Rush BMO Institute for Health Equity
Health Equity Research Scholars Program
Request for Letters of Intent

April 2023

Application Dates and Deadlines:
This is a two-step application process.
- LOIs are due by May 5th, 2023
  - submit via this link: https://redcap.link/RBIHEResearchScholarApplication
- Full proposals will be solicited by invitation only by May 15th and due July 14th

The Rush BMO Institute for Health Equity is requesting applications for the RBIHE Health Equity Research Scholars Program to support the expansion of researchers conducting innovative community-partnered health equity research addressing health across the lifespan. The Scholars Program supports RUSH faculty members to develop a program of research that will lead to the identification of evidence-based approaches to improve health equity. Research topics within the following areas are of particular interest:

- Development of interventions to improve health equity
- Implementation of interventions to improve health equity
- Examination of the influence of environment, social determinants, and other underlying mechanisms that lead to differences in health outcomes, in order to inform future intervention and program development

If needed, the Rush BMO Institute for Health Equity will facilitate linking Scholars with community partners to ensure research is informed by members of the research target population.

Generalized Criteria:
- Faculty position at RUSH; rank of assistant professor or higher preferred
- Research that will result in at least one submission for external grant funding by the end of the award period; NIH funding preferred
- Research that focuses on one or more health disparity populations, defined as racial/ethnic minority, low socio-economic status, rural, and sexual and gender minority populations in the United States.
- A plan for engaging community partners; community partners include members of the research target population and must include health disparity populations

Funding Amounts
- Scholar: up to 0.3 FTE, with flexibility of allocation over a 12-month funding period
- Mentor: 0.05 FTE (salary coverage or stipend)
- Up to $10,000 to cover the costs of community partner collaboration time, pilot data collection and other research-related costs
- Scholars are encouraged to apply for research funding from the Chicago Chronic
Condition Equity Network (C3EN) P50 center (six $25-50K awards will be granted per year)

**Letter of Intent Requirements**
Please submit your letter of intent (LOI) by emailing X. Your LOI should be a single PDF file that includes the following materials:

- A cover page, containing the following:
  - Grant proposal title
  - Name of applicant
  - Name of mentor
  - Name of community partner (if applicable)
- NIH biosketch (five pages maximum) of applicant
- Project abstract in layperson’s terms (30 lines)
- Specific aims (1 page)

Notification of invitation to submit a Full Proposal will occur on **May 15, 2023**. Full proposals, including a letter from your chairperson, will be due on **July 15, 2023**.

**Timeline**
- Application Period Opens: April 3, 2023
- LOI due: May 5, 2023
- Full proposal invitation: May 15, 2023
- Full proposal due: July 15, 2023
- Funding Period: 12 months (Sept 1, 2023 to August 30, 2024)

Questions about the RFA or submission process should be emailed to Oriana Fleming, Program Coordinator, Rush BMO Institute for Health Equity.