



# California Program on Access to Care

University of California, Office of the President  
School of Public Health, UC Berkeley

# 13th Annual REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

## AWARDS AVAILABLE

- \* Up to \$300,000 available for this cycle
- \* Research Projects: \$5,000—\$65,000
- \* Concept Papers: \$5,000—\$10,000
- \* Postdoc Grants: up to \$15,000

## RESEARCH TEAMS

Each research team should include at least one faculty member with Principal Investigator status

## REQUIRED ITEMS

8 copies and 1 electronic file of each:

- \* Application cover sheet with PI signature
- \* 3-page double-spaced proposal summary
- \* Abbreviated Curriculum Vitae for research team



LETTER OF  
INTENT  
DUE

Wednesday,  
October 31, 2007  
5:00PM

## ABOUT CPAC

The California Program on Access to Care is an applied policy research program established by the University of California at the request of the state legislature to address issues related to access to health care for low-income populations. CPAC-supported research focuses on health services for the state's working-poor population, with special attention to immigrant workers and their families and low-income households in agricultural and rural areas. CPAC provides technical assistance to policy-makers, commissions policy research on statewide issues, and disseminates research findings and recommendations through publications and special briefings. Researchers are encouraged to contact CPAC staff to discuss the suitability of their proposed research to CPAC priorities. Although CPAC continues its long association with the UC Office of the President, our formal affiliation has recently transferred to the UC Berkeley School of Public Health and we look forward to a mutually-beneficial relationship in the coming years. Our commitment to fund researchers from all eligible institutions remains the same.

## RFP OVERVIEW

This RFP focuses on issues with special significance for health care reform. Faculty and researchers from California academic institutions and nonprofit research organizations are invited to submit proposals to analyze significant health care policy issues facing California's low-income populations in an anticipated health care reform environment. Investigators who receive grants will report their findings to state government officials and others interested in California health policy through written reports and public briefings. CPAC welcomes proposals in the priority areas listed in the adjacent box, and is particularly interested in proposals that include the study of low-income populations such as those eligible for and/or enrolled in Medi-Cal and Healthy Families (S-CHIP). CPAC will also consider proposals in areas other than those listed in this RFP, provided they are consistent with the program's overall charge.

## RESEARCH AREAS OF SPECIAL INTEREST

It is CPAC's intent to align its awards for this RFP with research questions that address key issues important to the efforts of California's policymakers to broadly expand health care coverage within the next two years. Toward this end, CPAC is giving priority to projects which address the following areas:

*Immigrant Status:* Assessment of the effects of continued restrictions on health care delivery, access to care, and eligibility for publicly-supported services based on immigrant status.

*Obesity-Diabetes:* Assessment of strategies for health promotion and community health workers (promotoras), illness prevention, and health care delivery for obesity and/or diabetes.

*Employer Coverage:* Analysis of the probable impacts of health care reform programs on coverage for working poor populations, especially in small businesses and other high-uninsured employment sectors, including in rural areas.

*Provider Capacity:* Assessment of strategies to meet health care provider needs in the context of greatly expanded coverage for underserved and linguistically and culturally diverse communities, including rural areas.

*Health Care Safety Net:* Analysis of proposed methods for preserving and strengthening county hospitals, academic teaching centers, publicly-based Medi-Cal health plans, and community health centers in a health care reform environment.

*Health Disparities:* Assessment of approaches to reducing existing health disparities through health care reform, especially in the areas of chronic disease, injury prevention and treatment, and behavioral health problems; each of which disproportionately affects certain vulnerable, underserved populations.

*Consumer Accountability:* Analysis of approaches to increase active consumer/client engagement in the delivery of health care information and services, especially in the areas of personal responsibility for health, engagement with health care providers in decisions regarding their care, fully utilizing the health benefits provided by health plans, and participation in the oversight of the provision of health care under a comprehensive reformed health care network.

