

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

NATIONAL CENTER FOR INJURY PREVENTION AND CONTROL

Research Grants for Preventing Violence and Violence Related Injury (R01)

RFA-CE-24-030

12/01/2023

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Overview

Participating Organization(s)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Components of Participating Organizations

Components of Participating Organizations:

National Center for Injury Prevention and Control

Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Title

Research Grants for Preventing Violence and Violence Related Injury (R01)

Activity Code

Applications in response to this Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) will be funded using the R01 activity code for a research grant.

Notice of Funding Opportunity Type

Reissue of RFA-CE-23-004

Agency Notice of Funding Opportunity Number

RFA-CE-24-030

Assistance Listings Number(s)

93.136

Category of Funding Activity

HL - Health

NOFO Purpose

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC) is soliciting investigator-initiated research that will help expand and advance understanding of approaches to prevent community violence and eliminate racial and ethnic inequities in risk for community violence. This initiative is intended to support effectiveness research to evaluate innovative programs, practices, or policies to address risk for violence and inequities in risk for violence among groups experiencing a high burden of community violence.

Innovative approaches are those that have not been rigorously evaluated for effectiveness in reducing community violence. Consistent with CDC's commitment to achieving health equity, investigation of inequities in exposure to and uptake of the selected approaches, and/or stratified analyses examining the differential impacts of the approach across populations disproportionately impacted by violence is a priority. Funds are available to conduct studies focused on preventing all forms of community violence involving youth or young adults (ages 10-34 years), including assaults, homicides, violence between groups, and threats/use of weapons.

The primary objectives we wish to achieve with this initiative are:

- **Objective One**: Effectiveness research to evaluate **innovative approaches with the potential for immediate or near immediate benefits** (i.e., within 6 months) for reducing community violence and racial/ethnic inequities in risk for community violence.
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- **Objective Three:** Effectiveness research to evaluate **approaches that improve the social or structural conditions** that contribute to community violence and racial/ethnic inequities in risk for community violence.

Applicants are asked to clearly indicate in the application's Abstract which objective, or combination of objectives, the research proposal intends to address.

Key Dates

Publication Date:

To receive notification of any changes to RFA-CE-24-030, return to the synopsis page of this announcement at www.grants.gov and click on the "Send Me Change Notification Emails" link. An email address is needed for this service.

Letter of Intent Due Date:

11/01/2023

Although a letter of intent is not required, is not binding, and does not enter into the review of an application, the information that it contains assists NCIPC staff with planning for scientific and technical merit peer review.

Application Due Date:

12/01/2023

On-time submission requires that electronic applications be error-free and made available to CDC for processing from the NIH eRA system on or before the deadline date. Applications must be submitted to and validated successfully by Grants.gov no later than 11:59 PM U.S. Eastern Time.

Applicants will use a system or platform to submit their applications through Grants.gov and eRA Commons to CDC. ASSIST, an institutional system to system (S2S) solution, or Grants.gov Workspace are options. ASSIST is a commonly used platform because it provides a validation of all requirements prior to submission and prevents errors.

For more information on accessing or using ASSIST, you can refer to the ASSIST Online Help Site at: https://era.nih.gov/erahelp/assist. Additional support is available from the NIH eRA Service desk via http://grants.nih.gov/support/index.html.

- E-mail: commons@od.nih.gov
- Phone: 301-402-7469 or (toll-free) 1-866-504-9552
- Hours: Monday - Friday, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern Time, excluding Federal holidays

Note: HHS/CDC grant submission procedures do not provide a grace period beyond the application due date time to correct any error or warning notices of noncompliance with application instructions that are identified by Grants.gov or eRA systems (i.e., error correction window).

Scientific Merit Review:
03/24/2024
This date is an estimate.

Secondary Review:
06/05/2024
This date is an estimate.

Estimated Start Date:
09/30/2024

Expiration Date:
02/01/2024

Required Application Instructions

It is critical that applicants follow the instructions in the How to Apply - Application Guide except where instructed to do otherwise in this NOFO. Conformance to all requirements (both in the Application Guide and the NOFO) is required and strictly enforced. Applicants must read and follow all application instructions in the Application Guide as well as any program-specific instructions noted in Section IV. When the program-specific instructions deviate from those in the Application Guide, follow the program-specific instructions.

Note: The Research Strategy component of the Research Plan is limited to 12 pages.

Page Limitations: Pages that exceed the page limits described in this NOFO will be removed and not forwarded for peer review, potentially affecting an application's score.

Applications that do not comply with these instructions may be delayed or may not be accepted for review.

Telecommunications for the Hearing Impaired: TTY 1-888-232-6348

Executive Summary

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and NCIPC are committed to achieving the health promotion and disease prevention objectives of "Healthy People 2030" and to measuring program performance as stipulated by the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA). The proposed program of research addresses the Healthy People 2030 priority area of injury and violence prevention and is in alignment with NCIPC's performance goal to conduct a program of research to prevent injuries and violence, and to reduce their consequences.

The intent of the NCIPC extramural violence prevention research program is to:

- Build the scientific base for the prevention of violence by helping to expand and advance our understanding of innovative strategies for the prevention of violence.
- Encourage professionals from a wide spectrum of disciplines including epidemiology, behavioral and social sciences, medicine, biostatistics, public health, economics, urban planners and others to conduct research that informs violence prevention efforts.

Purpose

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Applicants are asked to clearly indicate in the application's Abstract which objective, or combination of objectives, the research proposal intends to address.

Mechanism of Support

The funding mechanism for this Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) will be a research grant (R-01).

Funds Available and Anticipated Number of Awards

CDC/NCIPC intends to commit up to $3,200,000 in FY 2024 to fund up to eight (8) applications. Awards issued under this NOFO are contingent upon availability of funds and a sufficient number of meritorious applications. Because the nature and scope of the proposed research will vary from application to application, it is also anticipated that the size and duration of each award may also vary. The total amount awarded and the number of awards will depend upon the number, quality, duration, and cost of the applications received.

Budget and Project Period
The maximum award amount will be $400,000 per award for the first 12-month budget period. This includes both direct and indirect costs. An applicant may request a project period of up to three years. The maximum total project funding amount is $1,200,000 (including both direct and indirect costs) over the expected project period length, with a maximum of $400,000 per award per year. The project period for this award is expected to run from 9/30/2024 to 9/29/2027.

Application Research Strategy Length
Page limits for the Research Strategy are clearly specified in *Section IV. Application and Submission Information* of this announcement.

Eligible Institutions/Organizations
Institutions/organizations listed in *Section III. Eligibility Information 1. Eligible Applicants* are eligible to apply.

Eligible Project Directors/Principal Investigators (PDs/PIs)
CDC does not make awards to individuals directly. Individuals with the skills, knowledge, and resources necessary to carry out the proposed research are invited to work with their institution/organization to develop an application for support. Individuals from underrepresented racial and ethnic groups, as well as individuals with disabilities, are always encouraged to apply.

Applications in which the contact Eligible PD/PI meets NIH Early Stage Investigator (ESI) status, as verified via the NIH Determination of Investigator Status process, **and** whose application has a meritorious peer review score, may be considered for prioritization during the second level of review (see *Section V. Application Review Information 4. Review and Selection Process*). For the contact PD/PI Determination of Investigator Status:

- Prior to application submission, PD/Pis are encouraged to verify and/or enter the date of their terminal research degree or the end date of their post-graduate clinical training in their eRA Commons Profile to ensure the correct identification. NIH systems will automatically calculate the status of each investigator and display it within their eRA Commons personal profile. The ESI status of the PD/Pis on any R01 or R01 equivalent application will be flagged at time of submission. Investigators should make sure their status is correctly marked in their profile. If your status is incorrect, please contact the NIH eRA Service Desk.

Number of PDs/PIs
An application may name more than one PD/PI; their names must appear on the face page of the application. However:

- One (1) principal investigator must be designated as the contact PD/PI for all correspondence related to the application.
- All PD/PIs must include their eRA Commons Identification in the Credential Field of the Senior/Key Person Profile Component of the SF-424 (R&R) Application Package.
- Institutions/organizations proposing multiple PDs/PIs must visit the Multiple Program Director/Principal Investigator Policy and submission details in the Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded) Component of the SF-424 (R&R) Application Guide.

Number of Applications
Eligible applicant organizations may submit more than one application to this NOFO, provided that each application is scientifically distinct. However, applicant institutions can submit only one application with the same contact PD/PI. Only one application per contact PD/PI will be funded under this announcement. If two or more applications from the same contact PD/PI are received for this NOFO, the only application that will be submitted for review will be the last application received based on the document's time and date stamp in Grants.gov (https://www.grants.gov). The applicant must ensure that duplicate applications are withdrawn prior to the application review date.

Additionally, applicant institutions submitting applications with essentially the same proposed research to two or more CDC/ATSDR NOFOs will not be funded under more than one NOFO. Applicant institutions submitting multiple applications with essentially the same proposed research to this announcement will not be funded more than once.

Application Type
NEW

Special Date(s)
A pre-application teleconference call will be conducted on **Friday, October 13, 2023** to address questions from prospective applicants regarding NOFO RFA-CE-24-030. The call will begin at **2pm** Eastern Standard Time (EST) and end at **3pm** Eastern Standard Time (EST), or sooner if all questions are addressed. Questions and answers from the discussion will be included in an amended NOFO approximately 3 weeks after the call.

Participant Access Information:

- Call Date: **Friday, October 13, 2023**
- Call Start Time: **2pm** Eastern Standard Time (EST)
- Call End Time: **3pm** Eastern Standard Time (EST)
- Call Leader: Celeste Sanders, PhD, Scientific Program Official
- Toll-Free Number: 1-866-600-6035
- Use Passcode 23198543# when prompted

Application Materials
See *Section IV.1* for application materials.

Hearing Impaired
Telecommunications for the hearing impaired are available at: TTY: 1-888-232-6348.

Section I. Funding Opportunity Description

Statutory Authority
Section 301 (a) [42 U.S.C. 241(a)] of the Public Health Service Act, and Section 391 (a) [42 U.S.C. 280 b (a)] of the Public Health Service Act, as amended.

1. Background and Purpose

Community violence is a critical public health issue that has significant short- and long-term negative impacts on individuals of all ages, families, and communities. Community violence happens between unrelated individuals, who may or may not know each other, generally outside the home. Examples include assaults or fights among groups and shootings in public places, such as schools and on the streets.

Multiple data sources suggest that community violence increased in recent years. The U.S. experienced substantial increases in the overall homicide rate (30%) and the firearm homicide rate (35%) between 2019 and 2020.[1] The firearm homicide rate increased another 8% in 2021.[2] Crime data from the FBI's Uniform Crime Report also indicated that there was a 12% increase in aggravated assault offenses in 2020.[3] These data raise significant concerns about high levels of community violence and the critical need for public health strategies to prevent community violence.

The Impact of violence extends beyond deaths and many more people suffer nonfatal injuries due to violence. More than 1.4 million people were treated in emergency departments for assault-related injuries in 2020.[4] People hospitalized with violence-related injuries often experience long-term consequences, including physical disabilities and mental health problems such as depression, anxiety, and post-traumatic-stress disorder (PTSD).[5-8] Experiencing violence is also associated with increased risk of substance use and developing chronic diseases (such as diabetes and heart disease).[9,10] Living in a community experiencing violence may prevent people from engaging in healthy behaviors, such as walking, using parks and recreational spaces, and accessing healthy food outlets.[11,12] Homicides and nonfatal physical assault-related injuries in 2020 were estimated to result in more than $28 billion in combined medical and lost work costs alone;[4] and can limit community and business growth and prosperity; strain education, justice, and medical systems; and slow community progress impacting access to life opportunities for members of the community, including educational attainment and employment.

America's youth are especially vulnerable to violence and are disproportionately impacted by violence in their communities. Violence is a leading cause of death and nonfatal injuries among adolescents and young adults – over half of U.S. homicides in 2020 occurred among those 15 to 34 years old.[4] In 2021, 18% of youth attending high school in the U.S. reported being involved in a physical fight in the past 12 months, and 4% reported carrying a weapon on school property in the past 30 days.[13] Youth can be victims, perpetrators, and/or witnesses of violence. People exposed to violence during childhood or youth, as well as other adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), are at increased risk of having short-term and chronic physical and mental health conditions, substance use disorders, behavioral difficulties, and social consequences.[9,10] It is important for violence prevention approaches to start early in childhood and to continue across

development into young adulthood.

Violence is causing substantial harm across the country; however, racial/ethnic minority groups and communities are disproportionately affected. There are substantial racial and ethnic inequities in rates of community violence, including homicides. For example, in 2021 among those aged 10-34, homicide rates are substantially higher among Black (55.8/100,000), and Hispanic (10.6/100,000) people compared with rates among non-Hispanic White (5.7/100,000) and Asian/Pacific Islander (2.3/100,000) people.[14] Structural racism, including differential access to goods, services, and opportunities by race, that is reinforced through policies and institutional practices, is related to inequities in risk for community violence.[15-16] Racial discrimination has a negative impact on mental and physical health,[17] and can influence social determinants of health, or the conditions where people live, work, and play.[18,19] Inequities in access to quality and affordable housing, education, healthcare services, and economic opportunity put some communities at greater risk of experiencing poor health and violence.[20] The COVID-19 pandemic might have worsened the effects of these and other existing social and economic stressors, particularly among racial/ethnic minority communities.

Purpose:
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References:

1. Kegler SR, Simon TR, Zwald ML, et al. *Vital Signs*: Changes in Firearm Homicide and Suicide Rates — United States, 2019–2020. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep 2022;71:656–663. DOI: https://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm7119e1
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3. Federal Bureau of Investigation. (2021, September 27). *FBI Releases 2020 Crime Statistics* [Press release]. https://www.fbi.gov/news/pressrel/press-releases/fbi-releases-2020-crime-statistics
4. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control. Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System (WISQARS). Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Website. Accessed 4/19/2023. https://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/fatal/index.html
5. Herrera-Escobar JP, de Jager E, McCarty JC, Lipsitz S, Haider AH, Salim A, Nehra D. Patient-reported Outcomes at 6 to 12 Months Among Survivors of Firearm Injury in the United States. Ann Surg. 2020 Jan 16. doi: 10.1097/SLA.0000000000003797. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 32530586.
6. Vella MA, Warshauer A, Tortorello G, Fernandez-Moure J, Giacolone J, Chen B, Cabulong A, Chreiman K, Sims C, Schwab CW, Reilly PM, Lane-Fall M, Seamon MJ. Long-term Functional, Psychological, Emotional, and Social Outcomes in Survivors of Firearm Injuries. JAMA Surg. 2020 Jan 1;155(1):51-59. doi: 10.1001/jamasurg.2019.4533. PMID: 31746949; PMCID: PMC6902182.
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9. Gilbert LK, Breiding MJ, Merrick MT, Thompson WW, Ford DC, Dhingra SS, Parks SE. (2015). Childhood adversity and adult chronic disease: An update from ten states and the District of Columbia, 2010. American Journal of Preventive Medicine. 48(3):345-349
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11. Payton Foh E, Brown RR, Denzongpa K, Echeverria S. Legacies of Environmental Injustice on Neighborhood Violence, Poverty and Active Living in an African American Community. Ethn Dis. 2021 Jul 15;31(3):425-432. doi: 10.18865/ed.31.3.425.
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13. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). 1991-2019 High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey Data. Available at https://nccd.cdc.gov/Youthonline/App/Default.aspx . Accessed on 4/20/2023.

14. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. National Vital Statistics System, Mortality 2018-2021 on CDC WONDER Online Database, released in 2023. Data are from the Multiple Cause of Death Files, 2018-2021, as compiled from data provided by the 57 vital statistics jurisdictions through the Vital Statistics Cooperative Program. Accessed at https://wonder.cdc.gov/mcd-icd10-expanded.html on Apr 20, 2023 12:53:10 PM
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Healthy People 2030 and other National Strategic Priorities

This research addresses the "Healthy People 2030" focus areas of injury and violence prevention. Specifically, this NOFO supports the Healthy People 2030 Injury and Violence Prevention (IVP) area: IVP-09 Reduce homicides, IVP-10 Reduce nonfatal physical assault injuries, IVP-11 Reduce physical fighting among adolescents, IVP-12 Reduce weapon carrying by adolescents, IVP-13 Reduce firearm-related deaths, and IVP-14 Reduce nonfatal firearm-related injuries. This NOFO also supports Healthy People 2030 Adolescent Health (AH) area: AH-10 Reduce rate of minors and young adults committing violent crimes, and AH-R11 Reduce the rate of adolescent and young adult victimization from violent crimes.

The projects funded under this NOFO will help address multiple cross-cutting and topic specific research priorities in the NCIPC Research Priorities. More information about the NCIPC research priorities is available at: https://www.cdc.gov/injury/researchpriorities/index.html. The objectives in this NOFO also address the NCIPC priorities of reducing youth violence and preventing Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) which includes multiple forms of violence impacting children and youth.

Public Health Impact

Violence is a significant public health problem and a leading cause of death among young people. Additionally, each year more than 1 million people require treatment in emergency

departments for violence-related injuries (https://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/fatal/index.html). Exposure to violence can increase risk for future violence as well as other, negative long-term health and life opportunity consequences, including depression and anxiety, substance use, chronic diseases (such as diabetes and heart disease), educational attainment, and stable employment. Community violence is an increasing problem that disproportionately affects young people, particularly racial and ethnic minority individuals, families, and communities. NCIPC is committed to preventing violence and addressing inequities in risk for violence. The results from the research funded under this announcement will have direct benefits to communities seeking to implement evidence-based approaches to reduce community violence and racial/ethnic inequities in risk for community violence.

Relevant Work

For 30 years, NCIPC has been the nation's leading public health authority on violence and injury prevention. CDC's approach involves three elements: a focus on prevention, a science-driven approach to identify risks and patterns, and multidisciplinary collaboration to address the problem and keep people safe and healthy.

- Descriptions of CDC's violence prevention initiatives are available on NCIPC's website: https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/index.html
- Information about CDC's National Violent Death Reporting System is available at https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/datasources/nvdrs/index.html
- Information about CDC's Strategic Vision for violence prevention is available at https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/publichealthissue/strategicvision.html
- CDC's definition of youth violence is available at https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/youthviolence/definitions.html
- Information about Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), including resources, data, and prevention information is available at: https://www.cdc.gov/injury/priority/aces.html.

CDC has released a suite of prevention resources to help communities make use of the best available evidence for violence prevention. These prevention resources describe general prevention strategies and provide examples of specific approaches along with information about the evidence for these approaches. The resources are available at https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/communicationresources/pub/technical-packages.html CDC has also released an ACEs prevention resource that highlights six ACEs prevention strategies drawn from the CDC violence prevention resources: https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/aces/prevention.html.

2. Approach

For NOFO RFA-CE-24-030, applicants are expected to submit proposals that evaluate the effectiveness of approaches (e.g., programs, practices, or policies) to prevent community violence and reduce racial and ethnic inequities in risk for community violence, specifically among those aged 10-34 years. Applicants may propose research under one or more objectives. Applicants are expected to clearly indicate in the Abstract section of the application the objective, or objectives, that the research application intends to address. Community violence happens between unrelated individuals, who may or may not know each other, generally outside the home. Examples include assaults or fights among groups and shootings in public places, such

as schools and on the streets. For the purposes of this NOFO, "community" is a population with shared characteristics or social ties within a geographically defined area (e.g., neighborhood, block, hospital or school catchment area, police jurisdiction, or city).

Applicants should propose evaluations of approaches that are new or previously implemented in communities but have not been rigorously evaluated for effectiveness in reducing community violence and inequities in risk for community violence. Prevention programs, practices, or policies to be evaluated are expected to be theoretically justified (e.g., include a conceptual model or theory of change, with proposed mediators, for how the prevention approach will reduce community violence and racial/ethnic inequities in risk for community violence) and, when possible, supported with epidemiological and/or behavioral research. Mediating factors help explain the mechanism or process through which an exposure to the intervention leads to reductions in community violence. Recipients are expected to assess intervention processes and mediators as appropriate. Examples of process data include intervention or policy implementation fidelity and intervention exposure data. Other examples of mediators appropriate to the proposed research include changes in risk and protective factors specific to the proposed intervention. Examples of violence outcome and impact data sources include vital statistics data, police records, child welfare reports, school records, injury-related hospital or emergency department data, or relevant self-reported behaviors. Applicants are encouraged to assess effects on multiple community violence outcomes, including severe outcomes such as fatal and nonfatal assaults with weapons. The inclusion of risk and protective factors (e.g., neighborhood poverty, educational attainment, employment opportunities, etc.) for the forms of violence studied is highly encouraged. The use of multiple data sources to improve validity and reliability of each outcome is also encouraged.

While applicants are encouraged to include other violence-related outcomes as secondary outcomes, **applications proposing research which is not focused on preventing community violence involving youth/young adults (ages 10-34 years), as evidenced in the Research Strategy section of the application's research plan, will be considered nonresponsive and will not be forwarded for peer review (see *Section III. Eligibility Information 5. Responsiveness*).**

This NOFO is intended to support rigorous research designs. Rigorous designs are those that utilize experimental (i.e., randomized controlled trials) or quasi-experimental designs (e.g., designs involving matched comparison groups, designs using propensity-score matching, instrumental variable methods, regression point displacement, regression discontinuity, pragmatic clinical trial, or time series designs). Randomized trials are not feasible for some prevention strategies (e.g., policy evaluations) and alternative quasi-experimental designs are appropriate and acceptable. Rigorous designs should include data analytic plans that are appropriate for that design and the prevention strategy, hypotheses, and data collection measures. Data analytic plans should also anticipate and evaluate the effects of threats to the internal and external validity of the specified research design.

Applicants may propose mixed-method approaches that include additional qualitative analyses to explore the equity implications of quantitative findings regarding an approach's impact on violence outcomes. For example, applicants with community partners may propose to conduct in-depth interviews or focus groups to further explore how the selected approach may work to

close or widen existing inequities in violence burden across populations. Recognition of diverse knowledge systems and use of culturally centered approaches to information gathering, including employing methods, metrics, and indicators that are seen as appropriate and useful by the residents of the community can be important to strengthening data collection activities.

Applications that propose studies outside of the stated objectives of this NOFO (e.g., etiologic research to examine the prevalence or correlates of behavior, research to strengthen surveillance, or proposals to conduct development and feasibility testing) without also proposing an evaluation of a community violence prevention program, policy, or practice, as evidenced in the Research Strategy section of the application's research plan, will be considered nonresponsive and will not be forwarded for peer review (see *Section III. Eligibility Information 5. Responsiveness*).

As a public health agency, CDC focuses on public health responses to violence prevention. While a violence prevention strategy may collaborate with law enforcement agencies, **applications proposing to evaluate approaches that are solely under the influence or control of the criminal justice system (i.e., policing, arrest, trial, sentencing, incarceration, mandated intervention and treatment approaches), as evidenced in the Research Strategy section of the application's research plan, will be considered nonresponsive, and these applications will not be forwarded to peer-review (see *Section III. Eligibility Information 5. Responsiveness*).** However, rigorous evaluations of policies at the local- or jurisdiction-level such as restorative justice policies to prevent the school-to-prison pipeline or rigorous evaluations of policies that may lead to student disengagement (e.g., harsh disciplinary policies) will be considered. **It should be noted that the focus of this announcement is not on school-based programs or curricula**.

Proposals should help expand and advance the understanding of strategies that prevent community violence affecting those ages 10-34 and advance the understanding of how to eliminate racial and ethnic inequities in risk for community violence.

This NOFO will not support applications that propose to evaluate strategies that respond to violence after it occurs, such as treatment and rehabilitation approaches (e.g., mental health treatment, physical rehabilitation) or medical care (e.g., treatment of physical injuries) rather than focus on preventing violence from occurring. Research proposals proposing to evaluate response strategies focused solely on treating injuries or to help victims recover do not meet the scientific intent of this NOFO. **Applications that propose to evaluate strategies aimed at responding to violence rather than preventing it will not be recommended for funding consideration during the NCIPC second level of review (see *Section V. Application Review Information*).** The intent of this NOFO is to evaluate approaches to prevent community violence. If an applicant is proposing a therapeutic approach to prevent community violence, then it is critical to explain how the approach is innovative, how it addresses the objective(s) of this NOFO, and how it substantially adds to what is already known about how the approach can prevent future violence.

Prevention planning systems [e.g., Communities That Care (CTC)], and Promoting School-Community University Partnerships to Enhance Resilience (PROSPER Partnership Model)] use

data to understand local needs and select specific prevention approaches to meet those needs. The intent of this NOFO is to evaluate innovative prevention approaches to help expand and advance understanding of approaches to prevent community violence so that communities will have additional programs, policies, and practices to consider in the future. Therefore, applications that propose to evaluate prevention planning systems rather than specific programs, policies, or practices do not meet the scientific intent of this NOFO. Also, because the intent of this NOFO is to evaluate innovative approaches to reduce community violence, this NOFO will not support applications that propose to evaluate the following approaches that have already been rigorously evaluated: universal school-based violence prevention curricula, and parenting/family relationship programs for reducing youth violence. **Applications proposing to evaluate universal school-based curricula, parenting or family relationship programs, or prevention planning systems [e.g., Communities That Care (CTC), Promoting School-Community University Partnerships to Enhance Resilience (PROSPER Partnership Model)] will not be recommended for funding consideration during the NCIPC second level of review (see *Section V. Application Review Information*).**

Applications must be scientifically responsive to NOFO RFA-CE-24-030 in order to be forwarded for peer review. Additional responsiveness criteria are listed in *Section III. Eligibility Information 5. Responsiveness* of this NOFO. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that the submitted research proposal meets all responsiveness criteria listed in *Section III. Eligibility Information 5. Responsiveness*.

Applicants are asked to clearly indicate in the application's Abstract which objective, or combination of objectives, the research proposal intends to address. Applicants are also asked to indicate in the applications Abstract what NCIPC Research Priority the research proposal intends to address.

Protection of Human Subjects and Personally Identifiable Information
The Research Strategy section of the application is expected to clearly describe the type, source, access to, and protections of the data and human subjects participating in the study. Access to non-publicly available, previously collected data must be clearly described in the Research Strategy and documented with a signed Data Sharing Agreement or Letter of Support. Access to publicly available, previously collected data must be clearly described in the Research Strategy.

Protection of previously collected data includes, but is not limited to, protection of personally identifiable information from loss and/or misuse.

The application is expected to identify each performance site that will be conducting human subjects research and include the FWA number for the applicant institution and each performance site. Research conducted with more than one institution will be expected to use a single Institutional Review Board (sIRB) to conduct the ethical review required by HHS regulations. See *Section IV. Application and Submission Information, 10 Funding Restrictions, Human Subjects* for details.

Objectives/Outcomes
Primary Outcomes to be achieved with funded research:

The focus of this announcement is to support research that evaluates the effectiveness of innovative approaches (e.g., programs, practices, or policies) to prevent community violence and reduce racial and ethnic inequities in risk for community violence, specifically among those aged 10-34 years. Community violence happens between unrelated individuals, who may or may not know each other, generally outside the home. Innovative approaches are those that have not been rigorously evaluated for effectiveness in reducing community violence. Funding is available to conduct such studies focused on preventing all forms of community violence experienced by those aged 10-34, including assaults, homicides, violence between groups, and threats/use of weapons. **The intent is to build the evidence base for prevention approaches (e.g., programs, practices, or policies) that are effective in reducing community violence as well as approaches that reduce racial and ethnic inequities in risk for community violence.** The following research objectives are the focus of this announcement:

Objective One: Effectiveness research to evaluate innovative approaches with the potential for immediate or near immediate benefits for reducing community violence and racial/ethnic inequities in risk for community violence**.** While the field has learned a great deal about violence prevention strategies that are effective, there is an urgent need to build the menu of violence prevention strategies that can have proximate benefits for participants and their communities. Some prevention strategies, such as street outreach programs, mentoring programs, hospital-community partnerships, and youth employment/apprenticeship and other after-school programs, when implemented well and reaching the intended participants, can quickly alter risk for violence. Applicants should explain why the proposed approach is innovative and describe the process and theoretical or empirical support for the potential for immediate or near immediate (i.e., within 6 months after implementation) benefits for reducing the risk for community violence and racial/ethnic inequities in risk for community violence.

