



## 2018 Request for Proposals (RFP)

### CMB Open Competition Research Program Health Policy and System Sciences (HPS)

#### Invitation for Proposals

The China Medical Board ( ) invites young investigators from Chinese universities to apply for the CMB Open Competition (CMB-OC) research grants in the field of Health Policy and System Sciences (HPS). This is the eighth annual round.

#### Background

China like all countries faces many challenges in providing universal, high quality, affordable healthcare to its people. The CMB is dedicated to supporting solutions to these challenges in China and other Asian countries. Starting in 2011, the CMB-OC program has aimed at developing research capacity of junior HPS researchers. The rigorous merit-based peer review process seeks to identify researchers with high potential, regardless of seniority. CMB-OC awardees receive research funding and also join an active CMB research community.

Over the course of seven cycles, CMB has awarded 73 CMB-OC grants totaling \$8.5 million. The program is highly competitive. In the 2017 cycle, CMB received 130 project applications, of which 38 abstracts were invited for full proposals. Ultimately, 14 projects were selected for funding.

#### 2018 CMB OC Program

This year applicants can choose from two different budget allowances. Each OC category will have quotas for the number of awards. Larger budgets will be expected to be more competitive. Applications should identify the category at submission and will be evaluated on merit-basis within that category. The budget should be justifiable with the proposed activities.

- 1) OC1 capped at 40,000 USD per project over 2-5 years.
- 2) OC2 capped at 80,000 USD per project over 2-5 years.

#### Priority research themes

of relevance to its **national health reform**. What has been the progress? Where are the remaining challenges? What kinds of policy innovations would help accelerate progress? Research projects that address priority themes would be accorded higher ranking in the independent assessment of project submissions.

These research questions may be considered by a framework that examines key health systems factors. The framework focuses on greater quality, efficiency, and effectiveness of the health care system as driven by better aligning health care financing and health care delivery. Special attention should be accorded to **primary health care** that can dampen the flow of patients to overloaded tertiary hospitals through advances and innovations in: **(1) workforce; (2) financing (3) information and technology; (4) modern management; (5) public information and education; and (6) independent monitoring and evaluation**. The research project proposal would be strengthened if the PI would indicate how s/he believes the results would be relevant to current obstacles

#### Eligibility to Apply

We encourage **junior faculties** or post-doctoral fellows, especially from the universities in western China, to apply. Applicants are encouraged, where appropriate, to team up with international scholars, although the primary lead researcher must be based in China. We encourage multidisciplinary research and educational

projects. Researchers who have received CMB-OC awards 2017, 2016 and 2015 are not eligible to be PIs or co-PIs.

Each institution can submit up to **five** abstracts.

### **Proposal Submission**

This RFP process will be implemented in two steps. First, applicants submit an abstract of no more than 2 pages for initial review. Next, the Principal Investigators (PIs) of projects considered suitable will be invited to develop full proposals for final review. The full proposal will again go through peer review to determine final selection.

An abstract of no more than 2 pages must include the following:

- *General information:* Institution; project title; PI(s) and their leadership and/or academic titles; contact information, including email and a reliable phone number; amount of funding required; and duration of the project.
- *Significance* \_\_\_\_\_ institution, and/or to yourself.
- *Project description:* Statement of the main problem addressed by the project, goals and objectives, specific activities that will be undertaken to achieve the goals, analytic methods, expected results and products, timetable, and estimated budget.

Abstracts should be accompanied by the current CV of the Principal Investigator (PI). The CV should be no \_\_\_\_\_ birth; contact information; major educational and professional experiences; up to 5 selected publications; previous participation in CMB activities. Please put the abstract and CV in one Microsoft Word file and do not send them separately.

Abstracts and proposals should be submitted in English through the respective institution (Addendum I). In naming project abstracts or proposals, please follow the standard format: **Year + OCCategory+SchoolAbbreviation CmH g** ( An example is 18OC1CMBFamilyNameGivenName.

All applicants must register basic information of the abstracts/proposals and PIs in the online system:

[Abstract registry](#)

[Proposal registry](#)

### **CMB Review Criteria**

The process is highly competitive and merit-based. PIs of selected abstracts and proposals may be sent \_\_\_\_\_ about which projects comments to assist them in focusing and improving their full proposals. \_\_\_\_\_ to support are final and based on the rigor, relevance, and topical significance of the full proposal. In particular, the following aspects will be examined during review:

- Value of the project, as
- Priority theme projects will receive extra consideration;
- Soundness of the research design and appropriateness of methods used;
- Feasibility of the project;
- Potential of the PI to achieve academic excellence;
- Demonstration of multidisciplinary work;
- Cost-effectiveness in producing key knowledge and educational products given the requested budget

Literature review should have been conducted before the grant submission instead of being done in the pilot stage.

It is CMB policy that all research and education products, including original datasets generated by its grant support, must be widely shared and accessible to the public.

**Timeline**

April 15 <sup>th</sup>	Submission of abstract
June 1 <sup>st</sup>	CMB decision on abstracts for consideration
July 15 <sup>th</sup>	Submission of full proposal
December 31 <sup>st</sup>	CMB announcement of funding decisions

**Point of Contact**

The CMB liaison officers will serve as the point(s)-of-contact between the institution and CMB in grant management issues. The CMB liaison officers should send all abstracts, proposals and inquiries to Minhui Yang ([myang@cmbfound.org](mailto:myang@cmbfound.org))

### **Addendum I- Eligible Institutions and CMB Liaison Information**

<b>Institutions</b>	<b>CMB Liaison</b>	<b>Phone</b>
Center for Health Statistics & Information, NHFPC	Xu Ling	86-10-68792488
Central South University	Wu Zhigang	86-731-88877945 /84805209
China Medical University	Wu Xu	86-24-31939093
China National Health Development Research Center	Li Yaqing	86-10-82802153
Chinese Academy of Social Sciences	Yao Yu	
Fudan University	Chen Wen	86-21-55665619