## **TYPES OF GRANTS**

CPAC supports projects that advance public understanding of problems hindering Californians from obtaining high quality and affordable health care and that provide important new knowledge to policymakers in the legislative and executive branches of state government. Projects may examine current and anticipated state policies, develop policy approaches, and/or evaluate policy implementation in issue areas within CPAC's mission. CPAC encourages collaborative and interdisciplinary projects.

### **Research Projects**

A minimum of \$300,000 in University funds will be available for funded research projects. Individual grant amounts awarded under past CPAC RFPs have ranged from \$5,000 to \$65,000. Any awards funded with non-UC funds may be subject to different terms and conditions. Principal Investigators (PIs) will be notified of the terms and conditions of their award. Projects are normally funded for six to nine months. However, CPAC will consider funding for longer-term projects, particularly if the PI or CPAC secures outside foundation or state support to augment University funds before award decisions are made in February 2008. Researchers are encouraged to describe in their letter of intent the time frame for any proposed project expected to take more than nine months to complete.

### **Concept Papers**

CPAC also strongly encourages applications for concept paper awards in the \$5,000 to \$10,000 range. Concept papers enable faculty to analyze and synthesize findings from completed research, and to consider the implications of their findings for state policy related to health care access. The usual time frame for completion of concept papers is six months, but CPAC also welcomes concept paper proposals with time frames of less than six months, where such short-term analysis might have an immediate impact on state policy development, such as a concept paper to analyze streamlined approaches to ameliorate the impact of anticipated state budget cuts on public funding for health care. PIs applying for concept-paper awards should use the same application format as described for the letters of intent, but final proposals may be significantly shorter.

### **Dissertation Grants and Postdoctoral Fellowships**

CPAC reserves funds for graduate student dissertation grants and postdoctoral fellowships. Awards in this category can be up to \$15,000. Awards are intended to provide support for short-term policy research projects. Applications must be submitted through a researcher with PI status at the graduate student's or Fellow's institution. Topics should relate to an aspect of CPAC's overall charge, including especially this year's research areas of special significance. CPAC will primarily support work that applies research expertise to specific California policy issues related to health-care access, rather than major new health-related investigations. Applicants are encouraged to conduct secondary data analyses or seek supplemental funding for ongoing projects.

## HOW TO APPLY

The deadline for receipt of letters of intent for this competition is 5:00 p.m. **Wednesday, October 31, 2007**. No full proposal will be accepted without the prior submission and approval of a letter of intent. The letters are reviewed to identify projects having the greatest potential for fulfilling CPAC's primary mission as described above. **By Monday, November 12, approved applicants will then be requested to prepare and submit a full proposal. Further details about the submission of full proposals will be included in the notification. Full proposals are due by 5 p.m., Friday, December 14, 2007.**

An application form for the letter of intent is appended to this RFP. Applications can also be requested by phone, e-mail, or obtained from CPAC's website <http://www.ucop.edu/cpac.html>. The PI must complete and sign the application cover sheet.

### Please submit 8 copies and 1 electronic file of your letter of intent, including:

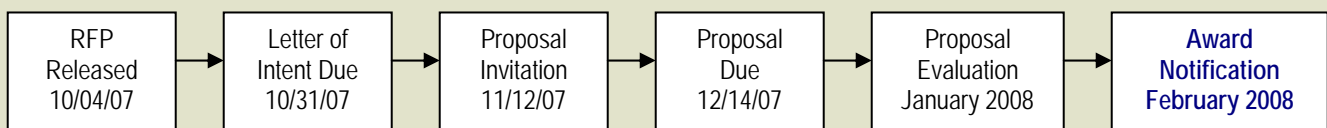
- Application Cover Sheet with PI's original signature
- 3-page double-spaced proposal summary (12 point font) that addresses the following:
  1. Proposed research question
  2. Principal research tasks and methods
  3. Specific application to California health policy
- Abbreviated curriculum vitae for Principal Investigator and any research assistants (NIH-style)

The deadline for receipt (*NOT postmark*) of all materials is 5:00 p.m. on **Wednesday, October 31, 2007**, at the CPAC office. **To help expedite review of the letters of intent**, please also send an electronic version of all materials in a Word or PDF attachment by e-mail to [cpac@ucop.edu](mailto:cpac@ucop.edu) or on a CD before 5 pm., **Friday, November 2, 2007**.