Objective Two: Effectiveness research to evaluate innovative place-based prevention approaches for reducing community violence and racial/ethnic inequities in the risk for community violence. Place-based prevention approaches can be designed to create or enhance protective environments and to reduce the risks associated with physical spaces and how they are used. Changes, such as vacant building remediation and reductions in alcohol outlet density, can reduce opportunities for violence and enhance positive social interactions and opportunities to support young people. While there is some evidence for these and other place-based community violence prevention approaches, such as activities grounded in the principles of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED), additional research is necessary to increase the types of innovative programs, practices, or policies that have been rigorously evaluated and shown to work so that other communities can make decisions about the most appropriate approaches that meet their needs. Some strategies, such as greening of vacant lots, have been evaluated in multiple studies, yet health equity aspects of some CPTED approaches and the role of civic engagement and participatory community development approaches are less well understood. Applicants should explain why the proposed place-based approach is innovative, and describe the process and theoretical or empirical support for potential benefits for reducing community violence and racial/ethnic inequities in risk for community violence.

Objective Three: Effectiveness research to evaluate approaches that improve the social or structural conditions that contribute to community violence and racial/ethnic inequities in risk for

community violence. Social determinants of health are the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age (e.g., concentrated poverty, structural racism, high rates of unemployment, limited access to high-quality education) and they can contribute to health inequities and modifiable differences in health status seen across population groups. Potential research in response to this NOFO includes studies to assess the effectiveness of strategies that address social or structural determinants of health that are empirically or theoretically associated with community violence and racial/ethnic inequities. The focus could include, but is not limited to, the following:

- economic strategies (e.g., microfinance programs, cash transfer payments, access to banking institutions, individual development accounts, food security programs, livable wages or other employment and wage policies);
- housing development strategies (e.g., Low Income Housing Tax Credits, Inclusionary Zoning, tenant-based housing subsidies), and other efforts to improve the physical, social, and economic characteristics of neighborhoods, schools and other settings (e.g., employment opportunities, transportation policies);
- strategies that improve educational experiences and attainment for youth at greatest risk (e.g., restorative justice school disciplinary policies, increased/equitable school funding policies)
- studies to assess the effectiveness of social and cultural norm change strategies addressing cultural values and beliefs (e.g., innovative social media and other communication strategies to enhance protective norms, behaviors, and social conditions); and
- studies to assess the effectiveness of strategies focused on reducing the level and concentration of community risk factors (e.g., limited access to affordable and quality childcare; limited access to housing, employment, etc., following incarceration).

The prevention strategies listed above are examples and are not an exhaustive list. Applicants should describe how the prevention approach proposed has the potential to reduce community violence and racial/ethnic inequities in risk for community violence across the population subgroups that are the focus of the study. Applicants should propose evaluations of approaches that are new or previously implemented in communities but have not been rigorously evaluated for effectiveness in reducing community violence.

For Objective 3, a distinction is made between community-based prevention strategies and strategies to address health inequities and modifiable differences in health status seen across population groups. Community-based prevention strategies are implemented in a community setting but address change in individual-, peer- or family-level factors (e.g., attitudes, knowledge, etc.). In contrast, strategies of interest under Objective 3 focus on improving the social or structural community conditions (e.g., characteristics of communities that are empirically or theoretically associated with community violence such as concentrated poverty, structural racism, high rates of unemployment and community violence, limited access to high-quality education and/or affordable, high-quality childcare) that contribute to health inequities across population groups. Applications submitted under **Objective 3** are expected to address the social or structural conditions that contribute to health inequities in rates of violence across population groups. **Applications submitted under Objective 3 proposing to evaluate community-based**

strategies that are implemented in community settings but address change in individual-, peer- or family-level factors (e.g., attitudes, knowledge, parent-child relationships, parental monitoring, family environment, associations with peers at risk of violence, etc.) rather than social or structural community conditions do not meet the scientific intent of this NOFO. These applications will not be recommended for funding consideration during the NCIPC second level of review (see *Section V. Application Review Information*).

Applicants are strongly encouraged to engage the community in all aspects of the research process. This can include strong partnerships with community members with lived experience who participate throughout the project (e.g., developing study methods, collecting data, interpreting results, and disseminating findings). Applicants are encouraged to consider using approaches that are trauma-informed (i.e., healing centered). While the primary focus and outcome of interest should be reductions in rates of community violence, applicants are also encouraged to test for reductions in other types of violence (e.g., intimate partner violence and sexual violence) and other adverse experiences, particularly among youth, that contribute to toxic stress and trauma, including abuse and neglect, parental separation due to incarceration, and witnessing violence in the home or community. Applicants are encouraged to measure any unintended or harmful consequences of the prevention approach and differential effects of the approach on subpopulations, if applicable. Applicants are also encouraged to include cost measures to inform economic evaluations.

The three objectives are not necessarily mutually exclusive. For example, some approaches (e.g., inclusionary zoning laws, access to affordable housing) might address social and structural conditions and enhance safety of physical spaces. **Applicants are asked to clearly indicate in the application's Abstract which Objective(s) the research proposal intends to address. Applicants are also asked to indicate in the application's Abstract what NCIPC Research Priority the research proposal intends to address.**

Data collection, acquisition, and analysis. Applicants must identify and describe appropriate data sources and provide evidence of their ability to acquire and/or collect data of sufficient quantity and quality to conduct the proposed research within the project period. Applications should clearly describe and justify the proposed sampling methods, sample size, power estimates, and data collection methods for the primary outcome(s), at a minimum, and other proposed secondary measures and subgroup analyses. The timeline for data acquisition (requests for extant data and or primary data collection) must be specified. Numerous data sources can be used for the outcome data, including emergency department data, law enforcement data, self-report data, and other sources of data. In addition, administrative data from relevant agencies and survey data collected prior to or in the context of the evaluation are potential sources. Appropriate data sources will vary by the proposed research approach and outcome measures. The inclusion of risk and protective factors (e.g., neighborhood poverty, educational attainment, employment opportunities, etc.) for the forms of violence studied is highly encouraged.

Target Population

Applicants should focus on populations at highest risk for experiencing community violence. Community violence affects people across the lifespan and in all communities. However, some subgroups are at substantially greater risk. For example, homicide is a leading cause of death among adolescents and young adults and young people are disproportionately impacted by

nonfatal community violence. Risk for community violence, and opportunities for prevention, start in childhood. People's health outcomes are influenced by the conditions in which they live, work, play, and learn. These conditions are called social determinants of health. Systemic racism, bias, and discrimination; economic instability; concentrated poverty; and limited housing, education, and healthcare access drive health inequities, such as violence. Racial/ethnic minority groups and communities often disproportionately experience these negative conditions, placing residents at greater risk for poor health outcomes. For example, Black or African American, Hispanic or Latino, and American Indian and Alaska Native persons have higher homicide rates than other racial and ethnic demographic groups. This initiative is intended to support effectiveness research to expand and advance understanding of approaches to prevent community violence and reduce racial and ethnic inequities in risk for community violence. Funds are available to conduct studies focused on preventing all forms of community violence involving youth or young adults (ages 10-34 years), including assaults, homicides, violence between groups, and threats/use of weapons. When feasible, applicants are encouraged to address other populations at high risk for experiencing community violence, including, but not limited to, people with disabilities, sexual and gender minorities, individuals returning home after incarceration, commercial sex workers, and individuals experiencing homelessness who live in areas with high rates of social disadvantage.

Collaboration/Partnerships

It is expected that for all applications, the applicant organization and contact PI will provide the scientific and technical leadership necessary to conduct the proposed research throughout the entire project period. It is expected that the proposed research work plan described in the Research Strategy section of the application and the SF-424 Research and Related Budget will demonstrate the applicant organization's leadership and involvement throughout the entirety of the project period. The applicant organization cannot serve as a "pass through" to fund another entity to conduct the majority of the research or provide the scientific or technical leadership necessary to complete the proposed research project.

NCIPC recognizes the importance of community conditions and community-centered research to complete the proposed work. Applicants are strongly encouraged to seek and include the meaningful involvement of communities, including state and/or local health departments, local governmental agencies and/or businesses, and community-based organizations in all phases of the development and conduct of the proposed research, and in the translation and dissemination of research results. This can include strong partnerships with community members with lived experience who participate in all phases of the research (e.g., developing study methods, collecting data, interpreting results, and disseminating findings).

Partnerships between the applicant institution and outside entities may be necessary or advantageous to complete the proposed work. The application must clearly describe roles and responsibilities of each partnering entity. This includes demonstration of the applicant's access to planned data sources and study populations, and all partnerships necessary to complete the proposed project.

The Research Strategy section of the application must clearly describe the nature and extent of the proposed partnership, including the roles and responsibilities of the Principal Investigator(s) and of the outside entities or partner agencies, the existing working relationship, plans for the

proposed research, the nature and extent of the involvement to be provided by the applicant institution and outside entity, the outside entity's scope of work, and how the partnership will ensure implementation and sustainability of the proposed evaluation. The Research Strategy section must clearly describe all data sources and the partnerships that are in place to assure data access for all proposed analyses to be completed within the project period.

The roles and responsibilities described for each partnering entity must be substantiated with a signed Data Sharing Agreement, Letter or Support (LOS), or Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), and be included in the Letter of Support section of the application. The Data Sharing Agreement, Letter of Support (LOS), or Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) must describe the partner's commitment of resources, time, and personnel to the proposed research. Applications that do not include a signed Data Sharing Agreement, Letter of Support, or Memorandum of Understanding from each partnering entity may not be recommended for funding (see *Section V. Application Review Information, 4 Review and Selection Process).*

Applications will be evaluated during peer review on:

- The extent to which the Research Strategy section clearly describes the roles and responsibilities of each partner involved in data collection and/or the effectiveness evaluation.
- The extent to which the Research Strategy clearly describes the working relationships between the applicant institution and all partner organizations.
- The extent to which the Research Strategy clearly describes the involvement and scope of work each partner is willing to complete to ensure the success of the proposed research within the proposed project period.
- The extent to which the relationships and activities of the partnerships described in the Research Strategy, are documented by a signed Data Sharing Agreement, Letter of Support, or Memorandum of Understanding that clearly delineates the intent and capabilities of each partnership.

It is incumbent on the applicant to clearly describe each contribution of each partnership to the proposed research in the Research Strategy and document the intent and capabilities of each partnership with a signed Data Sharing Agreement, Letter of Support, or Memorandum of Understanding.

This NOFO seeks diversity among applicant institutions, research investigators, and partnering organizations to ensure researcher experience and research outcomes are applicable and beneficial to all segments of our population and social ecology. Applicant organizations from or conducting research in collaboration or partnership with institutions that have a demonstrated record of or historical commitment to serving underrepresented students, including racial and ethnic minorities, individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds and individuals with disabilities may be considered during the second level of review (see *Section V. Application Review Information, 4. Review and Selection Process*). Applicants may indicate this in the Research Strategy of their application.

This NOFO encourages the inclusion of early-stage investigators as members of the SF-424

Senior/Key Personnel research team to help build experience and expertise in violence prevention research.

Applications should demonstrate that the research staff have the necessary skills and experience to ensure quality and timeliness of proposed activities. The participation of students and other researchers-in-training is encouraged. Applicants planning to incorporate training and/or mentorship roles into their research activities should describe the plans for the recruitment, training, and supervision of trainees/mentees and the ongoing quality assurance of their scientific products.

Evaluation/Performance Measurement

Applicants are expected to provide an evaluation and performance measurement plan with measures of effectiveness. The plan must be able to demonstrate the feasibility of accomplishing the proposed project objectives. Measures of effectiveness must relate to the goals stated in the "Purpose" section of this announcement and be able to measure the intended outputs and outcomes described. Outcomes to be evaluated should be clearly specified. If applicable, performance measures should include the number of participants recruited into the study, the participation rate, and types of samples collected.

Translation Plan

When relevant to the goals of the research project, the PI should describe how the significant findings may be used to promote, enhance, or advance translation of the research into practice or may be used to inform public health policy. This description should be understandable to a variety of audiences, including policy makers, practitioners, public health programs, healthcare institutions, professional organizations, community groups, researchers, and other potential users. The PI should identify the research findings that could be translated into public health policy or practice and how the findings may be adopted in public health settings. Or, if they cannot be applied yet, this description should address which research findings may be translated, how these findings can guide future research or related activities, and recommendations for translation. If relevant, describe how the results of this project could be generalized to or adapted by populations and communities outside of the study, as well as lessons learned to facilitate future replication in another research or non-research setting if the prevention strategy is found to be effective.

Applicants should describe plans for engaging community partners in the interpretation and dissemination of the results, and applicants are encouraged to develop translation products for the community partners to use for future funding programmatic decisions and funding opportunities.

Grant recipients will be required to attend one reverse site visit per year in Atlanta with CDC/NCIPC staff during the period of performance to review their progress and findings and to discuss opportunities for widespread dissemination of their research achievements and lessons learned. Travel costs for attending this meeting must be included in the application's travel budget submitted in response to this NOFO.

3. Funding Strategy

Section II. Award Information

Funding Instrument Type:
G (Grant)
A support mechanism providing money, property, or both to an eligible entity to carry out an approved project or activity.

Application Types Allowed:
New - An application that is submitted for funding for the first time. Includes multiple submission attempts within the same round.

Estimated Total Funding:
$9,600,000
Anticipated Number of Awards:
8
Awards issued under this NOFO are contingent on the availability of funds and submission of a sufficient number of meritorious applications.

Award Ceiling:
$400,000
Per Budget Period

Award Floor:
$0
Per Budget Period

Total Period of Performance Length:
3 year(s)

Throughout the Period of Performance, CDC's commitment to continuation of awards will depend on the availability of funds, evidence of satisfactory progress by the recipient (as documented in required reports), and CDC’s determination that continued funding is in the best interest of the Federal government.

HHS/CDC grants policies as described in the HHS Grants Policy Statement (https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/grants/grants/policies-regulations/hhsgps107.pdf) will apply to the applications submitted and awards made in response to this NOFO.
If you are successful and receive a Notice of Award, in accepting the award, you agree that the award and any activities thereunder are subject to all provisions of 45 CFR Part 75, currently in effect or implemented during the period of the award, other Department regulations and policies in effect at the time of the award, and applicable statutory provisions.

