

**NBER Roybal Center for Behavior Change in Health  
Call for Proposals  
Deadline: January 10, 2021**

The NBER seeks proposals for research projects that involve randomized controlled trials (RCTs) or other NIH-defined clinical trials, and that, if approved for funding by the National Institute on Aging (NIA), would receive support during the period **June 1, 2021-May 31, 2022**. Eligible projects must explore some aspect of the relationship between health and human behavior. Projects that involve scalable interventions, with the potential to broadly improve population health as people age, are of particular interest.

Potential project funding is likely to fall in the range of \$50,000 to \$90,000 of direct costs. Proposals will be reviewed on a rolling basis, and early submissions are strongly encouraged. For exceptional “shovel-ready” projects, including Covid-related projects, some funding may be available before June 1, 2021. Funding is only available for research that will be carried out in the United States, and it may not be used to support secondary data analyses or other non-clinical-trial research.

To determine whether a project is an NIH-defined clinical trial, the answers to the following four questions must be “yes”:

1. Does the study involve human participants?
2. Are the participants prospectively assigned to an intervention?
3. Is the study designed to evaluate the effect of the intervention on the participants?
4. Is the effect being evaluated a health-related biomedical or behavioral outcome?

To be eligible for support, subject recruitment for the study may not have started yet, and it must be possible to delay recruitment until after formal NIH approval. The project must comply with all NIH clinical trial policies, which are described at <https://grants.nih.gov/policy/clinical-trials.htm>.

Please direct questions to the Manager of the NBER Roybal Center, Sarah Holmes Berk ([sholmes@nber.org](mailto:sholmes@nber.org), 617-588-1445).

**Next steps / How to apply:**

**By Sunday, January 10, 2021:** Submit a brief description of your project (including power calculations) and anticipated budget needs. Upload a PDF with this information [here](#). Early submissions are strongly encouraged.

**By Friday, January 29, 2021:** We will tell you if we are able to include your project.

**By Sunday, February 28, 2021:** Using templates and instructions we will provide, submit a Project Description (2 pages), Human Subjects Questionnaire, Planned Inclusion Enrollment Report(s), Budget, Biosketch, and Other Support.

**During March 2021:** Review and approve your Human Subjects System record, which we will draft. Complete applicable NBER and NIH administrative requirements.

**By Thursday, June 1, 2021:** Hopefully, NIH will approve your project by June 1. Please be advised that delays on the NIH side could cause approval to arrive later in the summer. Depending on the risks associated with your study, the NIH may require your study to receive Data & Safety Monitoring Board and/or Safety Officer approval before recruitment can begin.

**For as long as your study continues:** Maintain a ClinicalTrials.gov record for your study in keeping with NIH policy (we can help with this). Update us periodically on your progress.