



Planetary Health Seed Grant Program

Office of the Provost ~ Office of the Vice President for Research

June 4, 2024

INTRODUCTION

Human well-being is inextricably linked with the health of the environment. The [UVM Planetary Health Initiative](#) explores these connections and inspires action so that both people and planet can thrive. To support this initiative and encourage collaboration across three or more UVM units, the Provost's Office and the Office of the Vice President for Research are announcing this call for jointly led proposals for early-stage collaborations.

The UVM Planetary Health Seed Grant Program (PHSGP) will support innovative, interdisciplinary planetary health research leading to the submission of a substantial external funding proposal. One proposal of up to \$100,000 will be funded annually from FY25 – FY29 (5 proposals in total).

ELIBIGILITY AND REQUIREMENTS

- Proposal development must be co-led by two faculty members (PI pairs), one with expertise in health and one with expertise in the environment
- Proposals must include broad interdisciplinary faculty and staff teams, including members from at least three different units
- Proposal teams must participate in a half-day Fall 2024 facilitated workshop aimed at enhancing the cross-disciplinary engagement and effectiveness necessary to develop successful proposals
- Faculty and staff members may participate in only one proposal team
- The PIs must secure a commitment for any necessary PHSGP administrative support from their unit before submitting a pre-proposal

PROPOSAL PHASES AND TIMELINE

Phase 1 – Pre-proposal Submission, Review, and Advancement (August – September 2024)

- Proposal leaders (PI pairs) will submit a pre-proposal describing the project and potential team members by September 27, 2024
- Pre-proposals and project team membership will be reviewed; up to four will be selected to advance to the Phase 2 workshops

Phase 2 – Facilitated Workshops, Final Proposal Development and Submission (October 2024 – January 2025)

- Up to four PI pairs and their teams will participate in a facilitated workshop in October 2024 to more fully develop the proposed project in collaboration with colleagues
- Proposal development following the facilitated workshop; all Phase 2 teams will submit a final proposal
- Final proposal review criteria and more detailed submission instructions will be shared with the teams early in Phase 2
- Final proposals will be submitted by January 31, 2025

Phase 3 – Final Proposal Review and Selection (February 2025)

- Proposals will be reviewed and one will be selected for funding by February 28, 2025

Phase 4 – Project Implementation and External Funding Proposal Submission

- Funding will be made available effective April 1, 2025 and should be fully expended by June 30, 2027
- The related external funding proposal should be submitted no later than 12-months after the conclusion of the seed project

HOW TO APPLY

Phase 1 - Pre-proposals (August - September 2024)

- Pre-proposals should provide enough information for reviewers to understand the project idea, its relevance to Planetary Health, the novel interdisciplinary collaboration that it reflects, potential external funding opportunities, and should contain the following elements (that will likely evolve if the pre-proposal advances to Phase 2):
 - Initial thinking around the project plan
 - Estimated project timeline
 - Proposed membership of up to ten members of the interdisciplinary project team the PI pairs intend to form
- Proposal format: No more than a 2-page narrative PDF document with 1” margins and 11-point font

Phase 2 - Final Proposals (October 2024 - January 2025)

- All teams that advance to the Phase 2 workshops will submit final proposals
- Proposals should include the following elements:
 - Project plan
 - Project timeline
 - Final membership including up to ten members of an interdisciplinary project team
 - The unit that will provide administrative support for the project
 - Expected outcomes or deliverables
 - Commitment to provide a brief internal final report submitted 30 days after the project end date, and no later than June 30, 2027
 - The date an external funding proposal will be submitted
 - An itemized budget noting the fiscal year in which expenses will occur
- Proposal format: No more than a 4-page narrative and one-page budget must be submitted as a SINGLE PDF document with 1” margins and 11-point font
- More detailed submission instructions will be shared early in Phase 2