Section III. Eligibility Information

1. Eligible Applicants

Eligibility Category:

00 (State governments)

01 (County governments)

02 (City or township governments)

04 (Special district governments)

05 (Independent school districts)

06 (Public and State controlled institutions of higher education)

07 (Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized))

08 (Public housing authorities/Indian housing authorities)

11 (Native American tribal organizations (other than Federally recognized tribal governments))

12 (Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education)

13 (Nonprofits without 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education)

20 (Private institutions of higher education)

22 (For profit organizations other than small businesses)

23 (Small businesses)

25 (Others (see text field entitled "Additional Information on Eligibility" for clarification))

99 (Unrestricted (i.e., open to any type of entity above), subject to any clarification in text field entitled "Additional Information on Eligibility")

Additional Eligibility Category:

The following types of Higher Education Institutions are always encouraged to apply for CDC support as Public or Private Institutions of Higher Education:

Hispanic-serving Institutions

Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs)

Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities (TCCUs)

Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian Serving Institutions

Nonprofits (Other than Institutions of Higher Education):

Nonprofits (Other than Institutions of Higher Education)

Other:

Faith-based or Community-based Organizations

Regional Organizations

Bona Fide Agents: A Bona Fide Agent is an agency/organization identified by the state as eligible to submit an application under the state eligibility in lieu of a state application. If applying as a bona fide agent of a state or local government, a legal, binding agreement from the state or local government as documentation of the status is required. Attach with "Other Attachment Forms."

Federally Funded Research and Development Centers (FFRDCs): FFRDCs are operated, managed, and/or administered by a university or consortium of universities, other not-for-profit or nonprofit organization, or an industrial firm, as an autonomous organization or as an identifiable separate operating unit of a parent organization. A FFRDC meets some special long-term research or development need which cannot be met as effectively by an agency's existing in-house or contractor resources. FFRDC's enable agencies to use private sector resources to accomplish tasks that are integral to the mission and operation of the sponsoring agency. For more information on FFRDCs, go to https://gov.ecfr.io/cgi-bin/searchECFR.

2. Foreign Organizations

Foreign Organizations **are not** eligible to apply.

Foreign components of U.S. Organizations are not eligible to apply.

For this announcement, applicants may not include collaborators or consultants from foreign institutions. All applicable federal laws and policies apply.

3. Additional Information on Eligibility

Please see Section III. Eligibility Information.

4. Justification for Less than Maximum Competition

N/A

5. Responsiveness

It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that the application meets all responsiveness criteria listed in this section. Applications that do not meet ***all*** of the following Responsiveness criteria will be considered nonresponsive and will not be forwarded for peer review. There must be an overall match between the proposed research objectives as described in the applicant's abstract and the research objectives of this announcement as described in Section I under the heading, "Objectives/Outcomes."

1. The application proposes research focused on preventing community violence involving youth/young adults (ages 10-34 years).
    a. **Applications proposing research which is not focused on preventing community violence involving youth/young adults (ages 10-34 years), as evidenced in the Research Strategy section of the application's research plan, will be considered nonresponsive and will not be forwarded for peer review.**
2. The application does not propose studies outside the stated objectives of this NOFO without also proposing an evaluation of a community violence prevention program, policy, or practice.
    a. This research is intended to support rigorous effectiveness research to evaluate strategies focused on preventing community violence. **Applications that propose**

studies outside of the stated objectives of this NOFO (e.g., etiologic research to examine the prevalence or correlates of behavior, research to strengthen surveillance, or proposals to conduct development and feasibility testing) without also proposing an evaluation of a community violence prevention program, policy, or practice, as evidenced in the Research Strategy section of the application's research plan, will be considered nonresponsive and will not be forwarded for peer review.

3. The application does not propose to evaluate approaches that are solely under the influence or control of the criminal justice system.
    a. **Applications proposing to evaluate approaches that are solely under the influence or control of the criminal justice system (i.e., policing, arrest, trial, sentencing, incarceration, mandated intervention and treatment approaches), as evidenced in the Research Strategy section of the application's research plan, will be considered nonresponsive, and these applications will not be peer-reviewed.**

4. The application includes documentation of the PI/Co-PI's expertise in the relevant area of violence prevention.
    a. The SF-424 Biographical Sketch for the PI or Co-Investigator(s) must include documentation of expertise in the area of violence prevention that is reflected in the application's research strategy section. The knowledge, experience, and expertise necessary to conduct this research and achieve proposed objectives must be documented with at least one first-authored, peer-reviewed publication as defined by the NIH National Library of Medicine in the relevant area of violence prevention, or by serving as a principal investigator on a research grant in violence, injury or crime prevention research. Experience requirements may be demonstrated through the combined experiences of a Principal and Co-Principal Investigator (if applicable). The citation of the relevant publication(s) or research experience must be clearly identified (by bold text or highlight) in the appropriate SF 424 Biographical Sketch. **Applications that do not include documentation to meet this PI/co-PI requirement will be considered non-responsive and will not be forwarded for peer review.**

6. Required Registrations

Applicant organizations must complete the following registrations as described in the SF 424 (R&R) Application Guide to be eligible to apply for or receive an award. Applicants must have a valid Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) number in order to begin each of the following registrations.

PLEASE NOTE: Effective April 4, 2022, applicants must have a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) at the time of application submission. The UEI replaced the Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) and is generated as part of SAM.gov registration. Current SAM.gov registrants have already been assigned their UEI and can view it in SAM.gov and Grants.gov. Additional information is available on the GSA website, SAM.gov, and Grants.gov-Finding the UEI.

- (Foreign entities only): Special Instructions for acquiring a Commercial and Governmental Entity (NCAGE) Code: NCAGE Tool / Products / NCS Help Center (nato.int).

- System for Award Management (SAM) – must maintain current registration in SAM (the replacement system for the Central Contractor Registration) to be renewed annually, SAM.gov.
- Grants.gov
- eRA Commons

All applicant organizations must register with Grants.gov. Please visit www.Grants.gov at least 30 days prior to submitting your application to familiarize yourself with the registration and submission processes. The one-time registration process will take three to five days to complete. However, it is best to start the registration process at least two weeks prior to application submission.

All Senior/Key Personnel (including Program Directors/Principal Investigators (PD/PIs) must also work with their institutional officials to register with the eRA Commons or ensure their existing Principal Investigator (PD/PI) eRA Commons account is affiliated with the eRA commons account of the applicant organization. All registrations must be successfully completed and active before the application due date. Applicant organizations are strongly encouraged to start the eRA Commons registration process at least four (4) weeks prior to the application due date. ASSIST requires that applicant users have an active eRA Commons account in order to prepare an application. It also requires that the applicant organization's Signing Official have an active eRA Commons Signing Official account in order to initiate the submission process. During the submission process, ASSIST will prompt the Signing Official to enter their Grants.gov Authorized Organizational Representative (AOR) credentials in order to complete the submission, therefore the applicant organization must ensure that their Grants.gov AOR credentials are active.

7. Universal Identifier Requirements and System for Award Management (SAM)

All applicant organizations **must obtain** a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) number as the Universal Identifier when applying for Federal grants or cooperative agreements. The UEI number is a twelve-digit number assigned by SAM.gov. An AOR should be consulted to determine the appropriate number. If the organization does not have a UEI number, an AOR should register through SAM.gov. Note this is an organizational number. Individual Program Directors/Principal Investigators do not need to register for a UEI number.

Additionally, organizations must maintain the registration with current information at all times during which it has an application under consideration for funding by CDC and, if an award is made, until a final financial report is submitted or the final payment is received, whichever is later.

SAM.gov is the primary registrant database for the Federal government and is the repository into which an entity must provide information required for the conduct of business as a recipient. Additional information about registration procedures may be found at SAM.gov and the SAM.gov Knowledge Base.

If an award is granted, the recipient organization **must** notify potential sub-recipients that no

organization may receive a subaward under the grant unless the organization has provided its UEI number to the recipient organization.

8. Eligible Individuals (Project Director/Principal Investigator) in Organizations/Institutions

Any individual(s) with the skills, knowledge, and resources necessary to carry out the proposed research as the Project Director/Principal Investigator (PD/PI) is invited to work with his/her organization to develop an application for support. Individuals from underrepresented racial and ethnic groups as well as individuals with disabilities are always encouraged to apply for HHS/CDC support.

9. Cost Sharing

This NOFO does not require cost sharing as defined in the HHS Grants Policy Statement (http://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/grants/grants/policies-regulations/hhsgps107.pdf).

10. Number of Applications

As defined in the HHS Grants Policy Statement, (https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/grants/grants/policies-regulations/hhsgps107.pdf), applications received in response to the same Notice of Funding Opportunity generally are scored individually and then ranked with other applications under peer review in their order of relative programmatic, technical, or scientific merit. HHS/CDC will not accept any application in response to this NOFO that is essentially the same as one currently pending initial peer review unless the applicant withdraws the pending application.

Eligible applicant organizations may submit more than one application to this NOFO, provided that each application is scientifically distinct. To avoid duplication, please ensure the project titles are distinct. However, applicant institutions can submit only one application with the same contact PD/PI. Only one application per contact PD/PI will be funded under this announcement. If two or more applications from the same contact PD/PI are received for this NOFO, the only application that will be submitted for review will be the last application received based on the document's time and date stamp in Grants.gov (https://www.grants.gov). The applicant must ensure that duplicate applications are withdrawn prior to the application review date.

Additionally, applicant institutions submitting applications with essentially the same proposed research to two or more CDC/ATSDR NOFOs will not be funded under more than one NOFO. Applicant institutions submitting multiple applications with essentially the same proposed research to this announcement will not be funded more than once.

Section IV. Application and Submission Information

1. Address to Request Application Package

Applicants will use a system or platform to submit their applications through Grants.gov and eRA Commons to CDC. ASSIST, an institutional system to system (S2S) solution, or Grants.gov Workspace are options. ASSIST is a commonly used platform because, unlike other platforms, it provides a validation of all requirements prior to submission and prevents errors.

To use ASSIST, applicants must visit https://public.era.nih.gov where you can login using your eRA Commons credentials, and enter the Notice of Funding Opportunity Number to initiate the application, and begin the application preparation process.

If you experience problems accessing or using ASSIST, you can refer to the ASSIST Online Help Site at: https://era.nih.gov/erahelp/assist. Additional support is available from the NIH eRA Service desk via: http://grants.nih.gov/support/index.html

- Email: commons@od.nih.gov
- Phone: 301-402-7469 or (toll-free) 1-866-504-9552.
  Hours: Monday - Friday, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern Time, excluding Federal holidays.

2. Content and Form of Application Submission

Applicants must use FORMS-G application packages for due dates on or before January 24, 2023 and must use FORMS-H application packages for due dates on or after January 25, 2023.

Application guides for FORMS-G and FORMS-H application packages are posted to the How to Apply - Application Guide page.

It is critical that applicants follow the instructions in the SF-424 (R&R) Application Guide How to Apply - Application Guide except where instructed in this Notice of Funding Opportunity to do otherwise. Conformance to the requirements in the Application Guide is required and strictly enforced. Applications that are out of compliance with these instructions may be delayed or not accepted for review. The package associated with this NOFO includes all applicable mandatory and optional forms. Please note that some forms marked optional in the application package are required for submission of applications for this NOFO. Follow the instructions in the SF-424 Application Guide to ensure you complete all appropriate "optional" components.

When using ASSIST, all mandatory forms will appear as separate tabs at the top of the Application Information screen; applicants may add optional forms available for the NOFO by selecting the Add Optional Form button in the left navigation panel.

Please use the form and instructions for SF 424 (R&R) FORMS-H for applications due on or after January 25, 2023.

3. Letter of Intent

11/01/2023

Although a letter of intent is not required, is not binding, and does not enter into the review of a subsequent application, the information that it contains assists NCIPC staff in planning for the scientific and technical merit peer review. By the date listed in *Part 1. Overview Information*, eligible applicants are asked to submit a letter of intent that includes the following information:

- Descriptive title of proposed research
- Which objective(s) the application will address
- Description (1-2 paragraphs) of the proposed research including a description of the proposed research objectives
- Name, address, and telephone number of the contact PD/PI

- Name(s) of all other Senior/Key Personnel
- Name(s) of participating institutions
- Number and title of this funding opportunity

The letter of intent should be sent electronically to:
Carlisha Gentles, PharmD, BCPS, CDCES
Scientific Review Official
National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC)
Telephone: 770.488.1504
Email: cgentles@cdc.gov

4. Required and Optional Components

A complete application has many components, both required and optional. The forms package associated with this NOFO in Grants.gov includes all applicable components for this NOFO, required and optional. In ASSIST, all required and optional forms will appear as separate tabs at the top of the Application Information screen.

5. PHS 398 Research Plan Component

The SF424 (R&R) Application Guide includes instructions for applicants to complete a PHS 398 Research Plan that consists of components. Not all components of the Research Plan apply to all Notices of Funding Opportunities (NOFOs). Specifically, some of the following components are for Resubmissions or Revisions only. See the SF 424 (R&R) Application Guide at How to Apply - Application Guide for additional information. Please attach applicable sections of the following Research Plan components as directed in Part 2, Section 1 (Notice of Funding Opportunity Description).

Follow the page limits stated in the SF 424 unless otherwise specified in the NOFO. As applicable to and specified in the NOFO, the application should include the bolded headers in this section and should address activities to be conducted over the course of the entire project, including but not limited to:

1. **Introduction to Application** (for Resubmission and Revision ONLY) - provide a clear description about the purpose of the proposed research and how it addresses the specific requirements of the NOFO.
2. **Specific Aims** – state the problem the proposed research addresses and how it will result in public health impact and improvements in population health.
3. **Research Strategy** – the research strategy should be organized under 3 headings: Significance, Innovation and Approach. Describe the proposed research plan, including staffing and time line.
4. **Progress Report Publication List** (for Continuation ONLY)

Other Research Plan Sections

5. **Vertebrate Animals**
6. **Select Agent Research**

7. **Multiple PD/PI Leadership Plan.**
8. **Consortium/Contractual Arrangements**
9. **Letters of Support**
10. **Resource Sharing Plan(s)**
11. **Authentication of Key Biological and/or Chemical Resources**
12. **Appendix**

All instructions in the SF424 (R&R) Application Guide at How to Apply - Application Guide must be followed along with any additional instructions provided in the NOFO.

Applicants that plan to collect public health data must submit a Data Management Plan (DMP) in the Resource Sharing Plan section of the PHS 398 Research Plan Component of the application. A DMP is required for each collection of public health data proposed. Applicants who contend that the public health data they collect or create are not appropriate for release must justify that contention in the DMP submitted with their application for CDC funds.

The DMP may be outlined in a narrative format or as a checklist but, at a minimum, should include:

- A description of the data to be collected or generated in the proposed project;
- Standards to be used for the collected or generated data;
- Mechanisms for, or limitations to, providing access to and sharing of the data (include a description of provisions for the protection of privacy, confidentiality, security, intellectual property, or other rights - this section should address access to identifiable and de-identified data);
- Statement of the use of data standards that ensure all released data have appropriate documentation that describes the method of collection, what the data represent, and potential limitations for use; and
- Plans for archiving and long-term preservation of the data, or explaining why long-term preservation and access are not justified (this section should address archiving and preservation of identifiable and deidentified data).

