**Cash Transfers for Child Health (CaTCH) Initiative**

## **Title:**

**Special Guidelines related to Covid-19**

1. **All applications must follow** [J-PAL’s COVID-19 response guidelines](https://www.povertyactionlab.org/covid19) **in regard to in-person interactions with subjects.** **All research and technical assistance must take place remotely via phone, email, video calls, etc. and have necessary IRB approvals for any research components.**
2. If your proposed project will feature in-person interactions with subjects or staff please note that the evolving situation could result in changes to these guidelines at a future date**. Therefore, please be sure to include the following in your application materials:**

* ***Budget Narrative:*** Include a discussion of what funds will and will not be spent in what timeframes if the proposed project is paused, modified, or dissolved because of COVID-19 related disruptions.
* ***Proposal Narrative:***Outline aspects of the proposed project that can be completed right away vs aspects dependent on the status of the COVID response more broadly. The proposal should also include plans for conducting fieldwork, and how this will evolve should COVID-19 continue to prevent in-person contact.

A. Please indicate the proposal type that best fits your project

* 1. Standard full research project (RCT)
  2. Descriptive data collection

B. Please indicate whether this project is an add-on to an existing project. If so, please specify to which project are you adding funds and whether this project is an RCT? (Please include the project title, PI names, and, if applicable, original funding J-PAL initiative)

**I. Study Abstract (100-150 words)**

**II. Research Question and Relevance to Covid19**

*Please provide a summary of the policy problem that motivates this research and how it relates to the impact of COVID-19: What is the research question this evaluation answers? Does the study address questions related to how governments can respond to challenges in healthcare delivery and/or access stemming from the covid19 outbreak? Does it address questions related to access to or impact of government social protection measures to mitigate the impact of covid-19? (Please review the application instructions on our website for a detailed description of the priority themes for this window).*

**III. Background and Government Partner** (if applicable).

*Context: Please describe the target population and the implementing partner (if applicable). Please describe how the research may be used to inform specific policies or programs related to COVID-19. Additionally, describe implementing partner commitment and confirmation of implementation funding (i.e. government or otherwise, if applicable). Is there a plan in place for informing all important stakeholders, such as funders and government partners regarding the status of the project?*

**IV. Experimental Design and Programme Description** (Only for Full RCTs)

*Please provide a brief description of the treatment, evaluation design, target population, and implementing partners.*

**V. Theory of Change** (Only for Full RCTs)

*Explain the intervention's proposed theory of change?*

**VI. Outcomes of Interest**

*Provide information on how and when measurement will happen. Please specify how you will recruit your sample (e.g., are you using an existing sample for which you have valid phone numbers)? Please also specify how your protocol takes steps to not increase in-person interactions. If you propose to use secondary data, please indicate the current status of your access to this data (e.g., do you already have the data set or how do you plan to get access)? If your proposal is for data collection for descriptive analyses, please mention the sample size details in this section.*

**VII. Sample Size and Power Calculations (**Only for full RCTs**)**

*Provide critical information on the proposed sample size and supporting power calculations. For more in-depth demonstration, full evaluation proposals can use the technical appendix. Pilot proposals can use this section to discuss data collection activities they intend to undertake.*

**VIII. What is the project timeline?**

*Demonstrate a clear project timeline including short-term markers of success. Please indicate how soon results from the study will be available to share with CaTCH donors and other policymakers, even if preliminary.*

**IX. Budget Justification**

**X. Sources of readily available funding**

*Please note that due to COVID-19 slowdowns it may take 30 days for J-PAL to deploy funding for your project. Given that we are prioritizing projects that can deliver quick results to governments, do you have readily available staff or funds that you can deploy right away? J-PAL can then reimburse the funds used for this project in these cases.*

### XI. Resilience to COVID-19

*In the event that the research is disrupted by a resurgence of COVID-19, what do you see as the potential financial and human costs of suspending and restarting the project?*  *Please describe to what extent findings from your intervention may be relevant and generalizable beyond a COVID-19 context.*

**XII. Are there potential unintended consequences of this project?**

*Are there ways this project could negatively affect participants and if so, what are they? Does this project present any unintended opportunities for corruption or misuse of funds? How do you plan to monitor and prevent/address these risks throughout the project?*

**XIII. If your project requires IRB review. What IRB will you be using?**

*Is this IRB accepting applications? If yes, please provide a link to their website that shows they are accepting applications during COVID-19. Have you submitted/received IRB approval for this proposed project/survey activity?*