



Request for Proposals Osteopathic Medicine Community Enhancing Grants: Inaugural Grant Cycle

The Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association Foundation ([POMA Foundation](#)) is the charitable arm of the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association. The Foundation exists to provide continuing medical education; and to promote public health through collection and dissemination of osteopathic medical knowledge. With its first round of grants, the Foundation seeks to further clinical, educational, or community service approaches, and spark innovative methods that embody the osteopathic philosophy. Grant activities will benefit patients, osteopathic physicians, and their communities.

1. Overview

Osteopathic medicine is based on a holistic view of each patient as a whole person, unifying body, mind, and spirit. The Foundation's grantmaking will be informed by the distinct qualities of osteopathic practice and principles, and the scholarly work that it generates. The Foundation will consider applications in the areas of osteopathic education; quality improvement; or community service. All projects funded under this initiative will be consistent with the [principles of osteopathic medicine](#):

- The body is a unit; the person is a unit of body, mind, and spirit.
- The body is capable of self-regulation, self-healing, and health maintenance.
- Structure and function are reciprocally interrelated.
- Rational treatment is based upon an understanding of the basic principles of body unity, self-regulation, and the interrelationship of structure and function.

The pandemic has been a time of great transition and flux. The Foundation recognizes that this also poses an opportunity for creativity and innovation in the osteopathic and broader community. Part of osteopathic medicine's holistic approach includes a long history of and commitment to making a difference in the lives of their patients and the communities where they live and work. The inaugural cycle of this Community Enhancing grant program is driven by that commitment to the profession and to the public.

2. Eligibility Criteria

Applicant organizations must be:

- Tax exempt under section **501(c)(3)** of the Internal Revenue Code or educational institutions Note: application through a nonprofit fiscal sponsor is permitted, with an appropriate memorandum of agreement.
- Not a private foundation as defined in IRC section 509 (a)
- Located in Pennsylvania, or for a project with specific applicability to the state

Note: At this time, the Foundation cannot award grants to organizations that do not fit these eligibility criteria.

3. Selection Criteria

The following is a list of criteria that will be considered in the review process:

- Project will create a lasting impact on communities in Pennsylvania

- Project addresses a pressing need or timely issue OR presents a unique approach to addressing an “every day,” ongoing challenge
- Project is consistent with the basic principles of osteopathic medicine
- Project has potential for broader impact or replication

Using an online platform linked below, applicants will be expected to describe the problem or situation to be addressed; their approach, and expected outcomes of the work. Brief biographies of the principal project leaders will be part of the application. In addition, applicants will be asked to attach a program budget, a listing of other sources of funds that will be used by the project, and financial statements for the applicant organization.

4. Grant Program and Size

The Foundation expects to award between three and five grants, based on the number of quality submissions received. Grants will likely average between \$15,000 and \$20,000

5. Evaluation and Monitoring

Projects should have a plan for evaluation that defines desired short- and long-term outcomes and steps to measure those outcomes. In addition, projects should incorporate processes for feedback and assessment of ongoing work that will allow for mid-course corrections if necessary. Grantees are expected to meet requirements for the submission of narrative and financial reports, as well as potential periodic information needed for overall project performance monitoring and management.

6. Use of Grant Funds

Grant funds may be used for the following expenses: project staff salaries and benefits, consultant fees, data collection and analysis, meetings, supplies, project-related travel and other direct project expenses. According to the Foundation’s policy, grant funds may not be used for any of the following:

- Unrestricted general operating expenses
- Ongoing programs, or existing staff, unless their time is being redirected to a new project
- Endowment funds
- Religious purposes
- Fundraising activities or events (e.g. annual fund drives, phone solicitations, benefit tickets)
- Lobbying or political activities
- Activities related to litigation, arbitration or other dispute resolution
- Tuition or fees for medical education at the undergraduate or residency training levels
- Any activity inconsistent with the Foundation’s status as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization

7. Proposal Review and Timetable

This timetable provides key dates and deadlines for the span of application process.

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| RFP Release Date: | Thursday, December 2, 2021 |
| Proposals Due: | Thursday, January 13, 2022 |
| Funding Decisions: | Week of February 7, 2022 |
| Project Start Date: | March 1, 2022 |

8. How to Apply

To apply for a grant, register and login to the Foundation’s [online application system](#). Proposals must be completed and submitted with all required responses and attachments in order to be considered for funding in this grant cycle. Please use the access code **POMAF** to access the application.

If you have questions regarding the application, please contact the Foundation's Program Officers, Danielle Belanger at 617-391-3073 or dbelanger@gmafoundations.com or Amy Segal Shorey ashorey@gmafoundations.com.

9. Program Contacts

Questions about this RFP or the Foundation in general should be addressed to Danielle Belanger (dbelanger@gmafoundations.com). Technical questions about the online application should be directed to Anna Doggett (adoggett@gmafoundations.com)