

## **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation – Health Data for Action: (Data Access Award)**

**From:** Office of Foundation Relations  
**Coordinator:** Connor Cook, Associate Director, Foundation Relations (connor.cook@emory.edu)  
**Website:** <https://www.rwjf.org/en/library/funding-opportunities/2020/health-data-for-action-data-access-award.html>  
**Submission Limitations:** N/A  
**Foundation Deadline:** **Funder Deadline Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

### **Opportunity Details:**

HD4A aims to reduce the barriers often faced in accessing rich data by serving as a conduit between data owners and interested researchers. Through this HD4A call for proposals (CFP), RWJF will make valuable data from unique data owners available to researchers.

The purpose of the 2020 HD4A CFP is primarily to award data access at no cost from one of eight anticipated data providers to successful applicants. Most selected projects will not receive a financial award for personnel or other project-related costs. However, limited funding up to \$100,000 per project is available for a small number of projects from principal investigators who have not previously received external research funding.

The HD4A program will support innovative research that uses the available data to answer important research questions. Applicants under this CFP will write a proposal for a research study using data from one of the following anticipated data providers including: athenahealth; CareJourney VRDC T-MSIS Research Collaborative; the Center for Improving Value in Health Care (CIVHC); Geisinger; the Health Care Cost Institute (HCCI); HealthShare Exchange (HSX); OCHIN ADVANCE Collaborative; and TransUnion.

Eligible research projects can focus on a variety of topics, including health care utilization and spending; benefit design; quality of care; prescribing patterns and medication adherence; chronic disease; maternal and child care; complex conditions; employer-sponsored insurance; public and private insurance; consolidation; integration, and market competition; social determinants of health and disparities; COVID-19 patient characteristics and outcomes; financial distress; mental health; housing instability; opioid use and treatment; and geographic variation in health.

### **Eligibility and Selection Criteria**

- Applicant organizations must be based in the United States or its territories.
- Preference will be given to applicants that are either public entities or nonprofit organizations that are tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and are not private foundations or Type III supporting organizations. The Foundation may require additional documentation.
- Projects may be generated from disciplines including health services research; economics; sociology; program evaluation; political science; public policy; public health; public administration; law; business administration; or other related fields.
- Use of the data under this CFP is restricted to noncommercial purposes.
- Consistent with our Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Commitment, we particularly encourage applications with project directors or team members from backgrounds historically underrepresented in research disciplines as a result of their race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, disability, or other factors.

### **First-Time External Funding Recipient Awards**

Applications for the First-Time External Funding Recipient awards will be restricted to an application from an eligible organization with a principal investigator who is a first-time recipient of external research funding, and project directors from backgrounds historically underrepresented in research disciplines are encouraged to apply. Other members of the research team, including a co-principal investigator among others, may have received prior research funding.

Individuals who have been awarded RWJF or other external grants to support predoctoral training, scholarships, and/or fellowships are still eligible to apply.

### Key Dates

- **November 16, 2020 (1:30–3 p.m. ET)**  
Optional applicant informational webinar. Registration is [required](#).
  - **Data providers participating in this webinar:**
    - athenahealth
    - Geisinger
    - HealthShare Exchange
    - TransUnion
  
- **November 17, 2020 (3–4:30 p.m. ET)**  
Optional applicant informational webinar. Registration is [required](#).
  - **Data providers participating in this webinar:**
    - CareJourney VRDC T-MSIS
    - CIVHC
    - HCCI
    - OCHIN ADVANCE Collaborative
  
- **December 17, 2020 (3 p.m. ET)**  
Deadline for receipt of brief proposals.\*
  
- **March 4, 2021**  
Applicants notified whether invited to submit full proposals.
  
- **April 15, 2021 (3 p.m. ET)**  
Deadline for receipt of full proposals.\*
  
- **August 12, 2021**  
Notification of finalists.

### Total Awards

- Successful applicants will be given access to the selected data set at no cost to the grantee.
- No financial award will be given with these awards, which are solely for data access.
- Data access will accommodate studies of up to 12 months.
- We anticipate awarding up to eight projects, and no specific breakdown by data provider is prescribed.

### First-Time External Funding Recipient Awards

- Up to \$600,000 will be available, to support up to six First-Time External Funding Recipient awards. The six studies will include projects using any of the available data sets, and no specific breakdown by data source is prescribed.
- Recommended project funding is up to \$100,000 per project to accommodate studies of up to 12 months, and successful applicants will be given access to the selected data set at no cost.
- The First-Time External Funding Recipient Awards will be restricted to applications with a principal investigator who is a first-time recipient of external research funding.

**Application Components:** Applicants are strongly encouraged to work with the Office of Foundation Relations before final submission to the sponsor.