MARIJUANA RESEARCH GRANT PROGRAM

Call for Proposals

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DEADLINE: JANUARY 11, 2021
ABOUT

The Drug Enforcement and Policy Center (DEPC) invites researchers from universities and independent research centers in the United States to submit proposals for funded research focused on implementation and policy impacts of marijuana legalization. We are specifically interested in research addressing questions related to public health, criminal justice and public safety, as well as their various intersections. In selection for funding, we are likely to prioritize shorter-term research projects that can help inform the work of lawmakers, regulators and advocates eager to promote evidence-based best practices and policies in future reforms efforts. Topics may include, but are not limited to, the following:

• Impacts on law enforcement including resource allocation, changes to existing arrest/charging practices, use of fines and fees for enforcement, and broader effects on crime and community relations.

• Impacts on the criminal justice system including arrests/incarceration rates, outcomes achieved by changes in criminal penalties with cannabis legalization and/or decriminalization, impacts on the juvenile justice system.

• How federal law currently impacts state-level marijuana reforms and practices across a range of areas (e.g., banking, employment, housing, medical practice and research, tax), and what federal reforms might most effectively and efficiently improve state practices.

• Changes in rates of diagnosis for cannabis-related substance use disorders; need, availability and efficacy of treatment programs and other counseling services for problematic cannabis use.

• Impacts and attitudes toward cannabis reform in specific neighborhoods/communities defined both by geography, social-economic status, and demographics.

• Cost-benefit analyses of marijuana legalization/decriminalization policies and the various budgetary impacts resulting from reforms such as law enforcement savings versus treatment costs.

The center is generally seeking to fund two distinct types of research projects:

a) Short-term applied research projects that are designed to inform specific policy questions and provide policy makers with actionable advice in the near future.

b) Longer-term academic research projects designed to produce a more traditional manuscript for an academic publication, though this type of work should still produce actionable insights or recommendations for lawmakers, regulators, and advocates.

In general, grant requests should not exceed $50,000. However, projects exceeding this amount are still encouraged to apply as additional funding could be appropriated. The deadline for first-round submissions is January 11, 2021; a second round of funding may be announced in February 2021 after the first-round awards are announced.

PROPOSAL FORMAT

Proposals should be no more than three pages in length, in addition to a line-item budget and CV(s). Proposals should clearly state the purpose of the proposed research; methodology to be used to conduct the research; review of existing research; anticipated project timeline; and a section describing contributions such research

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1 Given the size of the program, administrative overhead will not be accepted as a fundable expense category.
would make to a given policy discussion or the academic field. Proposals should also describe the anticipated products, including, but not limited to, academic papers, book chapters, white papers, policy reports, or external large grant proposals.

Complete proposals should be submitted to Jana Hrdinova at hrdinova.1@osu.edu.

RESEARCH PRODUCT

Regardless of form, the research product should help its reader gain a deeper understanding of an issue and its impact. A grant recipient will be expected to deliver an update on research project halfway through their grant period, as well as a final report including an executive summary of their findings that could be published on the center’s website. DEPC may also ask recipients to present their findings at a center-sponsored event.

The center must receive the final product within 12 months after the award announcement. If necessary, grant recipients can obtain an extension by requesting it in writing or indicating a need for a longer research timeline in their grant proposal.

PAYMENT OF GRANT PROCEEDS

DEPC will tailor payment of grant proceeds based on the circumstances of each awardee to ensure compliance with university and college policies.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Project investigators agree that any subsequent publications based upon this research will acknowledge support as follows:

“This study was supported by a grant from The Ohio State University Drug Enforcement and Policy Center.”

If you have any questions about this request for proposals, including whether your research is appropriate for a DEPC grant, your budget, and so on, please contact Jana Hrdinova at hrdinova.1@osu.edu.