

KEY DATES

Applying for the PhRMA Foundation Frontier Award is a two-step process. Step one is submitting a Letter of Intent (LOI) by **April 14, 2023, at 12:00 p.m. ET**. If your LOI is selected, you will be notified by June 1, 2023, and asked to proceed to the second step of submitting a full application due **September 1, 2023, at 12:00 p.m. ET**.

Details can be found at: <https://www.phrmafoundation.org/awards/other-opportunities/frontier-award/>

OVERVIEW

Although a relatively new area of research, value assessment has become increasingly important as the U.S. moves toward a value-based health care system. Value assessment frameworks are tools for evaluating the relative benefits and costs of health care interventions. While a variety of frameworks exist, some have yet to be applied in a real-world context or evaluated using empirical studies. To advance the field, we need to assess whether these frameworks can reliably guide value assessment, incorporate relevant diverse elements of value, and identify appropriate patient-centered outcomes. Value assessment frameworks can influence the evidence generation process. In particular, the application of these frameworks provides an opportunity for partnerships between stakeholders including patients, researchers, and health care providers.

The Frontier Award is a new funding opportunity in the PhRMA Foundation's Value Assessment and Health Outcomes Research (VA-HOR) Program that seeks research proposals for empirical studies that apply a published value assessment framework to determine the value of a health care intervention, such as a drug, device, or other health-related technology. Submissions that propose novel approaches to patient-centered value assessment (e.g., expand beyond traditional quality-adjusted survival outcomes) are desired. Projects that involve data collected from patients, utilize real-world data sources, or incorporate health preference evidence are particularly welcomed. Projects that propose methodological advances with no clearly defined patient-partnered data component will not be considered.

AWARD EXPECTATIONS

- Inclusion of patient-reported clinical and/or economic measures
- Meaningful engagement with a patient group or group of patients
- Empirical study culminating in peer-reviewed publication(s) and presentations

APPLICATION CONSIDERATIONS

Strong submissions will include:

- Research design that is informed by a value assessment framework (i.e., there is a clear link between the framework and the following: research question, measures, and analytic methods)
- Strong leadership commitment from academic institution and patient group(s)
- Representation of expertise in diverse disciplines and from different perspectives, including patients, payers, manufacturers, and clinicians
- Explicit process for meaningful engagement with stakeholders
- Detailed documentation of proposed methodology and processes
- Communications strategy for results dissemination (e.g., media outreach, publications, presentations)

ELIGIBILITY

- Eligible applicants (U.S. and non-U.S. citizens) must be employed full time at an accredited U.S. university.
- Applicants must demonstrate a firm commitment to partner with at least one patient group or group of patients for their project.
- Applicants must be eligible to apply for independent external research funding from their institution.
- Previous PhRMA Foundation Value Assessment Centers of Excellence principal investigators are ineligible.

FUNDING

- This award provides \$500,000 over a three-year period, distributed on a quarterly basis.
- Funding is conditional upon the awardee's continued employment with the university, which will be assessed on a quarterly basis prior to payment. Payments will be made directly to the university on behalf of the awardee, with the understanding the university will administer the funds.
- If partnering with a patient group(s), the Foundation expects the partnering patient group(s) to receive some funding from this \$500,000 award. These budgeted monies can be paid from the institution or the Foundation. (Monies to the partnering patient group(s) is contingent upon the awardee's continued employment with the university.)
- A maximum of 20% of the award may be used for indirect institutional and/or fringe benefits. No more than \$100,000 total may be used for these combined allowances over the three-year award.
- Funding is contingent upon the PhRMA Foundation receiving progress reports every six months and yearly financial reports. Progress reports will be reviewed by the Foundation's scientific advisory committee to confirm satisfactory progress is being achieved.
- Any changes to the proposed project must be approved by the PhRMA Foundation.
- Funding may begin as early as December 1, 2023, or on the first day of any month thereafter, up to and including April 1, 2024.
- Unspent funds are to be returned to the PhRMA Foundation upon the grant's conclusion.
- These funds are non-transferrable.

APPLICATION PROCESS (via ProposalCentral)

To start an application, go to the ProposalCentral website at proposalcentral.com. If you are a new user of ProposalCentral, follow the link "Need an Account?" and complete the registration process. If you are already a registered user, login with your username and password. If you have forgotten your password, click the "Forgot your Password?" link.

Once you are logged in, please click the "Professional Profile" tab at the top and complete steps 1-11 or update with your current information. Your name, degrees, position/title, academic rank, department, and address will be pulled from this page in ProposalCentral.

Next, select the “Grant Opportunities” tab and a list of applications will be displayed. Find “PhRMA Foundation” and click the “Apply Now” link next to **Frontier Award**.

Important Reminders

- SAVE YOUR APPLICATION OFTEN and always before closing the application or exiting the system. The “Save” button is located at the top and bottom of each section.
- For security reasons, the system will automatically log you out if you have been idle for 20 minutes and any edits made since you last saved your application will not be saved.
- You will automatically be logged out of the system if you close your browser and any edits made since you last saved your application will not be saved.

Please complete the following sections. Submissions that do not meet the requirements will not be considered.

Title Information

Enter your project title (max of 250 characters) and abstract (max of 1,000 characters) here.

Applicant/PI (will carry over from your profile – review for accuracy)

Institution Details (will carry over from your profile – review for accuracy)

Enable Other Users to Access this Proposal

Active Funding From All Sources

Attachments

- Candidate’s Biosketch (NIH style)
- Brief Personal Statement: This is an opportunity for you to tell us about yourself and what this project means to you. (Not to exceed two pages, 8.5”x11”, 12-point font, one-half inch margins)
- Letter of Intent: A project overview that includes an explanation of the value assessment framework/method that you will use and why, your plan for meaningful patient engagement, and how the project would benefit society.

Be sure to include the legal name of the patient group(s) you are partnering with. If partnering with patients directly, include details on that partnership.

Not to exceed six pages, 8.5”x11”, 12-point font, one-half inch margins, singled-spaced. Graphs can be smaller. Citations are within the six-page limit. The first use of any abbreviation or acronym should be preceded by the full name or description.

Validate (The system will confirm if you have completed everything.)

Do not forget to review your application before you “submit.” The “validate” button confirms whether you have completed all sections.

Print Application and Signatures

You will be able to print a recap of your application. As the applicant, by e-signing this application, you are agreeing that you completed the application yourself. (required)

If you have given someone at the institution “editing” access because they need to sign your application, they will e-sign in this section once you have completed your application. This needs to be completed before you “submit” your application. (Note: The PhRMA Foundation does not require anyone other than the applicant to e-sign the application.)

Submit

This is how you will submit your application to the PhRMA Foundation.

HELP

If you receive an error message, it may be due to security measures implemented because of an external software and is not a ProposalCentral error. While we can't correct this issue from our end, you can change the security settings within ProofPoint to disable to URL blocking and attachment blocking. You can visit their FAQ site here: [URL Defense FAQ's - Proofpoint, Inc.](#), which outlines how to disable the URL protection. You additionally will need to disable the attachment protection in order to ensure your uploads can be made.

Or, we suggest accessing ProposalCentral from a different web browser in order to submit your application.

Technical Issues: ProposalCentral’s support team can be reached at pcsupport@altum.com or 800-875-2562 (Monday-Friday 8:30am-5pm EST).

Program Questions: Contact Joanne Westphal at the PhRMA Foundation at 202-572-7756 or jwestphal@phrmafoundation.org.

Letter of intent (LOI) deadline is April 14, 2023, at 12:00 (noon) ET. Late submissions will not be accepted.
Invitation to submit full application is June 1, 2023.