CDC OMB approved templates may be used (e.g. NCCDPHP template https://www.cdc.gov/chronicdisease/pdf/nofo/DMP-Template-508.docx)

Other examples of DMPs may be found here: USGS, http://www.usgs.gov//products/data-and-tools/data-management/data-management-plans

Applicants must use FORMS-G application packages for due dates on or before January 24, 2023 and must use FORMS-H application packages for due dates on or after January 25, 2023.

Application guides for FORMS-G and FORMS-H application packages are posted to the How to Apply - Application Guide page.

Applicants should develop and include, as part of the application's Resource Sharing Plan section of the PHS 398 Research Plan Component, a data management plan that meets the requirements of AR-25 using their own template. Award recipients funded under this NOFO will be required to use NCIPC's Data Management Plan Template, OMB NO: 0920-1301 to make revisions to the DMP as required during the award's project period.

Please use the form and instructions for SF424 (R&R) FORMS-H for applications due on or after January 25, 2023.

6. Appendix

Do not use the appendix to circumvent page limits. A maximum of 10 PDF documents are allowed in the appendix. Additionally, up to 3 publications may be included that are not publicly available. Follow all instructions for the Appendix as described in the SF424 (R&R) Application Guide.

The three 'not publicly available' publications will count towards the ten PDF documents allowed in the appendix. The five appendices described below for the Research Plan supporting materials will also count towards the 10 PDF documents allowed in the appendix. The total number of pages in the appendix may not exceed 25 pages.

7. Page Limitations

All page limitations described in this individual NOFO must be followed. For this specific NOFO, the Research Strategy component of the Research Plan narrative is limited to 12 pages. Supporting materials for the Research Plan narrative included as appendices may not exceed 5 PDF files with a maximum of 25 pages for all appendices. Pages that exceed page limits described in this NOFO will be removed and not forwarded for peer review, potentially affecting an application's score.

8. Format for Attachments

Designed to maximize system-conducted validations, multiple separate attachments are required for a complete application. When the application is received by the agency, all submitted forms and all separate attachments are combined into a single document that is used by peer reviewers and agency staff. Applicants should ensure that all attachments are uploaded to the system.

CDC requires all text attachments to the Adobe application forms be submitted as PDFs and that all text attachments conform to the agency-specific formatting requirements noted in the SF424 (R&R) Application Guide at .How to Apply - Application Guide.

Applicants must use FORMS-G application packages for due date on or before January 24, 2023 and must use FORMS-H application packages for due dates on or after January 25, 2023.

Application guides for FORMS-G and FORMS-H application packages are posted to the How to Apply - Application Guide page.

Please use the form and instructions for SF424 (R&R) FORMS-H for applications due on or after January 25, 2023.

9. Submission Dates & Times

Part I. Overview Information contains information about Key Dates. Applicants are strongly encouraged to allocate additional time and submit in advance of the deadline to ensure they have time to make any corrections that might be necessary for successful submission. This includes the time necessary to complete the application resubmission process that may be necessary, if errors are identified during validation by Grants.gov and the NIH eRA systems. The application package is not complete until it has passed the Grants.gov and NIH eRA Commons submission and validation processes. Applicants will use a platform or system to submit applications.

ASSIST is a commonly used platform because it provides a validation of all requirements prior to submission. If ASSIST detects errors, then the applicant must correct errors before their application can be submitted. Applicants should view their applications in ASSIST after submission to ensure accurate and successful submission through Grants.gov. If the submission is not successful and post-submission errors are found, then those errors must be corrected and the application must be resubmitted in ASSIST.

Applicants are able to access, view, and track the status of their applications in the eRA Commons.

Information on the submission process is provided in the SF-424 (R&R) Application Guidance and ASSIST User Guide at https://era.nih.gov/files/ASSIST_user_guide.pdf.

Note: HHS/CDC grant submission procedures do not provide a grace period beyond the grant application due date time to correct any error or warning notices of noncompliance with application instructions that are identified by Grants.gov or eRA systems (i.e., error correction window).

Applicants who encounter problems when submitting their applications must attempt to resolve them by contacting the NIH eRA Service desk at:
Toll-free: 1-866-504-9552; Phone: 301-402-7469
http://grants.nih.gov/support/index.html
Hours: Mon-Fri, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern Time (closed on Federal holidays)

Problems with Grants.gov can be resolved by contacting the Grants.gov Contact Center at:
Toll-free: 1-800-518-4726
https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/support.html
support@grants.gov
Hours: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week; closed on Federal holidays

It is important that applicants complete the application submission process well in advance of the due date time.

After submission of your application package, applicants will receive a "submission receipt" email generated by Grants.gov. Grants.gov will then generate a second e-mail message to applicants which will either validate or reject their submitted application package. A third and final e-mail message is generated once the applicant's application package has passed validation and the grantor agency has confirmed receipt of the

application.

Unsuccessful Submissions: If an application submission was unsuccessful, the **applicant** must:

1. Track submission and verify the submission status (tracking should be done initially regardless of rejection or success).

    a. If the status states "rejected," be sure to save time stamped, documented rejection notices, and do #2a or #2b

2. Check emails from both Grants.gov and NIH eRA Commons for rejection notices.

    a. If the deadline has passed, he/she should email the Grants Management contact listed in the Agency Contacts section of this announcement explaining why the submission failed.

    b. If there is time before the deadline, correct the problem(s) and resubmit as soon as possible.

12/01/2023
Electronically submitted applications must be submitted no later than 11:59 p.m., ET, on the listed application due date.

10. Funding Restrictions

Expanded Authority:

For more information on expanded authority and pre-award costs, go to https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/grants/grants/policies-regulations/hhsgps107.pdf and speak to your GMS.

All HHS/CDC awards are subject to the federal regulations, in 45 CFR Part 75, terms and conditions, and other requirements described in the HHS Grants Policy Statement. Pre-award costs may be allowable as an expanded authority, but only if authorized by CDC.

Public Health Data:

CDC requires that mechanisms for, and cost of, public health data sharing be included in grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts. The cost of sharing or archiving public health data may also be included as part of the total budget requested for first-time or continuation awards.

Data Management Plan:

Fulfilling the data-sharing requirement must be documented in a Data Management Plan (DMP) that is developed during the project planning phase prior to the initiation of generating or collecting public health data and must be included in the Resource Sharing Plan(s) section of the PHS398 Research Plan Component of the application.

Applicants who contend that the public health data they collect or create are not appropriate for release must justify that contention in the DMP submitted with their application for CDC funds (for example, privacy and confidentiality considerations, embargo issues).

Recipients who fail to release public health data in a timely fashion will be subject to procedures normally used to address lack of compliance (for example, reduction in funding, restriction of

funds, or award termination) consistent with 45 CFR 74.62 or other authorities as appropriate. For further information, please see: https://www.cdc.gov/grants/additional-requirements/ar-25.html

Human Subjects:

Funds relating to the conduct of research involving human subjects will be restricted until the appropriate assurances and Institutional Review Board (IRB) approvals are in place. Copies of all current local IRB approval letters and local IRB approved protocols (and CDC IRB approval letters, if applicable) will be required to lift restrictions.

If the proposed research project involves more than one institution and will be conducted in the United States, awardees are expected to use a single Institutional Review Board (sIRB) to conduct the ethical review required by HHS regulations for the Protections of Human Subjects Research, and include a single IRB plan in the application, unless review by a sIRB would be prohibited by a federal, tribal, or state law, regulation, or policy or a compelling justification based on ethical or human subjects protection issues or other well-justified reasons is provided. Exceptions will be reviewed and approved by CDC in accordance with Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Regulations (45 CFR Part 46), or a restriction may be placed on the award. For more information, please contact the scientific/research contact included on this NOFO.

Note: The sIRB requirement applies to participating sites in the United States. Foreign sites participating in CDC-funded, cooperative research studies are not expected to follow the requirement for sIRB.

11. Other Submission Requirements and Information

Risk Assessment Questionnaire Requirement

CDC is required to conduct pre-award risk assessments to determine the risk an applicant poses to meeting federal programmatic and administrative requirements by taking into account issues such as financial instability, insufficient management systems, non-compliance with award conditions, the charging of unallowable costs, and inexperience. The risk assessment will include an evaluation of the applicant's CDC Risk Questionnaire, located at https://www.cdc.gov/grants/documents/PPMR-G-CDC-Risk-Questionnaire.pdf, as well as a review of the applicant's history in all available systems; including OMB-designated repositories of government-wide eligibility and financial integrity systems (see 45 CFR 75.205(a)), and other sources of historical information. These systems include, but are not limited to: FAPIIS (https://www.fapiis.gov/), including past performance on federal contracts as per Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act of 2009; Do Not Pay list; and System for Award Management (SAM) exclusions.

CDC requires all applicants to complete the Risk Questionnaire, OMB Control Number 0920-1132 annually. This questionnaire, which is located at https://www.cdc.gov/grants/documents/PPMR-G-CDC-Risk-Questionnaire.pdf, along with supporting documentation must be submitted with your application by the closing date of the Notice of Funding Opportunity Announcement. If your organization has completed CDC's Risk Questionnaire within the past 12 months of the closing date of this NOFO, then you must submit

a copy of that questionnaire, or submit a letter signed by the authorized organization representative to include the original submission date, organization's EIN and UEI.

When uploading supporting documentation for the Risk Questionnaire into this application package, clearly label the documents for easy identification of the type of documentation. For example, a copy of Procurement policy submitted in response to the questionnaire may be labeled using the following format: Risk Questionnaire Supporting Documents _ Procurement Policy.

Duplication of Efforts

Applicants are responsible for reporting if this application will result in programmatic, budgetary, or commitment overlap with another application or award (i.e., grant, cooperative agreement, or contract) submitted to another funding source in the same fiscal year. Programmatic overlap occurs when (1) substantially the same project is proposed in more than one application or is submitted to two or more funding sources for review and funding consideration or (2) a specific objective and the project design for accomplishing the objective are the same or closely related in two or more applications or awards, regardless of the funding source. Budgetary overlap occurs when duplicate or equivalent budgetary items (e.g., equipment, salaries) are requested in an application but already are provided by another source. Commitment overlap occurs when an individual's time commitment exceeds 100 percent, whether or not salary support is requested in the application. Overlap, whether programmatic, budgetary, or commitment of an individual's effort greater than 100 percent, is not permitted. Any overlap will be resolved by the CDC with the applicant and the PD/PI prior to award.

Report Submission: The applicant must upload the report under "Other Attachment Forms." The document should be labeled: "Report on Programmatic, Budgetary, and Commitment Overlap."

Application Submission

Applications must be submitted electronically following the instructions described in the SF 424 (R&R) Application Guide. **PAPER APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

Applicants must complete all required registrations before the application due date. Section III.6 "Required Registrations" contains information about registration.

For assistance with your electronic application or for more information on the electronic submission process, visit Applying Electronically (http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide /url_ redirect.htm? id=11144).

Important reminders:

All Senior/Key Personnel (including any Program Directors/Principal Investigators (PD/PIs) must include their eRA Commons ID in the Credential field of the Senior/Key Person Profile Component of the SF 424(R&R) Application Package. Failure to register in the Commons and to include a valid PD/PI Commons ID in the credential field will prevent the successful submission of an electronic application to CDC.

It is also important to note that for multi-project applications, this requirement also applies to the individual components of the application and not to just the Overall component.

The applicant organization must ensure that the UEI number it provides on the application is the same number used in the organization's profile in the eRA Commons and for the System for Award Management (SAM). Additional information may be found in the SF424 (R&R) Application Guide.

If the applicant has an FWA number, enter the 8-digit number. Do not enter the letters "FWA" before the number. If a Project/Performance Site is engaged in research involving human subjects, the applicant organization is responsible for ensuring that the Project/Performance Site operates under and appropriate Federal Wide Assurance for the protection of human subjects and complies with 45 CFR Part 46 and other CDC human subject related policies described in Part II of the SF 424 (R&R) Application Guide and in the HHS Grants Policy Statement.

See more resources to avoid common errors and submitting, tracking, and viewing applications:

- http://grants.nih.gov/grants/ElectronicReceipt/avoiding_errors.htm
- http://grants.nih.gov/grants/ElectronicReceipt/submit_app.htm
- https://era.nih.gov/files/ASSIST_user_guide.pdf
- http://era.nih.gov/erahelp/ASSIST/

Upon receipt, applications will be evaluated for completeness by the CDC Office of Grants Services (OGS) and responsiveness by OGS and the Center, Institute or Office of the CDC. Applications that are incomplete and/or nonresponsive will not be reviewed.

Section V. Application Review Information

1. Criteria

Only the review criteria described below will be considered in the review process. As part of the CDC mission (https://www.cdc.gov/about/organization/mission.htm), all applications submitted to the CDC in support of public health research are evaluated for scientific and technical merit through the CDC peer review system.

Overall Impact
Reviewers will provide an overall impact/priority score to reflect their assessment of the likelihood for the project to exert a sustained, powerful influence on the research field(s) involved, in consideration of the following review criteria and additional review criteria (as applicable for the project proposed).

Scored Review Criteria
Reviewers will consider each of the review criteria below in the determination of scientific merit and give a separate score for each. An application does not need to be strong in all categories to be judged likely to have major scientific impact. For example, a project that by its nature is not innovative may be essential to advance a field.

Significance

Does the project address an important problem or a critical barrier to progress in the field? If the aims of the project are achieved, how will scientific knowledge, technical capability, and/or clinical practice be improved? How will successful completion of the aims change the concepts, methods, technologies, treatments, services, or preventative interventions that drive this field?

- To what extent will successful completion of the proposed activities significantly advance understanding about what works to prevent community violence impacting young people (ages 10-34)?
- To what extent will successful completion of the research significantly advance understanding about what works to reduce racial and ethnic inequities in risk for community violence?
- To what extent will the proposed project address the needs of communities experiencing disproportionate burden of community violence?
- To what extent will the proposed research address one or more objectives of this NOFO?
- To what extent does the application propose to evaluate the following approaches that do not meet the scientific intent of this NOFO:
    - Applications submitted under **Objective 3** proposing to evaluate community-based strategies that are implemented in community settings but that address change in individual-, peer- or family-level factors (e.g., attitudes, knowledge, parent-child relationships, parental monitoring, family environment, associations with peers at risk of violence, etc.) rather than social or structural community conditions.
    - Strategies that respond to violence after it occurs, such as **treatment and rehabilitation (e.g., mental health treatment, physical rehabilitation) approaches or medical care (e.g., treatment of physical injuries)** rather than focus on preventing violence from occurring.
    - Evaluation of universal school-based curricula, parenting and family relationship programs, or prevention planning systems [e.g., Communities That Care (CTC), Promoting School-Community University Partnerships to Enhance Resilience (PROSPER Partnership Model)].

