2022 Call for Research Proposals
MARIJUANA AND DRUG POLICY RESEARCH PROGRAM

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DEADLINE: JANUARY 15, 2023
ABOUT

The Drug Enforcement and Policy Center (DEPC) invites researchers and policy experts from universities, government agencies and independent research centers in the United States to submit proposals for funded research or policy analysis focused on implementation and policy impacts of marijuana legalization and other emerging topics in drug enforcement and policy. We are specifically interested in research addressing questions related to criminal justice administration, public health, and public safety, as well as their various intersections.

This year’s call for proposals encompasses two different tracks: traditional research projects (maximum award of $25,000) and policy analysis/model policy creation (maximum award of $10,000). In selection for funding, we are likely to prioritize shorter-term research projects (e.g., completed before end of 2023) that can help inform the work of lawmakers, regulators and advocates eager to promote evidence-based best practices and policies in emerging and future reforms efforts. Topics may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Impacts of marijuana reform and other drug decriminalization efforts on criminal case processing and law enforcement work including resource allocation, changes to existing arrest/charging/sentencing practices, use of fines and fees for enforcement, and broader effects on crime, clearance rates and community relations.
- Study and evaluation of present expungement and record relief efforts focusing particularly on marijuana offenses and other drug crimes and the impact of new laws and practices on affected populations.
- Impacts and attitudes toward various drug reform efforts in specific neighborhoods/communities defined by geography, political affiliation, social-economic status, and/or other demographics.
- Cost-benefit analyses of marijuana legalization/decriminalization policies, with a focus on economic development and budgetary impacts resulting from reforms such as tax revenues, law enforcement expenditures, treatment costs and regulatory expenses.

The deadline for submissions is January 15, 2023, but proposals will be considered on a rolling basis.

Submit complete proposals to Jana Hrdinová at hrdinova.1@osu.edu.

PROPOSAL FORMAT

A. Traditional research projects (maximum award of $25,000)

Proposals under the traditional research category should clearly state the purpose of the proposed research and how it relates to the mission of DEPC; methodology to be used to conduct the research; and a section describing contributions such research would make to the field. Proposals should also describe the anticipated products, including, but not limited to policy papers, academic papers, book chapters and white papers.

In general, the personnel expenses associated with full time faculty for the traditional research projects should not exceed 50% of the total requested amount. Student, research assistant and post doc support is not limited by the 50% figure. Please note, university or college indirect costs will not be permitted under this grant solicitation.

Proposals should also describe the anticipated products, including, but not limited to policy papers, academic papers, book chapters and white papers. Proposals should be no more than three pages in length, in addition to a budget and CV(s). Graduate student submissions should include a brief (one paragraph) endorsement from a faculty advisor.
B. Policy analysis/model policy creation (maximum award of $10,000)

Proposals under the policy analysis/model policy creation category should clearly state what aspect of drug policy is the author going to address and why such policy analysis/model policy is needed. Additionally, the author should identify target audience(s) to which their final product should be disseminated. Funding for policy analysis aimed at government officials and direct policy makers, whether on the state, local or federal level, will be given priority, though work targeting public policy advocates or other significant institutional players (e.g., universities and foundations) could also be successful in securing funding.

Personnel costs under this track are not limited to a certain percentage of the total requested amount. Please note, university or college indirect costs will not be permitted under this grant solicitation.

Proposals should be no more than two pages in length, in addition to a budget and CV(s).

RESEARCH PRODUCT

Regardless of form, the research product in both tracks should help its reader gain deeper understanding of an issue and its impact and provide actionable advice to policymakers, legislators, regulators and/or researchers grappling with a quickly changing field of drug policy and its many intersections with criminal justice and public health systems.

A. Traditional research projects (maximum award of $25,000)

The center expects award recipients from the traditional research track to submit a two-page executive summary of their findings that could be published on the center’s website, in addition to the actual product as delineated in their proposal. Additionally, awardees will receive periodic emails asking them to let us know about conference presentations, academic and non-academic publications and other activities stemming from the grant award. The product will be due within 12 months after the award announcement. If necessary, grant recipients can ask for an extension by submitting a request in writing.

B. Policy analysis/model policy creation (maximum award of $10,000)

Grant recipients in the policy analysis track will be expected to submit a 5-10 page final product that will be published under the DEPC umbrella. We are also open to co-publishing the product with the grantee’s organization or other institution upon advanced agreement. The product will be due within 6 months after the award announcement. If necessary, grant recipients can ask for an extension by submitting a request in writing.

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 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.

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.