



## TCC Shark Tank Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

### Eligibility

Q: I have significant experience working with vulnerable communities, yet I am new to health policy research. Am I a competitive applicant for the Shark Tank Competition and TCC Pilot Project Program?

A: Investigators at various levels of research experience have successfully applied to the Pilot Project Program. We are looking for Shark Tank candidates and prospective grantees who exhibit passion, subject matter expertise, and a commitment to advancing health equity. We anticipate the most successful applicants will be those who: 1) propose a well-organized and feasible concept paper; 2) demonstrate the knowledge and experience needed to carry out the project they propose; and 3) effectively articulate their research plans during the Shark Tank pitch.

Please understand that the TCC Pilot Program is both a funding mechanism and a research development program. We work diligently with pilot project grantees to ensure their research projects are methodologically sound, display scientific rigor, and are executed with fidelity. We provide ample shared resources, capacity building opportunities, and technical assistance to support the development of pilot project grantees.

### Shark Tank Concept Paper Submission

4 :H R Q O \ K D Y H S D J H V R I V S D F H I R U G M G T H C O V E R Q I F H S W S D S H U « K  
information? Where should I focus my attention anticipated

policy impact. It is vitally important that we clearly understand what you propose to do, how it is funded, and why it is important to informing health policy and practice. We expect you to be concise yet thorough in preparing your concept paper.

Q: Do I need to register to be considered for the Shark Tank competition?

A: Yes, event registration is required to participate in Shark Tank. Please register prior to submitting your concept paper <http://www.msm.edu/tccsummit>

Q: If I am selected as a Shark Tank candidate will I need to attend the Summit in person?

A: Yes, you must be physically present at the Summit to compete in the competition. All candidates must secure their own travel and lodging accommodations to attend the Summit. Please see the event webpage for more details on air travel and lodging <http://www.msm.edu/tccsummit>

Rev.

All application components must be completed before your application is submitted to NIMHD for review and final approval. Therefore, we STRONGLY recommend you be proactive and plan ahead for the full application submission process. Check the TCC Pilot Project website to view some of our application resources and supporting documentation <http://www.msmtcc.org/pilotproject> if possible, start the FWA and IRB processes as early as possible to prevent administrative delays and expedite the review process. The Pilot Project Program coordinator will assist prospective grantees complete all application components.

Q: What information should be included

A: The Research Plan is comprised of the specific aims (1 page) and Research Plan (6 pages) sections. This is a major component of the application and should be carefully prepared. Below is some general guidance to approach these sections:

Specific Aims (1 page max):

- State the overarching goals for your proposed research project, and describe at least two specific aims to be achieved by the end of the project performance period.

Research Plan (6 pages max)

- *Background and Significance:* Describe the community served by the pilot project and the community-identified health disparity, its causes and possible solutions. Also, describe the impact of the health problem in the community. This may include epidemiological or population

*Consultant Costs:* Please include expenses associated with all consultants, collaborators, and other parties who will serve a role in the execution of the project (e.g. evaluators, statisticians, etc.). Please note that stipends are not allowable expenses; all c4 T4(ipends a)[(note t)] Wh b-3(n(ipends a)5(rep74



Morehouse School of Medicine as their designated IRB of record. These fees may be covered using F&A/IDC costs requested in your project budget.

Q: Can you please explain the Final Application Review Process in more detail?

A: Once all final application components have been prepared, your final application will be submitted to our NIMHD Program Officer and Grants Management Specialist for review and final approval. Please note that all application components must be in place before an application will be reviewed. There may be additional requests for information during the final review process. Prospective grantees are expected to respond immediately to all requests in order to prevent avoidable administrative delays. The Pilot Project Program coordinator (Dr. Divine Offoegbu) will liaise all communications and information exchanges. The final application review process is typically completed within 6 weeks of full application submission, barring any administrative delays. Grantees will be notified of their final approval by email.

Q: What happens after my full application is approved?

A: Upon favorable review and approval by NIMHD, shark tank winners will be designated as Pilot Project Grantees and sign a 12-month Research Subaward Agreement with Morehouse School of Medicine TCC. The anticipated start date for the 12-month pilot project (barring any administrative delays) is August 4, 2016.

Q: Do we receive the full balance of our award upon final approval and contract execution?

A: No. Our institution does not allow "up front" payments. To receive initial payment you will be asked to par