



Protecting Providers.
Promoting Safety.

2023 Request for Applications (RFA) Grant Program

General Information Sessions

*Via Zoom: 7/12/22; 7/26/22; 8/10/22; 8/24/22
10am-11am*

CRICO Overview

crico

CRICO refers to a group of companies owned by and serving the Harvard medical community.

Our mission is to Protect Providers and Promote Safety.



2023 RFA Grants Program Overview

Would a CRICO grant help you and your institution reduce medical malpractice risk and improve patient safety?

“Medical harms are a leading cause of death and disability. Because of our role as integrator within the healthcare team and our connection to patients and family, nurses are in an optimal position to study patient safety. Our CRICO-funded projects have provided valuable opportunities to develop meaningful, nurse led interventions that are reducing healthcare related harm.” **Patricia C. Dykes, PhD, RN (BWH)**

“Thanks to the generous support of a CRICO Patient Safety Grant, we were able to develop a multi-disciplinary protocol for managing postpartum hypertension which is used daily by our inter-professional staff. The protocol has standardized care and improved quality for patients at high-risk for severe maternal morbidity.” **Ilona Goldfarb, MD, MPH (MGH)**

This is an annual grants program

- Our [website](#) has been updated
 - › Details on the program requirements and application submission process are found within the [2023 RFA Announcement](#) on CRICO’s website
- Program is open to all [CRICO member organizations](#)
 - › All clinicians and employees may apply

RFA Program Requirements & Priorities

RESEARCH FOCUS

- The RFA grant program is designed to support identification, evaluation, and implementation of patient safety solutions
- Solutions must be aligned with identified areas of malpractice risk

Priority is given to proposals that are:

- original (new research)
- evidence-based
- designed for operational sustainability within the PI's organization
- aimed at improving patient safety and reducing malpractice risk
- aimed at mitigating risks associated with a failure or inability to provide equitable patient care
- potentially able to be spread to other CRICO member organizations, and
- designed to include collaborations between/among AMCs and community hospitals

PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

- Reduce MPL risk & improve patient safety
- Align with an identified Focus Area
- Project period cannot exceed two years
- **Total budget not to exceed \$210,000 (new for 2023)**
- Principal Investigators must dedicate at least 5% annualized effort
- Research must be conducted at CRICO member organizations

RFA Timeline

- **June 27, 2022:** RFA announcement
- **September 9, 2022:** Letters of Intent (LOI) due
 - *Applications submitted after this deadline will not be accepted*
- On or about **October 7, 2022:** LOIs are evaluated; some applicants are selected to submit a Full Proposal
- **November 4, 2022:** Full Proposals are due
- **April 2023:** Notice of grant awards

RFA Application Components

Letter of Intent and Required Appendices

Please review the 2023 Full Announcement for complete detail*

- The LOI (maximum of two pages) includes:
 - Specific malpractice/patient safety issue to be addressed
 - › *Select one CRICO Focus Area*
 - Specific aims
 - Overview of methodology
 - Impact statement
- In addition, the following must accompany the LOI:
 - Detailed budget (the CRICO budget template must be used)
 - Budget justification
 - Curriculum Vitae (**of the PI only**)
 - One letter of support

* <https://www.rmfi.harvard.edu/Products-and-Services/CRICO-Grants/Grants-RFA-Details>

At Least One Letter of Support is Required

No more than two letters of support may be submitted

- The support letter must be from senior staff at the applicant's institution and any partner organization(s) identified in the LOI. The support letter must state the:
 - › Organization(s) supports the project and request for funding
 - › Organization(s) involved are fully capable of providing the necessary resources to undertake the proposed project to include any obligations that might exceed grant funding
- If your project is dependent upon another department's involvement (e.g., IT Department involvement with an EHR update), it is recommended to have that department leader submit a letter of support
- The letter of support (**due with the application, NLT 9/9 by 5:00pm**) is submitted by the individual providing the letter via our online grants management system

Budget & Budget Justification

Must be on the CRICO provided spreadsheet - list all direct and indirect costs associated with the proposed project

ALLOWABLE BUDGET CATEGORIES*

- Personnel: Base salaries of personnel may not exceed the [NIH salary cap](#) in effect at the time of application
- Travel: for project staff that is directly related and beneficial to the project
- Purchased Services: vendor costs or service agreements directly related to the project
- Non-personnel direct costs: project-related educational materials, teaching or office supplies, etc.
- Indirect Costs: **CRICO/RMF has established an indirect cost rate of 20% (new for the 2023 RFA program)**

REQUIRED BUDGET JUSTIFICATION

- A good justification provides detail on how funds will be spent within each budget category to include describing the role of all people involved in the grant including effort levels to be contributed over the course of the project.

