

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Regenstrief Center for Healthcare Engineering
Discovery Park, Purdue University
www.purdue.edu/rche

The Regenstrief Center for Healthcare Engineering (RCHE) is soliciting seed project proposals for the 2009 research-funding cycle.¹ Approximately \$240,000 has been allocated for up to 6 projects.

TOPICS OF INTEREST

Any investigative work with the potential for significant improvement in the healthcare delivery system is eligible for consideration. Research projects in the following areas are of particular interest:

- **Primary Care Access.** Developing operational process models tailored for various individual, organization and population demands.
- **Acute Care Efficiency.** Identifying critical healthcare system parameters and developing new models of delivery operations to maximize efficiency, quality and safety.
- **Chronic Care Management.** Designing and evaluating alternative care models and processes that meet the unique needs of the growing chronic illness population.
- **Population Health.** Assessing efficacy of initiatives to promote healthy communities and minimize illness and disease.
- **Patient Safety.** Facilitating and evaluating implementation of best practices.
- **IT Adoption.** Employing human factors engineering to understand human dynamics and work flow as factors influencing clinicians' adoption of information technology.

Examples of previously-funded RCHE research projects are provided at www.purdue.edu/rche/research/projects.php. Projects that include the support and active engagement of healthcare-delivery organizations are of significant interest.

¹In May of 2007, RCHE was granted "permanent" status by the Regenstrief Foundation. This status provides RCHE the ability to seed, nurture, and develop research contributions to transformational improvement of healthcare delivery. An implicit goal of this funding program is to develop long-term and active interdisciplinary relationships among Purdue researchers and to promote their close involvement with RCHE.

DEADLINES

The deadline for the letter of intent (LOI) is 5:00 p.m. on January 21, 2009.

The deadline for the full proposal is 5:00 p.m. on February 4, 2009.

Awards will be announced by email by 5:00 p.m. on March 12, 2009.

Projects will be funded starting anytime on or after July 1, 2009. Projects must be completed by June 30, 2010.

ELIGIBILITY

Project Principal Investigators (PIs) must be Purdue faculty (including Purdue faculty at all Purdue campuses). Preference will be given to interdisciplinary projects. All submitted proposals must be preceded by an LOI.

PROCEDURES AND PROPOSAL DETAILS

Letter of Intent

Faculty planning to submit a proposal should send a letter of intent by e-mail to rche@purdue.edu by January 21, 2009, indicating the following information, which can be revised in the full proposal:

- Principal investigator and additional faculty to be involved in the project
- Project title
- Keywords
- Potential healthcare partners

Full Proposals

Proposals are due no later than 5 PM, February 4, 2009 and must be submitted using RCHE's project proposal template provided at http://www.purdue.edu/dp/rche/research/templates/proposal_template.doc. Proposals should be delivered (only) electronically to rche@purdue.edu.

- Length: 8-10 pages total. Page limit includes "Project Overview," "V-A-L-I-D" and "Milestones and Deliverables." Page limit does not include attachments.
- Font/Size: Times New Roman, Size 12
- Margins: One inch, all sides
- Spacing: Single space

In order to receive RCHE funding, projects must propose to deliver either: (1) a proposal to an external funding agency or; (2) new, additional support from an outside organization (e.g. funding agency, company) for continuation and expansion of the project. RCHE welcomes proposals leveraged with other proposal opportunities at Purdue.

Proposals should also be accompanied by:

- A proposed budget, detailing all anticipated costs and expenses. No indirect costs should be included. Fringe benefits, if applicable, are acceptable;
- A Coeus budget by the business office of one of the principal investigators; and
- A completed *Proposal Submission Form* (Sponsored Programs, <http://www.purdue.edu/sps/proposals/notificationform.html>) with the signatures of the appropriate school heads.

Funded Projects

Upon completion of the project, the Principal Investigator (PI) is expected to submit a final report and provide a PowerPoint presentation to RCHE leadership and, if appropriate, to RCHE Partners. After the project has received initial funding and until the final report is submitted, the PI will also be responsible for filing monthly project reports.

Report and presentation templates are provided at <http://www.purdue.edu/rche/research/program.php#valid>. Project information will be posted at RCHE's website. The final project report and presentation will be posted to RCHE's research-project database (<http://www.purdue.edu/rche/research/articles.php>).

In addition, it is expected that faculty, post docs, and students involved in funded projects will be active in RCHE activities related to their project.

BUDGET

The maximum allowable total cost will be \$40,000 and the maximum duration will be 12 months. Funding will be allocated in two equal portions over the term of the project, contingent upon acceptable progress. The time period to be funded is flexible and funding will be available as early as July 1, 2009.

Funds may be used to support graduate students, post-doctoral fellows, faculty summer support (partial), travel, supplies, equipment, software, and (limited) secretarial support. In addition, non-financial RCHE resources may be requested, if appropriate (e.g., meeting space, access to RCHE databases and assistance with project management and proposal development). Indirect costs (F&A) will not be charged.

Budgets will be prepared by the appropriate business office using the COEUS system. Highly successful projects may be eligible to receive subsequent funding from RCHE in the form of proposal cost-sharing, etc.

SUBMISSION

Submission will be electronic as a PDF document to rche@purdue.edu. Applications selected for funding will require appropriate signatures and will be routed through the appropriate business office using the Purdue SPS Proposal Transmittal Check Sheet. Compliances that are expected to govern an award must be listed on the check sheet and appropriate protocols must be filed before expenses can be charged to the award.

Questions should be directed to Professor Leroy B. Schwarz, RCHE Academic Director, LSchwarz@purdue.edu.