



AT THE FOREFRONT

**UChicago  
Medicine**

**Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)  
Social Determinants of Health (SDoH) Grant  
July 2020  
UCM Community Benefit Grant Program**

**Q: Is it required to complete the Letter of Intent (LOI) to get the grant?**

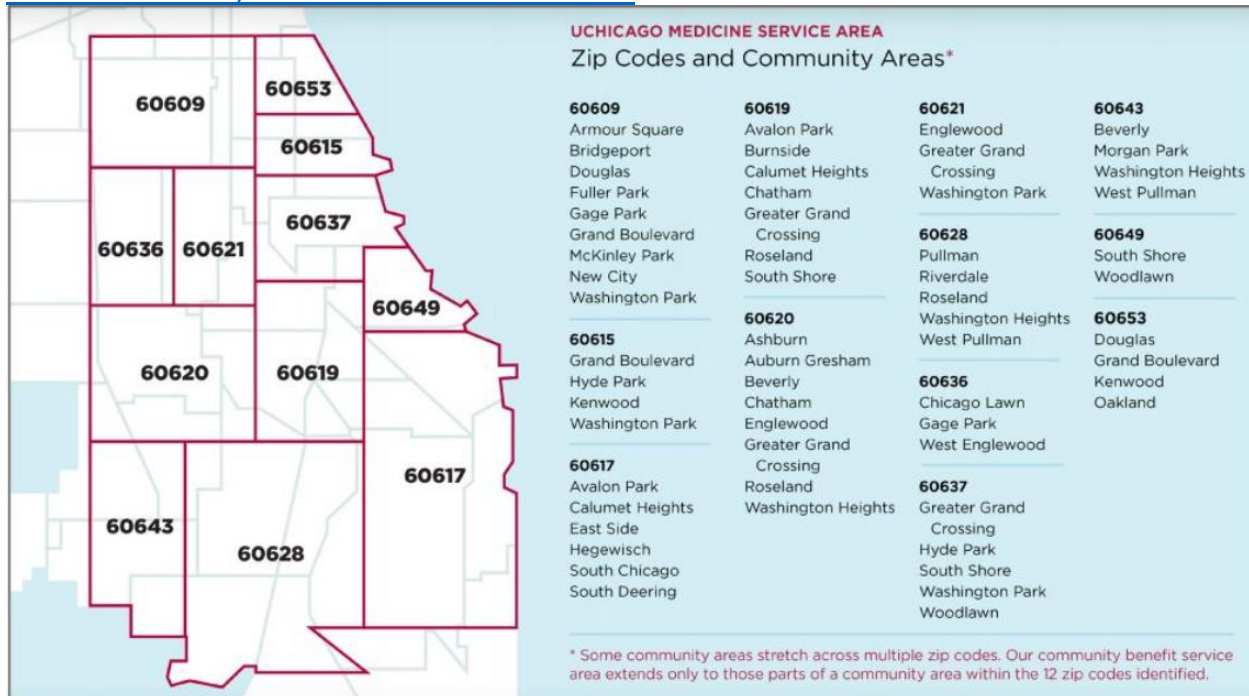
Yes. Please email the LOI by Friday, July 31, 2020 5PM CST to [communitybenefit@uchospitals.edu](mailto:communitybenefit@uchospitals.edu) to be eligible to complete the full Request for Proposal.

**Q: What is the website address where the Request for Proposals (RFP) is located?**

<https://www.uchicagomedicine.org/about-us/community/grants-sponsorships>  
(Under Community Benefit Grants and Sponsorships in Chicago)

**Q: Where is the map of UChicago Medicine’s community area located?**

The map is provided below for your convenience. It is also located on p.15 of the [2018-2019 Community Health Needs Assessment](#).



**Q: Is the 12-zip UCM Service Area a priority or the only geographic area eligible?**

100% of all funded programs/services must be offered within the 12-zip UCM Service Area: 60609, 60653, 60636, 60621, 60615, 60637, 60620, 60619, 60649, 60643, 60628, 60617.

**Q: Are you looking for the program site to be located in the UCM Service Area or where our clients live?**

In order to qualify for grant funding, organizations must operate 100% of the program and deliver 100% of services within the 12-zip UCM service area and must target residents of the UCM Service Area.

**Q: Can we apply if we're an organization that works in other areas of the city AND serves the UCM Service Area?**

Yes. In order to qualify for grant funding, organizations must deliver 100% of the specific program outlined in their proposal in the UCM Service Area.

**Q: Are you allowed to apply as separate organizations *and* as a collaborative or collective?**

No. Organizations can apply as 1) an individual entity or 2) as a collaborative/collective with other organizations. If applying as a collaborative, a lead agency should be listed on the application. Collaboration and partnership are encouraged for all grantees; however, organizations are not eligible for cumulative funds as both individual organizations and as part of a collective.

**Q: If you apply as a collaborative/collective can you ask for a greater amount?**

No. Proposed collective efforts will be considered as one applicant through this process. Collective applications do not automatically determine higher award amounts.

**Q: What applications are NOT accepted?**

- Applications from partisan political organizations.
- Applications from for-profit organizations.
- Applications requesting support for fund raising activities such as sponsorships, advertising or event tickets (see Sponsorship Program Overview).
- Applications from individuals.
- Applications for memorials or endowments.