Investigator(s)

Are the PD/PIs, collaborators, and other researchers well suited to the project? Have they demonstrated an ongoing record of accomplishments that have advanced their field(s)? If the project is collaborative or multi-PD/PI, do the investigators have complementary and integrated expertise; are their leadership approach, governance and organizational structure appropriate for the project?

- To what extent are the PD/PIs, collaborators, and other researchers well suited to the project? Have they demonstrated an ongoing record of accomplishments that have advanced their field(s)? If the project is collaborative or multi-PD/PI, to what extent do the investigators have complementary and integrated expertise; are their leadership approach, governance and organizational structure appropriate for the project?
- To what extent does the PI/co-I team have sufficient prior experience conducting empirical research in the area of violence prevention proposed in the application?

- To what extent does the PI/co-I team have experience conducting evaluation research?
- To what extent is the PI's time sufficient to accomplish the goals?

Innovation

Does the application challenge and seek to shift current research or clinical practice paradigms by utilizing novel theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions? Are the concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions novel to one field of research or novel in a broad sense? Is a refinement, improvement, or new application of theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions proposed?

- To what extent is the proposed research evaluating an approach that has not been rigorously evaluated for effectiveness in reducing community violence?
- To what extent are the proposed activities innovative and important for informing future community violence prevention activities yet offer a reasonable potential of meeting the Purpose and Research Objectives of this NOFO?

Approach

Are the overall strategy, methodology, and analyses well-reasoned and appropriate to accomplish the specific aims of the project? Are potential problems, alternative strategies, and benchmarks for success presented? If the project is in the early stages of development, will the strategy establish feasibility, and will particularly risky aspects be managed?

If the project involves clinical research, are there plans for 1) protection of human subjects from research risks, and 2) inclusion of minorities and members of both sexes/genders, as well as the inclusion of children, justified in terms of the scientific goals and research strategy proposed?

- To what extent does the applicant address a specific research objective as stated in Section I of the NOFO?
- To what extent is the research plan appropriate for the specific research objective proposed for evaluation?
- To what extent are the prevention strategies proposed adequately supported by theory or empirical evidence (e.g., support for risk or protective factors targeted by the approach)?
- Recognizing that randomized designs are not always possible (e.g., when evaluating policies), to what extent does the applicant propose using a rigorous design that includes data analytic plans appropriate to the research design and hypotheses?
- To what extent does the applicant appropriately anticipate, conceptualize, and measure the intended and potential unintended or harmful outcomes relevant to the study proposed?
- To what extent does the Research Strategy section of the application clearly describe the roles and responsibilities of each partner involved in data collection and/or the effectiveness evaluation?
- To what extent does the proposal demonstrate the ability to access the necessary data (e.g., indicators of community violence and mediators of prevention effects) within the

proposed period of performance? Are these data, and proposed measures, appropriate for documenting the expected changes in the time available?

- To what extent does the application effectively propose measures that can show how the approach reduces racial/ethnic inequities in risk for community violence?

Environment

Will the scientific environment in which the work will be done contribute to the probability of success? Are the institutional support, equipment and other physical resources available to the investigators adequate for the project proposed? Will the project benefit from unique features of the scientific environment, subject populations, or collaborative arrangements?

- Are the community and other partnerships that are necessary and critical for successfully completing the research clearly described in the Research Strategy section of the application?
- To what extent does the application clearly describe the involvement and scope of work the community organizations, community leaders, people with lived experience, and other partners are willing to commit to ensure the successful implementation and evaluation of the prevention approaches?
- To what extent does the proposed study benefit from unique features of the scientific environment, or subject populations, or employ useful collaborative arrangements?
- To what extent do the Letters of Support, Memoranda of Understanding, and Data Sharing Agreements, as applicable to the application's research plan, demonstrate the necessary collaborations and commitment from research partners?

2. Additional Review Criteria

As applicable for the project proposed, *reviewers will evaluate* the following additional items while determining scientific and technical merit, and in providing an overall impact/priority score, but *will not give separate scores* for these items.

Protections for Human Subjects

If the research involves human subjects but does not involve one of the six categories of research that are exempt under 45 CFR Part 46, the committee will evaluate the justification for involvement of human subjects and the proposed protections from research risk relating to their participation according to the following five review criteria: 1) risk to subjects, 2) adequacy of protection against risks, 3) potential benefits to the subjects and others, 4) importance of the knowledge to be gained, and 5) data and safety monitoring for clinical trials.

For research that involves human subjects and meets the criteria for one or more of the six categories of research that are exempt under 45 CFR Part 46, the committee will evaluate: 1) the justification for the exemption, 2) human subjects involvement and characteristics, and 3) sources of materials. For additional information on review of the Human Subjects section, please refer to the HHS/CDC Requirements under AR-1 Human Subjects Requirements (https://www.cdc.gov/grants/additional-requirements/ar-1.html).

If your proposed research involves the use of human data and/or biological specimens, you must provide a justification for your claim that no human subjects are involved in the Protection of Human Subjects section of the Research Plan.

Inclusion of Women, Minorities, and Children
When the proposed project involves clinical research, the committee will evaluate the proposed plans for inclusion of minorities and members of both genders, as well as the inclusion of children. For additional information on review of the Inclusion section, please refer to the policy on the Inclusion of Women and Racial and Ethnic Minorities in Research (https://www.cdc.gov/women/research/index.htm) and the policy on the Inclusion of Persons Under 21 in Research (https://www.cdc.gov/maso/Policy/policy496.pdf).

Vertebrate Animals
The committee will evaluate the involvement of live vertebrate animals as part of the scientific assessment according to the following four points: 1) proposed use of the animals, and species, strains, ages, sex, and numbers to be used; 2) justifications for the use of animals and for the appropriateness of the species and numbers proposed; 3) procedures for limiting discomfort, distress, pain and injury to that which is unavoidable in the conduct of scientifically sound research including the use of analgesic, anesthetic, and tranquilizing drugs and/or comfortable restraining devices; and 4) methods of euthanasia and reason for selection if not consistent with the AVMA Guidelines on Euthanasia. For additional information on review of the Vertebrate Animals section, please refer to the Worksheet for Review of the Vertebrate Animal Section (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/VAChecklist.pdf).

Biohazards
Reviewers will assess whether materials or procedures proposed are potentially hazardous to research personnel and/or the environment, and if needed, determine whether adequate protection is proposed.

Dual Use Research of Concern
Reviewers will identify whether the project involves one of the agents or toxins described in the US Government Policy for the Institutional Oversight of Life Sciences Dual Use Research of Concern, and, if so, whether the applicant has identified an IRE to assess the project for DURC potential and develop mitigation strategies if needed.

For more information about this Policy and other policies regarding dual use research of concern, visit the U.S. Government Science, Safety, Security (S3) website at: http://www.phe.gov/s3/dualuse. Tools and guidance for assessing DURC potential may be found at: http://www.phe.gov/s3/dualuse/Pages/companion-guide.aspx.

3. Additional Review Considerations

As applicable for the project proposed, reviewers will consider each of the following items, but will not give scores for these items, and should not consider them in providing an overall impact/priority score.

Applications from Foreign Organizations
N/A

Resource Sharing Plan(s)
HHS/CDC policy requires that recipients of grant awards make research resources and data readily available for research purposes to qualified individuals within the scientific community

after publication. Please see: https://www.cdc.gov/grants/additional-requirements/ar-25.html

New additional requirement: CDC requires recipients for projects and programs that involve data collection or generation of data with federal funds to develop and submit a Data Management Plan (DMP) for each collection of public health data.

Investigators responding to this Notice of Funding Opportunity should include a detailed DMP in the Resource Sharing Plan(s) section of the PHS 398 Research Plan Component of the application. The AR-25 outlines the components of a DMP and provides additional information for investigators regarding the requirements for data accessibility, storage, and preservation.

The DMP should be developed during the project planning phase prior to the initiation of collecting or generating public health data and will be submitted with the application. The submitted DMP will be evaluated for completeness and quality at the time of submission.

The DMP should include, at a minimum, a description of the following:

- A description of the data to be collected or generated in the proposed project;
- Standards to be used for the collected or generated data;
- Mechanisms for, or limitations to, providing access to and sharing of the data (include a description of provisions for the protection of privacy, confidentiality, security, intellectual property, or other rights - this section should address access to identifiable and de-identified data);
- Statement of the use of data standards that ensure all released data have appropriate documentation that describes the method of collection, what the data represent, and potential limitations for use; and
- Plans for archiving and long-term preservation of the data, or explaining why long-term preservation and access are not justified (this section should address archiving and preservation of identifiable and de-identified data).

Applications submitted without the required DMP may be deemed ineligible for award unless submission of DMP is deferred to a later period depending on the type of award, in which case, funding restrictions may be imposed pending submission and evaluation.

CDC OMB approved templates may be used (e.g. NCCDPHP template https://www.cdc.gov/chronicdisease/pdf/nofo/DMP-Template-508.docx

Other examples of DMPs may be found here USGS, http://www.usgs.gov//products/data-and-tools/data-management/data-management-plans

Budget and Period of Support
Reviewers will consider whether the budget and the requested period of support are fully justified and reasonable in relation to the proposed research. The applicant can obtain budget preparation guidance for completing a detailed justified budget on the CDC website, at the following Internet address: https://www.cdc.gov/grants/applying/application-resources.html. Following this guidance will also facilitate the review and approval of the budget request of applications selected for award.

The budget can include both direct costs and indirect costs as allowed.

Indirect costs could include the cost of collecting, managing, sharing and preserving data.

Indirect costs on grants awarded to foreign organizations and foreign public entities and performed fully outside of the territorial limits of the U.S. may be paid to support the costs of compliance with federal requirements at a fixed rate of eight percent of modified total direct costs exclusive of tuition and related fees, direct expenditures for equipment, and subawards in excess of $25,000. Negotiated indirect costs may be paid to the American University, Beirut, and the World Health Organization.

Indirect costs on training grants are limited to a fixed rate of eight percent of MTDC exclusive of tuition and related fees, direct expenditures for equipment, and sub-awards in excess of $25,000.

If requesting indirect costs in the budget based on a federally negotiated rate, a copy of the indirect cost rate agreement is required. Include a copy of the current negotiated federal indirect cost rate agreement or cost allocation plan approval letter.

4. Review and Selection Process

Applications will be evaluated for scientific and technical merit by an appropriate peer review group, in accordance with CDC peer review policy and procedures, using the stated review criteria.
As part of the scientific peer review, all applications:

- Will undergo a selection process in which only those applications deemed to have the highest scientific and technical merit (generally the top half of applications under review), will be discussed and assigned an overall impact/priority score.
- Will receive a written critique.

Applications will be assigned to the appropriate HHS/CDC Center, Institute, or Office. Applications will compete for available funds with all other recommended applications submitted in response to this NOFO. Following initial peer review, recommended applications will receive a second level of review. The following will be considered in making funding recommendations:

- Scientific and technical merit of the proposed project as determined by scientific peer review.
- Availability of funds.
- Relevance of the proposed project to program priorities.

Applications that meet scientific and technical merit as determined by scientific peer review may also undergo consideration at the second level of review for:

- Consideration for meritorious applications that contribute to a diverse mix of approaches in proposed research to address community violence as evidenced by the Research Strategy section of the application's research plan.

- Consideration for meritorious applications that contribute to a geographic balance of proposed projects, as evidenced by the congressional district of the applicant organization, to broaden the distribution of awards.
- Consideration for applicant organizations from or conducting research in collaboration or partnership with institutions that have a demonstrated record of or historical commitment to serving underrepresented students, including racial and ethnic minorities, individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds and individuals with disabilities. Applicants may indicate this in the Research Strategy section of their application.
- Consideration for research to better address racial and ethnic inequities in risk for community violence and strategies that address social and structural conditions that contribute to inequities in risk for violence, as evidenced by the Research Strategy section of the application's research plan.
- Consideration of research conducted in collaboration/partnership with the community, as evidenced by the Letters of Support section of the application. This may include state and/or local health departments, local governmental agencies and/or businesses, people with lived experience, and community-based organizations.
- Consideration for applications including signed Data Sharing Agreements, Letters of Support, or Memorandum of Understanding for each partnership described in the Research Strategy section of the application clearly describing the support to be provided to conduct the proposed research.
- Consideration for applications in which the contact Eligible PD/PI meets NIH Early Stage Investigator (ESI) status, as verified by the NIH Determination of Investigator Status process.
- Exclusion from funding consideration, **regardless of the scientific or technical merit of the proposed project**, of applications that propose to evaluate:
    - Strategies that respond to violence after it occurs, such as **treatment and rehabilitation (e.g., mental health treatment, physical rehabilitation) approaches or medical care (e.g., treatment of physical injuries)** rather than focus on preventing violence from occurring.
    - Applications submitted under **Objective 3** proposing to evaluate community-based strategies that are implemented in community settings but that address change in individual-, peer- or family-level factors (e.g., attitudes, knowledge, parent-child relationships, parental monitoring, family environment, associations with peers at risk of violence, etc.) rather than social or structural community conditions.
    - Applications proposing to evaluate universal school-based curricula, parenting and family relationship programs, or prevention planning systems [e.g., Communities That Care (CTC), Promoting School-Community University Partnerships to Enhance Resilience (PROSPER Partnership Model)].

Review of risk posed by applicants.
Prior to making a Federal award, CDC is required by 31 U.S.C. 3321 and 41 U.S.C. 2313 to review information available through any OMB-designated repositories of government-wide eligibility qualification or financial integrity information as appropriate. See also suspension and debarment requirements at 2 CFR parts 180 and 376.

In accordance with 41 U.S.C. 2313, CDC is required to review the non-public segment of the OMB-designated integrity and performance system accessible through SAM (currently the Federal Recipient Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIIS)) prior to making a Federal award where the Federal share is expected to exceed the simplified acquisition threshold, defined in 41 U.S.C. 134, over the period of performance. At a minimum, the information in the system for a prior Federal award recipient must demonstrate a satisfactory record of executing programs or activities under Federal grants, cooperative agreements, or procurement awards; and integrity and business ethics. CDC may make a Federal award to a recipient who does not fully meet these standards if it is determined that the information is not relevant to the current Federal award under consideration or there are specific conditions that can appropriately mitigate the effects of the non-Federal entity's risk in accordance with 45 CFR §75.207.

