higher education

Hospitals located in the U.S

State and local governments

Federally Recognized Indian Tribal Governments

Domestic Research that will benefit the US

Foreign collaborators, data collection or use are OK

- International Budget needs to be justified, reviewed, and approved



## Application Materials and Process

- Section IV. **Application And Submission Information** of the RFA
- To apply under this solicitation, use the application package available at **Grants.gov**
- For further submission information see: **RFA Section IV.F.** “Submission Instructions and other Submission Requirements”
- Note: All necessary forms are included in the electronic application package, with the exception of the current and pending support form, available at: **Research Funding Opportunities: How to Apply and Required Forms**

**Make sure to include the current and pending support form in your Grants.gov submission**



## Application Materials and Process

Required application package materials include:

- EPA Human Subjects Research Statement (HSRS)
- Scientific Data Management Plan (SDMP)
- Community Engagement Plan

**PLEASE REMEMBER: Applications without these 3 Plans would be deemed ineligible and will be rejected without further consideration.**




# Application Review Process

Please refer to the following RFA sections for additional information:

## V. Application Review Information

- Peer Review Criteria
- Relevancy Review Criteria
- Peer Review Officer: Chris Rea,  
[Rea.Chris.L@epa.gov](mailto:Rea.Chris.L@epa.gov) 202-564-2517
- Peer Review Team Lead: Meta Bonner,  
[bonner.meta@epa.gov](mailto:bonner.meta@epa.gov), 202-564-4109

- **Technical Contact: Intaek Hahn, Project Officer** ([hahn.intaek@epa.gov](mailto:hahn.intaek@epa.gov)); phone: 202-564-4377 
- **Eligibility Contact: Ron Josephson, Eligibility & Peer Review Officer** ([josephson.ron@epa.gov](mailto:josephson.ron@epa.gov)); phone: 202-564-7823
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**Thank you!**