**JOI COVID-19 Off-Cycle Round - Sample Questions**

*While these questions are hopefully a helpful starting point to think about responding to the labor market disruptions of COVID-19, we encourage the creativity of researchers and their partners to answer the most policy-relevant questions. For more information on JOI priority themes, please reference the RFP Overview on* [*JOI’s webpage*](https://www.povertyactionlab.org/initiative-subpage/joi-request-proposals)*. To apply for funding, please fill out J-PAL’s off-cycle COVID-19* [*common application*](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScO98Ib1-8Mtm6iQkP2vkbVJvqpNSFj8GVs5kadQul3-2JCiw/viewform)*.*

1. How can economies build in protections and benefits for workers whose jobs are affected by COVID-19 and/or do not have access to traditional social protections?
2. How can workers displaced from their livelihoods by COVID-19 be reskilled for other jobs?
3. What are effective strategies to protect entrepreneurs whose businesses are harmed by COVID-19?
4. Which policies are most effective to improve the safety of workers who are vulnerable to COVID-19 exposure on the job?
5. How can firms leverage technology to maintain productivity and provide work for employees while complying with recommendations/policies to prevent the spread of COVID-19?
6. Can policies like short-time work and paid leave mitigate job losses associated with COVID-19?
7. What are effective policies to promote female labor force participation and protect female workers, as, according to the ILO, women may be disproportionately affected by COVID-19?
8. What are the most effective ways to deliver online training courses and job search services for jobseekers?