CDC's framework for evaluating the risks posed by an applicant may incorporate results of the evaluation of the applicant's eligibility or the quality of its application. If it is determined that a Federal award will be made, special conditions that correspond to the degree of risk assessed may be applied to the Federal award. The evaluation criteria is described in this Notice of Funding Opportunity.

In evaluating risks posed by applicants, CDC will use a risk-based approach and may consider any items such as the following:

(1) Financial stability;
(2) Quality of management systems and ability to meet the management standards prescribed in this part;
(3) History of performance. The applicant's record in managing Federal awards, if it is a prior recipient of Federal awards, including timeliness of compliance with applicable reporting requirements, conformance to the terms and conditions of previous Federal awards, and if applicable, the extent to which any previously awarded amounts will be expended prior to future awards;
(4) Reports and findings from audits performed under 45 CFR Part 75, subpart F, or the reports and findings of any other available audits; and
(5) The applicant's ability to effectively implement statutory, regulatory, or other requirements imposed on non-Federal entities.

CDC must comply with the guidelines on government-wide suspension and debarment in 2 CFR part 180, and require non-Federal entities to comply with these provisions. These provisions restrict Federal awards, subawards and contracts with certain parties that are debarred, suspended or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation in Federal programs or activities.

5. Anticipated Announcement and Award Dates

After the peer review of the application is completed, the PD/PI will be able to access his or her Summary Statement (written critique) and other pertinent information via the eRA Commons.

Section VI. Award Administration Information

1. Award Notices

Any applications awarded in response to this NOFO will be subject to the UEI, SAM Registration, and Transparency Act requirements. If the application is under consideration for

funding, HHS/CDC will request "just-in-time" information from the applicant as described in the HHS Grants Policy Statement (https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/grants/grants/policies-regulations/hhsgps107.pdf).

PLEASE NOTE: Effective April 4, 2022, applicants must have a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) at the time of application submission. The UEI is generated as part of SAM.gov registration. Current SAM.gov registrants have already been assigned their UEI and can view it in SAM.gov and Grants.gov. Additional information is available on the GSA website, SAM.gov, and Grants.gov-Finding the UEI.

A formal notification in the form of a Notice of Award (NoA) will be provided to the applicant organization for successful applications. The NoA signed by the Grants Management Officer is the authorizing document and will be sent via email to the grantee's business official.

Recipient must comply with any funding restrictions as described in Section IV.11. Funding Restrictions. Selection of an application for award is not an authorization to begin performance. Any costs incurred before receipt of the NoA are at the recipient's risk. These costs may be allowable as an expanded authority, but only if authorized by CDC.

2. CDC Administrative Requirements

Overview of Terms and Conditions of Award and Requirements for Specific Types of Grants

If you receive an award, you must follow all applicable nondiscrimination laws. You agree to this when you register in SAM.gov. You must also submit an Assurance of Compliance (HHS-690). To learn more, see the HHS Office for Civil Rights website.

AR-1: Human Subjects Requirements
AR-2: Requirements for Inclusion of Women and Racial and Ethnic Minorities in Research
AR-3: Animal Subjects Requirements
AR-9: Paperwork Reduction Act Requirements
AR-10: Smoke-Free Workplace Requirements
AR-11: Healthy People 2030

AR-12: Lobbying Restrictions

AR-13: Prohibition on Use of CDC Funds for Certain Gun Control Activities
AR-14: Accounting System Requirements
AR-16: Security Clearance Requirement
AR-21: Small, Minority, And Women-owned Business
AR-22: Research Integrity
AR-24: Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act Requirements
AR-25: Data Management and Access
AR-26: National Historic Preservation Act of 1966
AR-28: Inclusion of Persons Under the Age of 21 in Research
AR-29: Compliance with EO13513, "Federal Leadership on Reducing Text Messaging while Driving", October 1, 2009
AR-30: Information Letter 10-006, - Compliance with Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of

1973
AR-31: Research Definition
AR-32: Appropriations Act, General Provisions
AR-33: United States Government Policy for Institutional Oversight of Life Sciences Dual Use Research of Concern
AR-34: Accessibility Provisions and Non-Discrimination Requirements
AR-36: Certificates of Confidentiality
AR-37: Prohibition on certain telecommunications and surveillance services or equipment for all awards issued on or after August 13, 2020.

Organization Specific ARs:
AR-8: Public Health System Reporting Requirements
AR-15: Proof of Non-profit Status
AR 23: Compliance with 45 C.F.R. Part 87

The full text of the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for HHS Awards, 45 CFR 75, can be found at: https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?node=pt45.1.75

To view brief descriptions of relevant CDC requirements visit:
https://www.cdc.gov/grants/additionalrequirements/index.html

Additional CDC Award Requirements

The following Additional Requirements, some of which emphasize and expand upon those above, will be required for all recipients funded under this NOFO.

All award recipients under this NOFO will be required to complete pre-registration of the research project(s) using publicly available platforms or ClinicalTrials.gov as applicable, consistent with the National Science Foundation's open science principles. The platform for intended pre-registration should be described in the Research Plan at the time of application.

All award recipients under this NOFO will be required to make data publicly available within 30 months of completing data collection, this includes making source code available to the public, and ensuring open access to research publications consistent with the National Science Foundation's open science principle.

The CDC will follow established implementation schedules and procedures for making grant awards under this NOFO in accordance with HHS and CDC Policy for Grant Program Administration and CDC Policy for Peer Review of Research and Scientific Programs to ensure that these awards support ideologically and politically unbiased research projects.

3. Additional Policy Requirements

The following are additional policy requirements relevant to this NOFO:

HHS Policy on Promoting Efficient Spending: Use of Appropriated Funds for Conferences and Meetings, Food, Promotional Items and Printing Publications This policy supports the Executive Order on Promoting Efficient Spending (EO 13589), the Executive Order on Delivering and Efficient, Effective, and Accountable Government (EO 13576) and the Office of Management and Budget Memorandum on Eliminating Excess Conference Spending and Promoting Efficiency in Government (M-35-11). This policy applies to all new obligations and all funds appropriated by Congress. For more information, visit the HHS website at: https://www.hhs.gov/grants/contracts/contract-policies-regulations/efficient-spending/index.html.

Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (FFATA), P.L. 109–282, as amended by section 6202 of P.L. 110–252, requires full disclosure of all entities and organizations receiving Federal funds including grants, contracts, loans and other assistance and payments through a single, publicly accessible website, www.usaspending.gov. For the full text of the requirements, please review the following website: https://www.fsrs.gov/.

Plain Writing Act The Plain Writing Act of 2010, Public Law 111-274, was signed into law on October 13, 2010. The law requires that federal agencies use "clear Government communication that the public can understand and use" and requires the federal government to write all new publications, forms, and publicly distributed documents in a "clear, concise, well-organized" manner. For more information on this law, go to: https://www.plainlanguage.gov/.

Employee Whistleblower Rights and Protections Employee Whistleblower Rights and Protections: All recipients of an award under this NOFO will be subject to a term and condition that applies the requirements set out in 41 U.S.C. § 4712, "Enhancement of contractor protection from reprisal for disclosure of certain information" and 48 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) section 3.9 to the award, which includes a requirement that recipients and subrecipients inform employees in writing (in the predominant native language of the workforce) of employee whistleblower rights and protections under 41 U.S.C. § 4712. For more information see: https://oig.hhs.gov/fraud/whistleblower/.

Copyright Interests Provision This provision is intended to ensure that the public has access to the results and accomplishments of public health activities funded by CDC. Pursuant to applicable grant regulations and CDC's Public Access Policy, Recipient agrees to submit into the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Manuscript Submission (NIHMS) system an electronic version of the final, peer-reviewed manuscript of any such work developed under this award upon acceptance for publication, to be made publicly available no later than 12 months after the official date of publication. Also at the time of submission, Recipient and/or the Recipient's submitting author must specify the date the final manuscript will be publicly accessible through PubMed Central (PMC). Recipient and/or Recipient's submitting author must also post the manuscript through PMC within twelve (12) months of the publisher's official date of final publication; however, the author is strongly encouraged to make the subject manuscript available as soon as possible. The recipient must obtain prior approval from the CDC for any exception to this provision.

The author's final, peer-reviewed manuscript is defined as the final version accepted for journal publication and includes all modifications from the publishing peer review process,

and all graphics and supplemental material associated with the article. Recipient and its submitting authors working under this award are responsible for ensuring that any publishing or copyright agreements concerning submitted articles reserve adequate right to fully comply with this provision and the license reserved by CDC. The manuscript will be hosted in both PMC and the CDC Stacks institutional repository system. In progress reports for this award, recipient must identify publications subject to the CDC Public Access Policy by using the applicable NIHMS identification number for up to three (3) months after the publication date and the PubMed Central identification number (PMCID) thereafter.

Language Access for Persons with Limited English Proficiency Recipients of federal financial assistance from HHS must administer their programs in compliance with federal civil rights law. This means that recipients of HHS funds must ensure equal access to their programs without regard to a person's race, color, national origin, disability, age and, in some circumstances, sex and religion. This includes ensuring your programs are accessible to persons with limited English proficiency. Recipients of federal financial assistance must take reasonable steps to provide meaningful access to their programs by persons with limited English proficiency.

Dual Use Research of Concern On September 24, 2014, the US Government Policy for the Institutional Oversight of Life Sciences Dual Use Research of Concern was released. Grantees (foreign and domestic) receiving CDC funding on or after September 24, 2015 are subject to this policy. Research funded by CDC, involving the agents or toxins named in the policy, must be reviewed to determine if it involves one or more of the listed experimental effects and if so, whether it meets the definition of DURC. This review must be completed by an Institutional Review Entity (IRE) identified by the funded institution.

Recipients also must establish an Institutional Contact for Dual Use Research (ICDUR). The award recipient must maintain records of institutional DURC reviews and completed risk mitigation plans for the term of the research grant, cooperative agreement or contract plus three years after its completion, but no less than eight years, unless a shorter period is required by law or regulation.

If a project is determined to be DURC, a risk/benefit analysis must be completed. CDC will work collaboratively with the award recipient to develop a risk mitigation plan that the CDC must approve. The USG policy can be found at http://www.phe.gov/s3/dualuse.

Non-compliance with this Policy may result in suspension, limitation, restriction or termination of USG-funding, or loss of future USG funding opportunities for the non-compliant USG-funded research project and of USG-funds for other life sciences research at the institution, consistent with existing regulations and policies governing USG-funded research, and may subject the institution to other potential penalties under applicable laws and regulations.

Data Management Plan(s)

CDC requires that all new collections of public health data include a Data Management Plan (DMP). For purposes of this announcement, "public health data" means digitally recorded factual material commonly accepted in the scientific community as a basis for public health

findings, conclusions, and implementation.

This new requirement ensures that CDC is in compliance with the following; Office of Management and Budget (OMB) memorandum titled "Open Data Policy–Managing Information as an Asset" (OMB M-13-13); Executive Order 13642 titled "Making Open and Machine Readable the New Default for Government Information"; and the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) memorandum titled "Increasing Access to the Results of Federally Funded Scientific Research" (OSTP Memo).

The AR-25 https://www.cdc.gov/grants/additional-requirements/ar-25.html outlines the components of a DMP and provides additional information for investigators regarding the requirements for data accessibility, storage, and preservation.

Certificates of Confidentiality: Institutions and investigators are responsible for determining whether research they conduct is subject to Section 301(d) of the Public Health Service (PHS) Act. Section 301(d), as amended by Section 2012 of the 21st Century Cures Act, P.L. 114-255 (42 U.S.C. 241(d)), states that the Secretary shall issue Certificates of Confidentiality (Certificates) to persons engaged in biomedical, behavioral, clinical, or other research activities in which identifiable, sensitive information is collected. In furtherance of this provision, CDC-supported research commenced or ongoing after December 13, 2016 in which identifiable, sensitive information is collected, as defined by Section 301(d), is deemed issued a Certificate and therefore required to protect the privacy of individuals who are subjects of such research. Certificates issued in this manner will not be issued as a separate document, but are issued by application of this term and condition to this award. See Additional Requirement 36 to ensure compliance with this term and condition. The link to the full text is at: https://www.cdc.gov/grants/additional-requirements/ar-36.html.

4. Cooperative Agreement Terms and Conditions

N/A

5. Reporting

Recipients will be required to complete Research Performance Progress Report (RPPR) in eRA Commons at least annually (see https://grants.nih.gov/grants/rppr/index.htm; https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/report_on_grant.htm) and financial statements as required in the HHS Grants Policy Statement.

A final progress report, invention statement, equipment inventory list and the expenditure data portion of the Federal Financial Report are required for closeout of an award, as described in the HHS Grants Policy Statement.

Although the financial plans of the HHS/CDC CIO(s) provide support for this program, awards pursuant to this funding opportunity depend upon the availability of funds, evidence of satisfactory progress by the recipient (as documented in required reports) and the determination that continued funding is in the best interest of the Federal government.

The Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (Transparency Act), includes a requirement for recipients of Federal grants to report information about first-tier

subawards and executive compensation under Federal assistance awards issued in FY2011 or later.

Compliance with this law is primarily the responsibility of the Federal agency. However, two elements of the law require information to be collected and reported by recipients:
1) Information on executive compensation when not already reported through the SAM Registration; and
2) Similar information on all sub-awards/ subcontracts/ consortiums over $25,000. It is a requirement for recipients of Federal grants to report information about first-tier subawards and executive compensation under Federal assistance awards issued in FY2011 or later. All recipients of applicable CDC grants and cooperative agreements are required to report to the Federal Subaward Reporting System (FSRS) available at www.fsrs.gov on all subawards over $25,000. See the HHS Grants Policy Statement (https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/grants/grants/policies-regulations/hhsgps107.pdf).

Technical Review and Summary Statement Response Requirements

Recipients will be required to electronically submit a response to the peer reviewers' comments and/or concerns, as documented in the Summary Statement, within 30 days of the notification of their initial award. Recipients will also be required to electronically submit a response to any progress concerns or areas for improvement noted on their annual Technical Review within the time period specified in the annual award continuation notice. Annual Report Requirements Recipients will be required to electronically submit an Annual Report within 90 to 120 days before the end of the current budget period.

