



**CALIFORNIA PROGRAM ON ACCESS TO CARE**  
California Policy Research Center  
*University of California, Office of the President*

# 12th 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 25, 2006  
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 particular 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.

## RFP OVERVIEW

CPAC, under the auspices of the California Policy Research Center, is issuing its first regular-cycle request for proposals for the 2006-2007 fiscal year. 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. 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

Assessment of the role of safety-net providers, such as community clinics, county health systems, university health centers, and public hospitals in delivering quality care in a competitive market.

Approaches to improving coverage and to assist with continued coverage of health-care services for working-poor populations in industries with high insurance rates and those most affected by rising insurance costs, with a particular focus on small businesses, service industries, and agricultural employers.

Assessment of recent trends in reduced health-care coverage for working-poor and immigrant populations, including changes in cost-sharing requirements and the range of benefits offered.

Assessment of health workforce issues and their relation to access and quality of health care.

Assessment of access to dental and vision services to low-income and immigrant populations, as well as consequences of lack of access and/or utilization of these services.

Assessment of cost-effective approaches to improving access to health and mental health services, including pharmaceutical services, for underserved elderly, HIV/AIDS patients, and disabled populations.

Assessment of the health status and access to health and mental health services among Native American populations.

Assessment of the role of language and cultural barriers to the provision of quality health care and mental health services to low-income and immigrant Californians, and evaluation of services designed to address such barriers.

Assessment of county health plans and their impact on access to care, particularly when these efforts can be replicated or adapted by other counties.

Assessment of the implementation of the Mental Health Services Act on publicly funded mental health programs, particularly in areas such as staffing and response of elected officials to increased funding.

Assessment of socially/culturally acceptable interventions for improving diet and physical activity in low-income and immigrant populations using policy, programs, and /or the media.

## **TYPES OF GRANTS**

CPAC supports projects that advance public understanding of problems hindering Californians from obtaining health care and that will directly benefit policymakers in the legislative and executive branches of state government. These projects may examine current and anticipated state policies, develop policy approaches, and/or evaluate policy implementation in issue areas within the CPAC mission. CPAC encourages collaborative and interdisciplinary projects.

### **Research Projects**

Up to \$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 2007. Researchers are encouraged to describe in their letter of intent the timeframe 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. CPAC would also welcome concept papers analyzing policy to be conducted within short timeframes 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.

### **Post-doc Grants**

CPAC reserves funds for academics in the advanced training phase or early stages of their careers. Awards in this category can be up to \$15,000. Awards to Fellows are intended to provide support for short-term policy research projects. Awards to Fellows must be submitted through a researcher with PI status at the Fellow's institution. Topics should relate to an aspect of CPAC's overall charge. CPAC will primarily support work that applies research expertise to specific California policy issues related to health-care access, rather than major new 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 25, 2006**. No full proposal will be accepted without the 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. Approved applicants will then be requested to prepare and submit a full grant proposal. If a letter is approved, the PI will be notified by November 3 to submit a full proposal.

An application form for the letter of intent can be requested by phone, e-mail, or obtained from CPAC's website <http://www.ucop.edu/cprc/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:

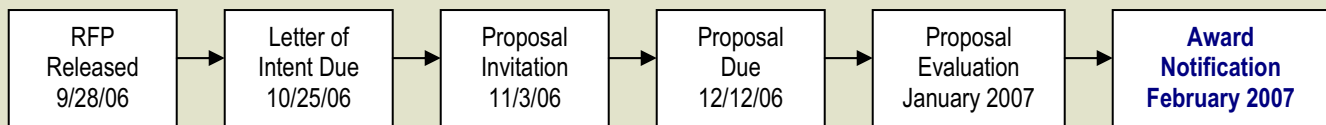
- Application Cover Sheet with PI's original signature
- 3-page double-spaced proposal summary (12 point font) that addresses the following:
  1. Proposed research question
  2. Principal research tasks and methods
  3. Specific application to California health policy
- Abbreviated curriculum vitae for 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 25, 2006, at the CPAC office. In addition, please 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 by the October 25, 2006 deadline.

The address for delivery is:

**CPAC/CPRC**  
**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 with 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 investigator 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 25, 2006**. Invitations to submit proposals will be e-mailed to the Principal Investigator no earlier than **November 3, 2006**. Proposals will be due by **5:00 pm on December 12, 2006**. 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, 2007**.

## 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 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:

**Patricia Anderson, MPH**

Program Manager

510-642-3729

Patricia.Anderson@ucop.edu

**Crispin Delgado, MPP**

Program Analyst

510-643-3140

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# CALIFORNIA PROGRAM ON ACCESS TO CARE CALIFORNIA POLICY RESEARCH CENTER

University of California, Office of the President

## LETTER OF INTENT PROJECT SUMMARY SHEET

**DUE IN OFFICE BY: OCTOBER 25, 2006, 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

Dissertation/post-doc support

Research proposal

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**