Poverty Initiative Funding Opportunity:
Poverty Research Packages

Request for Applications for Academic Years 24/25, 25/26, & 26/27

Purpose of the Notre Dame Poverty Initiative

To establish Notre Dame as the premier university in poverty-related research, student formation, and policy and program impact.

Funding Opportunity Overview

The Notre Dame Poverty Initiative requests proposals for high-impact research endeavors related to describing the nature of poverty or understanding its causes and consequences and how best to alleviate it. This funding aims to support Notre Dame faculty by elevating their existing research and/or supporting new areas of inquiry related to poverty. These research grants would provide a "package" of operational infrastructure necessary for the scholar's research to thrive. Examples of such infrastructure support include:

- undergraduate research assistants,
- pre-doctoral fellows,
- graduate students,
- project managers,
- project development specialists to build partner relationships,
- postdoctoral fellows,
- data acquisition and management,
- other project costs.

These Poverty Research Packages are available to any regular faculty member (as defined in Article IV, Section 1, Subsection (a) of the [Academic Articles](#)) whose research closely aligns with the mission of the Poverty Initiative. Grant terms can extend from one to three years, beginning in FY25.

Submission and Review Process

Key Dates
Intent to Apply Notification: April 5, 2024
Due Date for Proposals: April 26, 2024
Notice of Award: June 28, 2024

<u>**Eligibility**</u>
Principal Investigators must hold faculty appointments at the University of Notre Dame. Faculty members whose lines are primarily supported by one of the large units that has received a Poverty Initiative investment, such as iFACTs, LEO, and the Pulte Institute, are not eligible for funding. Proposals seeking support for activities directly tied to these units will likewise not be considered. However, affiliated faculty, faculty fellows, and even faculty working on other Poverty Initiative investments in partnership with these large units are eligible to apply for funding for activities outside of these units.

<u>**Submission**</u>
Submission materials will be made available on the Poverty Initiative website by March 8, 2024.

<u>**Intent to Apply Notification (due April 5)**</u>
Please send notification to Leigh Lynes at llynes@nd.edu. Included in the email should be A) the name of the principal investigator, B) the academic unit where the PI's primary appointment resides, and C) the planned title of the submission. The subject line of the email should read "Intent to Apply for Poverty Research Package."

<u>**Proposal Components (due April 26)**</u>
Submit all four proposal components below to Leigh Lynes at llynes@nd.edu. The subject line of the email should read "Application for Poverty Research Package." Documents should be in G-Suite format (Google Docs for the Executive Summary and Narrative; Google Sheets for the Budget and Metrics). Links to templates for the budget and metrics are provided below. Please do not submit documents in .pdf format.

1. *Executive Summary (250 words)*

Clearly state the research questions to be addressed, the strategies for addressing them, and the resources required. Also discuss why this research will help make Notre Dame a premier university in poverty-related research.

2. *Narrative (5 pages)*

   Overview and Significance
   Describe the key research questions the Poverty Research Package will help faculty answer and the methods that will be used to answer them. Briefly summarize the existing state of knowledge related to these questions and how the proposed package will advance our understanding of this topic. Also explain what makes this line of research innovative and what is its intended impact.

   Key Activities
   Describe the key activities of the research including research methods, data, and deliverables such as publications, policy briefs, or related research output.

Impact of Investment
Explain why research infrastructure support through a Poverty Research Package is necessary to implement the proposed research activities. Also explain how this support could expand the scope of the research, i.e. how it would provide a foundation for a broader research agenda.

Timeline
Provide a timeline for the entire term of the grant that specifies when key milestones will be reached.

Research Team
Introduce the Principal Investigator (PI) and why they are qualified to conduct this research. Also provide a list of all faculty members collaborating on this line of research with the PI, if applicable, and how these collaborations enhance the potential research impact. Include a link to a CV for the PI and each of the co-PIs or collaborating faculty.

Sustainability
Describe a plan to sustain this line of research after the end of the grant term.

3. *Budget (utilizing the [budget template and instructions](#) provided)*
Allowable expenses include items that would increase the productivity of the faculty member, including staff, students, and data costs. Unallowable expenses include faculty salary support, office space and furnishing, and items that are not related to the acceleration of the proposed poverty related research. Budgets can be from one to three years, beginning in FY25. Total amount requested for the entire duration of the award can range between $100,000 to $500,000.

4. *Metrics (utilizing the [metrics template and instructions](#) provided)*
Develop the metrics that you will seek to achieve through the investment, following the metric template. Sample metrics are provided in the template.

Review Criteria
Proposals will be reviewed by an internal review committee. The following criteria will be considered:

- The significance of the research questions
- The novelty of the approach
- The potential for impact on the research and policy community
- The potential for the line of research to advance a broader research agenda
- The qualifications of the PI and any collaborators to conduct this research, including a proven research record and active research agenda
- The potential to engage external partners in the research process
- The potential for the investment to position ND as a leader in this space, including public relations, academic standing, and attracting external grant funds

Frequently Asked Questions

When will Poverty Research Package funding become available?

Funding is available now. The first batch of investments will be made on July 1, 2024. In order to be considered for funding in this round, proposals are due to the Poverty Initiative by Friday, April 26, 2024. The Poverty Initiative anticipates making another round of investments in 2025.

Does receipt of Poverty Research Package funding make a faculty member ineligible for other support from the Poverty Initiative or from the Strategic Framework Grant program?

No. However, individual faculty members may only serve as a PI on one Poverty Research Package at any given time.

How much can I request?

Funding awards can range from $100,000-$500,000 over the course of one to three years.

How many years can I receive funding?

Funding can be for one to three fiscal years, beginning on July 1, 2024 (FY25).

What disciplines will be prioritized?

All disciplines are encouraged to apply. Prioritization of topics will be based on alignment with the mission of the Poverty Initiative rather than on a specific discipline.

What counts as poverty-related research?

Poverty is a very broad topic that touches on many research areas including, but not limited to, economic well-being, health, education, sustainability, and justice. While the Poverty Initiative will consider investments across all such areas, it will prioritize research agendas that focus on describing the nature of poverty, inequality, and disparities; understanding their causes and consequences; or identifying ways to improve key outcomes for disadvantaged individuals and communities.

Do Poverty Research Packages have to involve external partners?

No, although Packages that involve researcher-provider partnerships, or work complementary to these partnerships, will be prioritized.

Can faculty salary or summer funding be supported through these Poverty Research Packages?

No.