**Q: Are you allowed to apply for SDOH grants if you are a grant recipient for Rapid Cycle/BHC Grants?**

Yes. If your organization meets the eligibility guidelines, then you can apply for the SDOH grant. BHC and Rapid Cycle grants are separate but related funding opportunities that can be used to support ongoing programs and services.

**Q: Is there a preference on size of organization that will be funded? Larger, longer history vs. Grassroots? Is there greater weight given to programs providing higher volume compared to a program which is high touch and low to moderate volume?**

No. There will be no preference given to organizations based on size. All applicants that meet the standard eligibility requirements are encouraged to apply.

We are not focusing strictly on the numbers and the goal is to select programs that will have the largest impact. During the review process, the Review Committee will consider a variety of components within proposals.

**Q: What is the target audience for the grants? Is it prioritizing youth, adults or a specific age?**

The target audience are members living in the 12-zip UCM service area that are directly affected by health inequities caused by social determinants of health, including those related to COVID-19.

However, grantees must focus on one or more of the following social determinants of health:

- Access to Care
  - (e.g. help with transportation, connection to providers, direct provider or services)
- Food Insecurity
- Workforce Development

Priority will be given to projects that address one of the social determinants of health outlined in UCM's [Strategic Implementation Plan](#) as well as another priority health area (i.e. asthma, diabetes)

**Q: Has this grant been done before?**

No

**Q: Are there examples of organizations that have been funded in the past?**

UCM has given grants via an RFP process to organizations addressing other priority health needs such as asthma, diabetes and childhood obesity. Examples of these partnerships can be found in our community benefit reports located [here](#) or at the link below.

<http://www.uchospitals.edu/about/community/benefit/publications.html>

One-page summaries for two specific programs can be found here [Insert Link or additional handout]

**Q: How are award amounts determined?**

The grant award(s) will range from \$25,000 to \$50,000. Grant amounts will be based on how many clients are served with the funding, and/or on the depth of service engagement with participants from the identified audiences.

**Q: Can we request funds for a portion of the program that is not currently funded (e.g. if we provide workforce development but we want to add trauma and mental health support)?**

Yes, grant funds can be used to cover a portion of a program that is not currently funded.

**Q: Would the budget include cost for total project or a portion of total program cost? Are indirect costs included in the budget?**

The budget does not have to be total program cost. In terms of indirect costs, our team would wait to see the budget to understand what would or wouldn't be covered. The budget could include some administration costs but typically, we do not cover indirect costs.

**Q: Is there an opportunity for renewal on SDoH grants?**

Yes, there is an opportunity for renewal. The Grant Review committee will convene to determine an option for renewal for respective grantees.

**Q: What are additional expectations for grantees?**

Grantees will be required to submit mid-point and end of grant reports on the progress and outcomes of their funded programs.

Grantees must also identify one UCM Research Collaborator that their organization will be collaborating with.

**Q: What if I have not decided on a UCM faculty member to partner with yet?**

You will need to complete a survey along with your LOI submission. UCM will host a virtual meeting to connect applicants with Research Collaborators in July or August 2020. Please contact Catina Latham at [catina.latham@uchospitals.edu](mailto:catina.latham@uchospitals.edu) with questions regarding this process.

**Q: Does the faculty member have to be from U of C?**

Yes.

**Q: What is the role of the UCM faculty member?**

This research collaborator may assist with any aspect of the project but should specifically help with the rigorous evaluation of the program's effectiveness through the implementation of a scientific, outcomes-based plan.

Please note, five percent of the project budget must be allocated to support partnering with a UCM Research Collaborator on the evaluation, though funds may not be allocated for faculty salary/effort (see Appendix B).

**Q: I see there is a maximum number of pages for certain documents, is there a minimum number of pages per section? Will be penalized if shorter?**

No, there is no minimum number of pages per section. No organization will be penalized for submitting an application below the maximum number of pages. However, pages over the limit for each section will not be reviewed.

**Q: What are the metrics/outcomes that will be considered for the grant?**

Proposed program and/or service objectives and activities are required to align with the following intended outcomes:

In addition to those above, applicants can outline additional intended outcomes specific to their program/service. **All outcomes, objectives, activities, indicators/metrics, and timeframes must be included in the Appendix A: Evaluation Measures section of the application.**

**Q: How will final decisions be made on the grants?**

Proposals will be reviewed by the UCM Grant Review Workgroup, which will include leadership from UChicago Medicine and community representation from UCM's

Community Advisory Council Adult Health Group, in partnership with UCM's Urban Health Initiative team. The UCM Grant Review Workgroup adheres to a strict conflict of interest policy and selects potential grantees based on the merits of each proposal. Funds will be awarded in September/October 2020.

**Q: Who should I contact with questions?**

If you have any questions, please contact the community benefit program by email at [communitybenefit@uchospitals.edu](mailto:communitybenefit@uchospitals.edu) or call (773) 834-7868.

**Q: How do I submit my application documents?**

Submit your application documents and all necessary additional criteria (e.g. letters of commitment from collaborating organizations) as email attachments. Send emails to [communitybenefit@uchospitals.edu](mailto:communitybenefit@uchospitals.edu). All files should be **clearly named** and submitted as **word documents or PDFs only**.