



Call for Proposals #2022-1

Background

The mission of APPD LEARN is to conduct meaningful educational research that advances the training of future Pediatricians by developing and promoting participation and collaboration in research by Program Directors (PD) for the purpose of improving the health and well-being of children.

APPD LEARN advances its mission through activities which include managing a collaborative research network of Pediatric Programs working together to conduct multi-site studies of educational methods and instruments, and maintaining an online repository of educational research study materials, raw data and findings for dissemination to APPD members and collaborators.

This Call for Proposals invites APPD programs to submit educational research projects involving primary data collection from APPD LEARN member sites. A separate "APPD LEARN Data Request" process is also available for investigators seeking to obtain existing APPD LEARN data sets for new analyses.

Eligibility

Any APPD LEARN member program is eligible to submit a research proposal. APPD member programs that are not already APPD LEARN member programs must join APPD LEARN before or at the time of submission of a research proposal. Proposals may include collaborators who are not members of APPD LEARN, but an APPD LEARN member program must be the lead site for the proposal.

Proposals from APPD LEARN member programs may designate any affiliated faculty member(s) of any rank as project investigators, including principal investigator. However, all proposals must be approved by the PD and Department Head of the member program, and should be submitted by the program's APPD LEARN liaison. It is expected that the PD or Associate Program Director (APD) will be a co-investigator on proposals.

All studies that collect data through APPD LEARN are required to deposit their approved protocols and data into the APPD LEARN data repository in order to make them available to future investigators.

Publications arising from APPD LEARN studies must acknowledge APPD LEARN, and their manuscripts must be submitted to APPD LEARN for archiving alongside the study data.

Proposal Submission Instructions

Please submit your proposal using the APPD Research Submission portal:

https://apps.appd.org/survey_submission/.

Proposals are reviewed three times per year, with submission due dates of January 31, May 31, and September 30 each year.

Review Process

Proposals are reviewed three times per year by the APPD LEARN Proposal Review Committee (PRC) and APPD LEARN Director.

Criteria applied by the APPD LEARN PRC will include:

- Significance of the research question (including importance for Pediatric GME or medical education)
- Quality of the research plan (including study design, instrumentation, data analysis)
- Feasibility for APPD LEARN

Each proposal will be assigned a primary reviewer and at least two secondary reviewers. Reviewers will write narratives about each criterion and will assign each proposal an overall rating of excellent, very good, good, fair, and poor.

The Committee may make comments or suggest modifications to proposed studies to enhance any of these components. Committee recommendations are advisory. Final decisions about proposal approval or rejection will be made by the APPD LEARN Director.

Post-Review Process

Each study using the APPD LEARN network will have an ad hoc project oversight committee, composed of the project principal investigator, APPD LEARN Director, APPD LEARN Project Manager, and other members selected by the principal investigator and APPD LEARN Director. These committees will hold regular (biweekly or monthly) conference calls during the period of the study.

After formation of the oversight committee, the APPD LEARN Director and APPD LEARN Project Manager will assist in sampling and enrollment of APPD LEARN member sites into the study protocol and will work with participating sites to obtain IRB approval prior to data collection.

Contact Information

For further information, contact:

Alan Schwartz, PhD
Director, APPD LEARN

alansz@appd.org

APPD LEARN Website: <http://learn.appd.org/>