*CRICO/RMF grant funds may NOT be used to support the purchase of capital equipment, as defined by the NIH.

2023 RFA Focus Areas

Please review the 2023 Full Announcement for complete detail

- Proposals must align with one of the Focus Areas below (*detailed descriptions of each Focus Area is provided within our announcement*)
 - Patient Assessment
 - Management and Performance of Medical Treatment/Procedural Safety (*procedures performed outside of the Operating Room*)
 - Emergency Medicine
 - OB/GYN
 - Surgery
 - Nursing
 - Advanced Practice Providers
 - Innovate Uses of Malpractice Data
 - Emerging Health Care Delivery Models
 - Documentation

How to Submit an Application

We cannot accept submissions submitted after the deadline of September 9, 2022 at 5:00pm

- The LOI – and all required appendices - must be submitted via our online grants management system:
<https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=crico>
 - The letter of support – also due by the deadline – is submitted by the individual providing the letter via our online grants management system
- Detailed instructions on how to register and begin the application process are found in the Foundant Application Tutorial (see *Announcement, pg 2 for link*)

Request for Personal Demographic Data

To detect any instances of real or apparent inequities in our grant application review and award processes, CRICO is asking each Principal Investigator to voluntarily provide personal demographic data (gender, race, and ethnicity).

All responses will be kept confidential and declining to provide information will NOT affect consideration of an application. Further, any information provided will also not affect consideration.

This information is being requested from the Principal Investigator only and all analyses conducted on responses will report aggregate findings and will not identify individuals.

Our request for this data is new for CRICO and our efforts to collect and use this data will be closely coordinated with CRICO's Grant Committees. **CRICO's online grants management system will provide a response section for Principal Investigator's choosing to submit personal demographic data.**

Application Review

The RFA Program is Competitive

- In 2021, CRICO received 78 LOIs; 28 were selected to submit a Full Proposal and 16 were awarded funds
- A panel composed of CRICO leadership and representatives from CRICO's Board of Directors review and score LOIs
- Three independent SMEs review each Full Proposal using standardized criteria and ask:
 - *Does the proposal clearly align with a Focus Area, improve patient safety, and reduce medical malpractice?*
 - *Do the personnel conducting the research have the necessary knowledge, skills, and experience to achieve the proposed outcomes?*
 - *Is there an evaluation of the problem, risk, or critical barrier (including citing of published literature) to patient care being investigated?*

Prior CRICO-funded Grant Projects

CRICO's Grant Funding in Action

- Past grant awards have developed interventions that have made a distinct impact on improving patient safety to include improvements in surgical safety, enhancements to patient electronic health records, and using artificial intelligence to augment diagnostic procedures.
- An overview of CRICO-funded grant projects from 2016 to present is available on our website here: <https://www.rmhf.harvard.edu/products-and-services/crico-grants>
- We have highlighted closed grant-funded projects in our '*Grants Spotlight*' section
 - Dr Mitchell Feldman: [Artificial Intelligence to Enhance a Cognitive Aid for Identifying Patients at Risk of Missed Diagnosis](#)
 - Dr Mara Schonberg: [Breast Cancer Risk Assessment Among Women 40–49 in Primary Care](#)
 - Dr Raul Uppot: [A Verbal Electronic Surgical Safety Checklist for the Intensive Care Unit](#)

Questions about the 2023 RFA Grant Program?

- Jeff Timperi; Grants Manager
– jtimperi@rmf.harvard.edu
- Fred Essieh; Grants Administrator
– fessieh@rmf.harvard.edu
- Questions may also be sent to grants@rmf.harvard.edu