Researcher-Practitioner Collaboration Grant (RPCG)
Introductory Webinar
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The ASHFoundation’s Mission

Support Innovators. Spark Innovation.

• Provide early support
• Explore bold ideas
• Discover forward-thinking solutions
• Improve people’s lives
Today’s Plan

- Webinar Purpose
- RPCG Goals
- Collaborative Partnership
- Research Proposal
  - Specific Aims and Significance
  - Approach – Design and Methodology
  - Facilities and Resources – Investigators and Environment
  - Other important sections of the proposal
RPCG Goals

• Enhance evidence for improving communication sciences and disorders (CSD) services

• Facilitate strong collaborations between researchers and practitioners

• Address a clinical problem that has direct application to practice

• Complete in 1-2 years and lead to a large-scale research collaboration
Collaborative Partnership

- Researcher from an academic or organizational institution and practitioner from an applied setting
- Collaborators from CSD or related discipline
- Principal Investigator (PI) either researcher or practitioner
- Partnership new or existing with mutual interest and commitment to research topic
Collaborative Partnership continued

Researcher must have:

• Ability and capacity to conduct scientifically valid research
• Expertise in the content area and commitment to clinical problem
• Plan for incorporating proposed study into larger program of research
• Time for participation in the study
Practitioner must have:

- Experience with and access to the clinical population of interest
- Organizational support
- Commitment to the clinical problem
- Time for participation in the study
Research Proposal

Research Plan

• **Specific Aims and Significance**

• Approach – Experimental Design and Research Method

• Facilities and Resources – Investigators and Environment

Additional Information

• Collaboration Plan

• Management Plan

• Budget
Specific Aims and Significance

Three components:

- Advancing science: description of the CSD conceptual issue(s)
- Advancing practice: description of the CSD practical issue(s)
- Delineation of the research specific aims and research questions
Advancing Science

• How will this study address the knowledge gap in CSD?

• What is the theoretical/conceptual importance of this research to CSD?

• How will this study advance the science of Increasing evidence in practice?
  • What will you learn about procedures, measures, analyses?
Advancing Practice

• How will the research inform clinical practice?

• How might clinical practice change?

• Why is resolving this problem important?
  • Costs
  • Symptomatology
  • Quality of life
  • Safety, etc.
What type of study is being proposed?
For example:

- Exploration study (e.g., practice needs)
- Development study
- Evaluation study for an assessment or treatment (e.g., Efficacy, Effectiveness)
- Implementation study (Or Hybrid study)
- Sustainability study
Specific Aims and Research Questions

Are research questions or hypotheses most appropriate for the study type?

- Exploratory/descriptive questions
- Answerable hypotheses
Research Proposal

Research Plan

• Specific Aims and Significance

• **Approach – Experimental Design and Research Method**

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Approach: Experimental Design and Research Method

- Design
- Setting
- Participants
- Procedures
- Measurement
Design

Consider three (main) approaches:

• Quantitative
• Qualitative
• Mixed Methods

Differ in:

• Research objectives
• Methods for data collection, coding, reduction, analysis
Design

Does the study use a **quantitative** approach?

- Observational
- Correlational
- Quasi-experimental
- Experimental
- Data Mining
Does the study use a **qualitative** approach?

- Ethnographic
- Phenomenological
- Grounded Theory
- Case Study
Does the study use a **mixed methods** approach?

- Convergent
- Explanatory sequential
- Exploratory sequential
Setting

Where will the research take place?

For example:
- Clinic
- Classroom
- Home
- Hospital room
- Administrative offices
Participants

Who are the key participants?
What are the inclusionary/exclusionary criteria?

For example:

• Practitioners
• Clients
• Families/Significant others
• Administrators
• Policy Makers
Procedures

What will be done? What will be manipulated?

For example:

- Exploratory study – interviews or file review to evaluate current practice routines or practice needs
- Evaluation study – administration of an assessment instrument or treatment protocol
- Implementation study – training practitioners or assessing “buy in”
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Measurement

Three Components

Data Collection

Data Reduction (measurable outcomes)

Data Analysis
How will the data be collected?

**Quantitative**

For example:
- Observation – coding behaviors
- Self-report
- Rating scales
- Surveys
- Tests

Information regarding reliability

**Qualitative**

For example:
- Observation
- Interviews
- Focus groups
- Document review

Information regarding credibility
How will the data be reduced? What are the outcome measures?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment or Treatment Outcomes</th>
<th>Service Delivery Outcomes</th>
<th>Implementation Outcomes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>For example</td>
<td>For example</td>
<td>For example</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Behaviors</td>
<td>• Efficiency</td>
<td>• Adoption</td>
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<td>• Attitude</td>
<td>• Effectiveness</td>
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<td>• Needs</td>
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(Proctor et al., 2011)
How will the data be analyzed?

**Quantitative**
For example:
- Descriptive statistics
- Inferential statistics
- Mathematical models

**Qualitative**
For example:
- Content analysis
- Thematic network analysis

**Mixed Methods**
Integration of quantitative (numerical) and qualitative (narrative) data
Research Proposal

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Investigators

Who are the key members in the collaborative partnership and what is their history of working together and examining the study focus?

What are their

• Roles and responsibilities (who is PI)
• Qualifications
• Time availability
• Organizational commitments
• Previous collaborative efforts
Environment

What are participating research and practice institutions?
  • Include Letters of Institutional Commitment

Are secondary data being analyzed?
  • Include Letters of Support

What is the availability and involvement of participants?
  • Include recruitment plans, incentives
Collaboration Plan

What is the collaboration plan?

- Management structure for tracking study and ensuring high quality research
- Partners’ roles and partnership’s decision-making process
- After the study: opportunities for the partnership to continue
Management Plan

What is the management plan?

• Major study activities and timeline (include ASHFoundation report deadlines)

• Dissemination of research results

• Submission of follow-up grant proposals (including potential funding agencies, grant mechanisms, and anticipated deadlines)
What is the requested budget and disbursement plan?

- Alignment of funds with study objectives and activities
- Other resources or support, including matching funds from researcher’s or practitioner’s institution

Budget (Award Amount $35,000)
Human Subjects

How are Human Subjects protected?

• Human subject participation and the Human Subjects/Institutional Review Board (HS/IRB) process

• See guidelines for specific HS/IRB information required
What support is being provided for the study?

- **Letters of Institutional Commitment** for each investigator
- **Letters of Support** from other collaborating institutions and key personnel (for example, institutions associated with recruitment or statistical consultants)
Questions

Support Innovators. Spark Innovation.
The online submission system will open later this week.

Submission deadline is April 16, 2018.

For additional questions, contact foundationprograms@asha.org.
Thank you and Good Luck!