The address for delivery is:

**CPAC/UCBSPH  
1950 Addison Street, Suite 203  
Berkeley, CA 94704-2647**

### PROCESS TIMELINE



## ELIGIBILITY AND EVALUATION CRITERIA

Applications are encouraged from health-policy/health-care researchers affiliated with California academic institutions or nonprofit research organizations. Principal Investigators must be faculty or senior research staff with PI status in their respective institutions. Letters of intent will be reviewed by academic and state government policy specialists using the following criteria:

- Potential impact of findings on the analysis, development, or implementation of state health policy. (Provide specific description and examples of state policies or policy arena being addressed);
- The project's potential contribution to the knowledge base underlying specific health policies;
- Appropriateness of research design and methodology and clear links to the data being used;
- The investigators and the team's capability and qualifications to undertake the project.

Letters of intent with attachments (details in the *How to Apply* section above) must be received by **5:00 pm on Wednesday, October 31, 2007**. Invitations to submit proposals will be e-mailed to the PI no earlier than **November 12, 2007**. Proposals will be due by **5:00 pm on December 14, 2007**. Final funding decisions on all proposals will be made by the CPAC Advisory Board, which is composed of senior UC faculty and state policy specialists, and announced no earlier than **February 16, 2008**.

## USE OF GRANT FUNDS AND CONDITIONS OF AWARD

CPAC grants provide salary and benefit support for the PI and research staff, as well as study-related expenses such as travel and other data-collection costs and supplies. Capital equipment requests will not be funded. Grants are supported by University of California 19900 funds. CPAC does not pay indirect costs to UC campuses; it does pay indirect costs to non-UC institutions at a rate that may not exceed 12% of direct costs.

Investigators are required to submit a final written report of up to 10,000 words, prepared for a state policy audience. Following peer review, reports may be issued as CPAC policy reports or working papers. Investigators may be asked to meet with state officials and/or to participate in Sacramento policy briefings to discuss the implications of their work for state policy. Travel costs for participating in these meetings will be covered by CPAC and do not need to be included in the proposal application. A final financial report will be required ninety (90) days after the end of the project.

## INQUIRIES

If you have any questions, please contact:

**Gil Ojeda**  
CPAC Director  
510-643-3140

**Richard Zavala**  
Program Analyst  
510-642-1616



# CALIFORNIA PROGRAM ON ACCESS TO CARE

UC Berkeley School of Public Health and UC Office of the President

## LETTER OF INTENT

### PROJECT SUMMARY SHEET

**DUE IN OFFICE BY: OCTOBER 31, 2007, 5:00 PM**

ORGANIZATION INFORMATION		
Name of Requesting Organization		
Principal Investigator(s)	Title (s)	
Address		
City	State	Zip Code
Telephone	Fax	E-mail

#### Types of project

\_\_\_ Concept paper

\_\_\_ Research proposal

\_\_\_ Dissertation/post-doc support

PROPOSED PROJECT
Project title
Brief summary of proposed project. Please confine summary to three double-spaced pages (12-point font) and this summary sheet. Please address the following in your proposal summary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposed research question</li> <li>• Principal research tasks and methods</li> <li>• Anticipated contribution to California policymakers in the legislature and executive branch</li> </ul> All letters of intent will be evaluated by the following criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential impact of findings on the analysis, development, or implementation of state policy</li> <li>• The project's potential contribution to the knowledge base underlying particular policies</li> <li>• The investigator's capability to undertake the project</li> </ul>

PROPOSED BUDGET AND TIMETABLE	
Estimated Budget	Project Timetable (number of months)
\$	(months)

P.I. Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

#### MATERIALS CHECKLIST

- CPAC Letter of Intent Summary Sheet
- 3-page summary of project (double-spaced, 12pt)
- Abbreviated CVs for all researchers (NIH-style)
- 8 COPIES & 1 ELECTRONIC OF ALL MATERIALS**