

J-PAL North America – Travel/Proposal Development Grants

Application Form and Instructions

*J-PAL North America (J-PAL NA) funds randomized evaluations of social policies in the United States and Canada, and typically has two regular funding cycles per year for full research projects and pilot studies. J-PAL NA has additional funding dedicated to exploratory work in an effort to develop a randomized evaluation. **Applications for travel/proposal development grants are accepted on a rolling basis and should be sent to NA_RFP@povertyactionlab.org.***

Eligibility

J-PAL affiliates, J-PAL post-docs, and J-PAL invited researchers may apply for a travel/proposal development grant.

Graduate students who have a J-PAL affiliate on their thesis committee may also apply. Please note that the J-PAL affiliate does not need to be based at the same university as applicant.

Graduate students will be asked to provide a letter from both the J-PAL affiliate and department confirming that the J-PAL affiliate is on their formal thesis committee.

Pre-thesis PhD students who do not have an official thesis committee may also apply. Pre-thesis students are required to submit a formal letter of confirmation from an affiliate that explicitly states: “I am actively responsible for supervising this project/research and anticipate being on the student’s thesis committee.”

Covered Expenses

Expenses covered under this award are intended for travel and other reimbursable costs incurred while doing fieldwork or building relationships with policymakers, industry, or non-profit leaders that could lead to a future randomized evaluation. Funds are awarded for a maximum of one year.

These activities include, but are not limited to:

- Domestic travel^{1*} (flights, ground transportation, etc.)
- Accommodations*

^{1*} Travelers are expected to seek the lowest available fares and rates. We will not cover change or upgrade fees for flights. Luxury travel and accommodation will not be reimbursed.

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- Computing services (hardware/software)
- Survey administration
- Printing and mailing
- Incentives for focus group participants

Expenses that will not be covered include:

- Expenses without itemized receipts
- Salaries or wages for any party
- Travel expenses for conferences or academic meetings
- Costs of purchasing datasets
- Indirect Costs

How to apply

To apply, please submit the following:

- The cover sheet (included below)
- A concise statement of topic: These grants are intended to facilitate very preliminary, exploratory research. Proposals need only address the general topic of interest and current ideas on how the question might be explored. They do not need to include a detailed program or evaluation design.
- A budget for up to \$5,000 using the template at: www.povertyactionlab.org/na-rfp
- *For graduate students:* a letter of support from an advisor who is a J-PAL affiliate or invited researcher

Please submit these documents to NA_RFP@povertyactionlab.org.

Review Process

Applications for travel/proposal development grants will be reviewed by the J-PAL North America Scientific Directors on a rolling basis. Proposals will be scored based on their academic contribution, policy relevance, and feasibility of the project.

Grant Requirements

1. Grantees are required to submit a report within 30 days of the end of the award



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2. Grantees must be willing to participate in one of J-PAL NA’s activities on a mutually agreed date and at a mutually agreed place. This activity could be an evidence workshop, a matchmaking conference, or a presentation to donors.

Grant Administration

Expenses covered under any award will be reimbursed upon submission of an expense report.

If you receive an award:

- Expenses must be supported by receipts.
- All expenses must be claimed within 30 days of trip completion.

Application Cover Sheet

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR AND INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION			
CO-INVESTIGATOR(S) AND INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION			
TITLE OF PROPOSAL			COUNTRY
PROPOSED DATES OF EXPLORATORY WORK			
START DATE: (mm-dd)		END DATE: (mm-dd)	
PROPOSED PARTNER(S)			
REQUESTED	\$		