A. Submission of Reports

The Recipient Organization must submit:

1. **Yearly Non-Competing Grant Progress Report** is due 90 to 120 days before the end of the current budget period. The RPPR form (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/rppr/index.htm; https://grants.nih.gov/grants/rppr/rppr_instruction_guide.pdf) is to be completed on the eRA Commons website. The progress report will serve as the non-competing continuation application. Although the financial plans of the HHS/CDC CIO(s) provide support for this program, awards pursuant to this funding opportunity are contingent upon the availability of funds, evidence of satisfactory progress by the recipient (as documented in required reports) and the determination that continued funding is in the best interest of the Federal government.
2. **Annual Federal Financial Report (FFR) SF 425 (**Reporting | Grants | CDC) is required and must be submitted to the Payment Management System accessed through the FFR navigation link in eRA Commons or directly through PMS **within 90 days after the budget period ends.**
3. **A final progress report**, invention statement, equipment/inventory report, and the final FFR are required **90 days after the end of the period of performance.**

B. Content of Reports

1. Yearly Non-Competing Grant Progress Report: The grantee's continuation application/progress should include:

    - Description of Progress during Annual Budget Period: Current Budget Period Progress reported on the RPPR form in eRA Commons (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/rppr/index.htm). Detailed narrative report for the current budget period that directly addresses progress towards the Measures of Effectiveness included in the current budget period proposal.
    - Research Aims: list each research aim/project

    a) Research Aim/Project: purpose, status (met, ongoing, and unmet), challenges, successes, and lessons learned

    b) Leadership/Partnership: list project collaborations and describe the role of external partners.

    - Translation of Research (1 page maximum). When relevant to the goals of the research project, the PI should describe how the significant findings may be used to promote, enhance, or advance translation of the research into practice or may be used to inform public health policy. This section should be understandable to a variety of audiences, including policy makers, practitioners, public health programs, healthcare institutions, professional organizations, community groups, researchers, and other potential users. The PI should identify the research findings that were translated into public health policy or practice and how the findings have been or may be adopted in public health settings. Or, if they cannot be applied yet, this section should address which research findings may be translated, how these findings can guide future research or related activities, and recommendations for translation. If relevant, describe how the results of this project could be generalized to populations and communities outside of the study. Questions to consider in preparing this section include:

    - How will the scientific findings be translated into public health practice or inform public health policy?
    - How will the project improve or effect the translation of research findings into public health practice or inform policy?
    - How will the research findings help promote or accelerate the dissemination, implementation, or diffusion of improvements in public health programs or practices?
    - How will the findings advance or guide future research efforts or related activities?

    - Public Health Relevance and Impact (1 page maximum). This section should address improvements in public health as measured by documented or anticipated outcomes from the project. The PI should consider how the findings of the project relate beyond the immediate study to improved practices, prevention or intervention techniques, inform policy, or use of technology in public health. Questions to consider in preparing this section include:

- How will this project lead to improvements in public health?
- How will the findings, results, or recommendations been used to influence practices, procedures, methodologies, etc.?
- How will the findings, results, or recommendations contribute to documented or projected reductions in morbidity, mortality, injury, disability, or disease?

- Current Budget Period Financial Progress: Status of obligation of current budget period funds and an estimate of unobligated funds projected provided on an estimated FFR.

- New Budget Period Proposal:
- Detailed operational plan for continuing activities in the upcoming budget period, including updated Measures of Effectiveness for evaluating progress during the upcoming budget period. Report listed by Research Aim/Project.
- Project Timeline: Include planned milestones for the upcoming year (be specific and provide deadlines).

- New Budget Period Budget: Detailed line-item budget and budget justification for the new budget period. Use the CDC budget guideline format.

- Publications/Presentations: Include publications/presentations resulting from this CDC grant only during this budget period. If no publication or presentations have been made at this stage in the project, simply indicate "Not applicable: No publications or presentations have been made."

- IRB Approval Certification: Include all current IRB approvals to avoid a funding restriction on your award. If the research does not involve human subjects, then please state so. Please provide a copy of the most recent local IRB and CDC IRB, if applicable. If any approval is still pending at time of APR due date, indicate the status in your narrative.

- Update of Data Management Plan: The DMP is considered a living document that will require updates throughout the lifecycle of the project. Investigators should include any updates to the project's data collection such as changes to initial data collection plan, challenges with data collection, and recent data collected. Applicants should update their DMP to reflect progress or issues with planned data collection and submit as required for each reporting period.

- Additional Reporting Requirements:

The Annual Report should include:

- A description of the completion status of each Specific Aim and/or research objective or milestone for the budget period.
- A complete list of the publications planned or completed to date - including status (e.g., published [include reference], in review, under development).

- A description of any changes made in the use of human subjects or IRB approval status.
- A description of any changes made in the Data Management Plan. Award recipients funded under this NOFO will be required to use NCIPC's Data Management Plan Template, OMB NO: 0920-1301 to make revisions to the DMP as required during the award's project period.

2. Annual Federal Financial Reporting The Annual Federal Financial Report (FFR) SF 425 is required and must be submitted through the Payment Management System (PMS) within 90 days after the end of the budget period. The FFR should only include those funds authorized and disbursed during the timeframe covered by the report. The final FFR must indicate the exact balance of unobligated funds and may not reflect any unliquidated obligations. There must be no discrepancies between the final FFR expenditure data and the Payment Management System's (PMS) cash transaction data.

Failure to submit the required information in a timely manner may adversely affect the future funding of this project. If the information cannot be provided by the due date, you are required to submit a letter explaining the reason and date by which the Grants Officer will receive the information.

Additional resources on the Payment Management System (PMS) can be found at https://pms.psc.gov.

Recipients must submit closeout reports in a timely manner. Unless the Grants Management Officer (GMO) of the awarding Institute or Center approves an extension, recipients must submit a final FFR, final progress report, and Final Invention Statement and Certification within 90 days of the period of performance. Failure to submit timely and accurate final reports may affect future funding to the organization or awards under the direction of the same Project Director/Principal Investigator (PD/PI).

Organizations may verify their current registration status by running the "List of Commons Registered Organizations" query found at: https://era.nih.gov/registration_accounts.cfm. Organizations not yet registered can go to https://commons.era.nih.gov/commons/ for instructions. It generally takes several days to complete this registration process. This registration is independent of Grants.gov and may be done at any time.

The individual designated as the PI on the application must also be registered in the Commons. The PI must hold a PI account and be affiliated with the applicant organization. This registration must be done by an organizational official or their delegate who is already registered in the Commons. To register PIs in the Commons, refer to the eRA Commons User Guide found at: https://era.nih.gov/docs/Commons_UserGuide.pdf.

3. Final Reports: Final reports should provide sufficient detail for CDC to determine if the stated outcomes for the funded research have been achieved and if the research findings resulted in public health impact based on the investment. The grantee's final report should include:

- Research Aim/Project Overview: The PI should describe the purpose and approach to the project, including the outcomes, methodology and related analyses. Include a discussion of the challenges, successes and lessons learned. Describe the collaborations/partnerships and the role of each external partner.
- Translation of Research Findings: The PI should describe how the findings will be translated and how they will be used to inform policy or promote, enhance or advance the impact on public health practice. This section should be understandable to a variety of audiences, including policy makers, practitioners, public health programs, healthcare institutions, professional organizations, community groups, researchers and other potential end users. The PI should also provide a discussion of any research findings that informed policy or practice during the course of the Period of Performance. If applicable, describe how the findings could be generalized and scaled to populations and communities outside of the funded project.
- Public Health Relevance and Impact: This section should address improvements in public health as measured by documented or anticipated outcomes from the project. The PI should consider how the findings of the project related beyond the immediate study to improved practices, prevention or intervention techniques, or informed policy, technology or systems improvements in public health.
- Publications; Presentations; Media Coverage: Include information regarding all publications, presentations or media coverage resulting from this CDC-funded activity. Please include any additional dissemination efforts that did or will result from the project.
- Final Data Management Plan: Applicants must include an updated final Data Management Plan that describes the data collected, the location of where the data is stored (example: a repository), accessibility restrictions (if applicable), and the plans for long term preservation of the data.

6. Termination

CDC may impose other enforcement actions in accordance with 45 CFR 75.371- Remedies for Noncompliance, as appropriate.

The Federal award may be terminated in whole or in part as follows:

(1) By the HHS awarding agency or pass-through entity, if the non-Federal entity fails to comply with the terms and conditions of the award;

(2) By the HHS awarding agency or pass-through entity for cause;

(3) By the HHS awarding agency or pass-through entity with the consent of the non-Federal entity, in which case the two parties must agree upon the termination conditions, including the effective date and, in the case of partial termination, the portion to be terminated; or

(4) By the non-Federal entity upon sending to the HHS awarding agency or pass-through entity written notification setting forth the reasons for such termination, the effective date, and, in the case of partial termination, the portion to be terminated. However, if the HHS awarding agency or pass-through entity determines in the case of partial termination that the reduced or modified portion of the Federal award or subaward will not accomplish the purposes for which the Federal

award was made, the HHS awarding agency or pass-through entity may terminate the Federal award in its entirety.

7. Reporting of Foreign Taxes (International/Foreign projects only)

A. Valued Added Tax (VAT) and Customs Duties – Customs and import duties, consular fees, customs surtax, valued added taxes, and other related charges are hereby authorized as an allowable cost for costs incurred for non-host governmental entities operating where no applicable tax exemption exists. This waiver does not apply to countries where a bilateral agreement (or similar legal document) is already in place providing applicable tax exemptions and it is not applicable to Ministries of Health. Successful applicants will receive information on VAT requirements via their Notice of Award.

B. The U.S. Department of State requires that agencies collect and report information on the amount of taxes assessed, reimbursed and not reimbursed by a foreign government against commodities financed with funds appropriated by the U.S. Department of State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs Appropriations Act (SFOAA) ("United States foreign assistance funds"). Outlined below are the specifics of this requirement:

1) Annual Report: The recipient must submit a report on or before November 16 for each foreign country on the amount of foreign taxes charged, as of September 30 of the same year, by a foreign government on commodity purchase transactions valued at 500 USD or more financed with United States foreign assistance funds under this grant during the prior United States fiscal year (October 1 – September 30), and the amount reimbursed and unreimbursed by the foreign government. [Reports are required even if the recipient did not pay any taxes during the reporting period.]

2) Quarterly Report: The recipient must quarterly submit a report on the amount of foreign taxes charged by a foreign government on commodity purchase transactions valued at 500 USD or more financed with United States foreign assistance funds under this grant. This report shall be submitted no later than two weeks following the end of each quarter: April 15, July 15, October 15 and January 15.

3) Terms: For purposes of this clause:

"Commodity" means any material, article, supplies, goods, or equipment;

"Foreign government" includes any foreign government entity;

"Foreign taxes" means value-added taxes and custom duties assessed by a foreign government on a commodity. It does not include foreign sales taxes.

4) Where: Submit the reports to the Director and Deputy Director of the CDC office in the country(ies) in which you are carrying out the activities associated with this cooperative agreement. In countries where there is no CDC office, send reports to VATreporting@cdc.gov.

5) Contents of Reports: The reports must contain:

a. recipient name;

b. contact name with phone, fax, and e-mail;

c. agreement number(s) if reporting by agreement(s);

d. reporting period;

e. amount of foreign taxes assessed by each foreign government;

f. amount of any foreign taxes reimbursed by each foreign government;

g. amount of foreign taxes unreimbursed by each foreign government.

6) Subagreements. The recipient must include this reporting requirement in all applicable subgrants and other subagreements.

Section VII. Agency Contacts

We encourage inquiries concerning this funding opportunity and welcome the opportunity to answer questions from potential applicants.

Application Submission Contacts

Grants.gov Customer Support (Questions regarding Grants.gov registration and submission, downloading or navigating forms)
Contact Center Phone: 800-518-4726
Email: support@grants.gov
Hours: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week; closed on Federal holidays

eRA Commons Help Desk (Questions regarding eRA Commons registration, tracking application status, post submission issues, FFR submission)
Phone: 301-402-7469 or 866-504-9552 (Toll Free)
TTY: 301-451-5939
Email: commons@od.nih.gov
Hours: Monday - Friday, 7am - 8pm U.S. Eastern Time

Scientific/Research Contact

Celeste Sanders, PhD
National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC)
Telephone: 770.488.2536
Email: ncipc_erpo@cdc.gov

Peer Review Contact

Carlisha Gentles, PharmD, BCPS, CDCES
National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC)
Telephone: 770.488.1504
Email: cgentles@cdc.gov

Financial/Grant Management Contact(s)

Angie Willard
Grants Management Officer
CDC Office of Grants Services
Telephone: 770-488-2863
Email: aen4@cdc.gov

Manal Ali
Grants Management Officer
CDC Office of Grants Services

Telephone: 770-488-2706
Email: hf08@cdc.gov

Section VIII. Other Information

Other CDC Notices of Funding Opportunities can be found at www.grants.gov.

All awards are subject to the terms and conditions, cost principles, and other considerations described in the HHS Grants Policy Statement.

Authority and Regulations

Awards are made under the authorization of Sections of the Public Health Service Act as amended and under the Code of Federal Regulations.

All awards are subject to the terms and conditions, cost principles, and other considerations described in the HHS Grants Policy Statement.

Successful recipients may be permitted expanded authorities in the administration of this award as provided for in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 2, Subtitle A, Chapter II, Part 200, Subpart D, §200.308(d)(4). Specific authorities granted will be detailed in the official Notice of Award document.

Application Submission Process

Applications must be successfully submitted and complete all validation actions prior to 11:59 PM U.S. Eastern Time of the application due date for this NOFO. Applicants are encouraged to submit the application in ASSIST three (3) business days before the stated due date to provide sufficient time to correct any errors. If post-submission errors are identified during the validation process, the errors must be corrected and the application must be re-submitted in ASSIST prior to 11:59 PM U.S. Eastern Time of the application due date. HHS/CDC grant submission procedures do not provide a grace period beyond the grant application due date time to correct any error or warning notices of noncompliance with application instructions that are identified by Grants.gov or eRA systems.

Applicants who encounter problems when submitting their applications must attempt to resolve them by contacting the NIH eRA Service desk and the Grants.gov Contact Center. See Section IV. Application and Submission Information, 9 Submission Dates & Times for contact information.

General Information

All applications submitted for this NOFO must be responsive to the specific requirements and objectives of this NOFO and must be submitted as a new application through www.grants.gov.

All applicants are advised to carefully review the responsiveness requirements and instructions on how applicants must document responsiveness in Section III. Eligibility Information 5. Responsiveness of this NOFO.