NOTICE of LIMITED COMPETITION

MacArthur Foundation’s 100&Change

“A competition for a $100 million grant to fund a single proposal that promises real and measurable progress in solving a critical problem of our time.”

The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs is conducting a limited competition to determine the top institutional proposal to submit to the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation 100&Change funding competition.

The purpose of the competition is to identify projects that solve large-scale problems and which support solutions with a wide scope and great degree of complexity. Proposals from any sector addressing any critical problem are encouraged. Competitive proposals will be impactful, evidence-based, feasible, and durable. Proposals should articulate both the problem and the proposed solution and must have a charitable purpose. Solutions that are early in their development or evolution without a strong existing evidence base are unlikely to be competitive in this process.

Timeline:

1) Internal Notice of Intent to Submit due to research@etsu.edu: June 3, 2019 4:00 p.m. Eastern
2) Proposal including signed routing form due to ORSPA: July 1, 2019 4:00 p.m. Eastern
3) Notice to PIs of Selected Proposal: no later than July 14, 2019 4:00pm Eastern
4) Deadline to Register for MacArthur Foundation Applicant Account: July 16, 2019 11:00 a.m. Central

Limited Competition Procedure:

An independent panel of faculty and/or administrators will select the top proposal from ETSU. The panel will score each proposal submitted for internal review using the MacArthur review rubric, as presented below. ORSPA will notify the PI of the selected proposal in advance of the MacArthur grant registration deadline of July 16, 2019 and will work closely with the PI and his/her team to put forth a stellar proposal. There is an expectation that, once selected by the internal panel, the PI will follow through on the grant opportunity from submission and throughout the MacArthur Foundation review process.¹
Helpful Information:

- Review the Organizational Readiness Tool, so that you can better understand if your team will be competitive in the application process.
- Read the RULES, Terms and Conditions, Privacy Policy and other related content on this website that stipulate your rights and obligations as a registrant.
- Review the Application and Timeline, to understand what and when tasks are required of registrants.
- Read this blog post that explains how submissions were screened during the Administrative Review process.
- View the series of 100&Change videos for insights into what the Foundation looks for in a proposed project.

**MacArthur Review Rubric:**

**Impactful (0-5)**

Does the proposal describe an urgent problem worth solving, and will the solution have a transformative impact? Is the proposal sufficiently ambitious either in its progress toward a solution; the number of direct beneficiaries served; the size of the geography served; or intensity of impact on a small but vulnerable population or geography?

**Evidence-based (0-5)**

Does the proposal present evidence that the solution or critical components of it have previously yielded practical and concrete results? Does the evidence suggest that the solution can be adapted to other contexts, such as expanding to new populations or geographies, or to reach a greater number of people over time, and still retain its effectiveness?

**Feasible (0-5)**

Does the team have the skills, capacity, relationships, and experience to deliver its proposal? Do the budget and project plan represent a realistic understanding of a successful implementation of the solution? Does the proposal outline a mitigation plan for risks associated with changes in key personnel and political, market, or social environments?

**Durable (0-5)**

Will the solution have a sustained impact? Does the solution either expect to solve a problem in five years or create a pathway to solving the problem over time? Will the project elicit support from other sources – private, philanthropic or public? Has the team advanced a clear, cogent, and compelling vision for the future?

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1 The Top 100 will be selected in February 2020 and Finalists in the spring of 2020. During the spring and summer of 2020, finalists will work with an expert team to strengthen their proposals, present a preliminary plan for monitoring and evaluation and learning, and show authentic engagement with communities of interest before submitting revised project plans. MacArthur’s Board of Directors will select the final award recipient in the fall of 2020.