Applying for the 2019 PAEA Don Pedersen Research Grant

Grant Deadline October 30th, 2019 4:59 PM
Applying for the 2019 Don Pedersen Research Grant - Your Hosts:

Eleadah Clack, MA
Project Manager,
Research Programs
and Evaluations

Rick Dehn, MPA, PA-C,
Chair
Research Mission
Advancement
Commission

Elana Min, PhD, PA-C
2009 Winner

Trent Honda
PhD, MMS, PA-C
Chair
Grants & Scholarship Review Committee

Sheena Brown, PhD, MSCR
2016 Winner
Mission: To give Early career PA faculty, who are qualified to carry out the research as Principal Investigator (PI) an entryway into research.

Objectives: PAEA seeks to create leaders in PA education/workforce research that will further the PA profession through research and publication.
Choosing a Research Question

• Ask a question that is of specific interest to the PA community or that is generalizable.

• Address a novel research question of critical importance to PA education or the PA profession,
  • If the question has been previously investigated, explain how your research will address holes in the current research

• Set the question in the context of the prior literature on the topic,
  • Avoid repeating previously-researched question without identifying how the additional research is warranted.
  • If no prior studies exist in PA education, consider other health profession literature.

To What Extent Do Physician Assistants Provide Chronic Disease Care?
Bettie Coplan MPAS, PA-C, Northern Arizona University 2012 Winner

The Use of Simulation in Physician Assistant Programs: A National Survey
Donald Coerver PhD, PA-C, MEDEX Northwest 2013 Winner
Relevant Research Topics

• PA education and PA workforce issues.
• Topics should answer new questions or address knowledge gaps exposed by previous research.
• Topics should be of at least regional interest, with preference for topics of national interest.
• The program is not intended to fund research on clinical practice.

2019 Preference for topics which explore:
1. Increasing capacity in clinical education.
2. Attracting and retaining diverse students and faculty.

and PA Faculty who: have not received PAEA research grant awards, paired with senior researcher co-Investigators.
Relevant Research Topics: Research Methods

• Data methods should provide the appropriate data to answer the research question,
• Create a clear analytic plan that is appropriate for the collected data.
• Discussion of Bias - the methods section should explicitly identify sources of bias and address how potential bias will be treated in the analysis.

Pro Tip

• Use caution analyzing multiple years of test data that isn’t standardized.
• Use caution with single program studies
Past Winner: Elana Min, Phd, PA-C

Northwestern University

Utilizing Standardized Patient Exams to Measure the Effectiveness of PA Student Training in Challenging Patient Encounters

- Identified a gap (at that time) in curriculum and a novel use of standardized patients,
- Created a feasible timeline which worked with our students,
- Secured familiar and reliable resources.
Past Winner:
Sheena Brown, PhD, MSCR
Mercer University

Diversity within Physician Assistant Education: Assessing Perceptions of Promotion and Tenure Opportunities among Underrepresented Minority Physician Assistant Faculty
Intro to Grantee Outcomes and Expectations

• Submit a final project report to the PAEA Grants and Scholarship Review Committee *within 90 days* of the end of the study,

• Be able to complete the research project *within 18 months* of receiving the award,

• Submit the research findings for presentation at the PAEA Education Forum *within one year* from the conclusion of the project,

• Complete follow-up Surveys, and participate in feedback tools from the PAEA Research Team as needed.
Submission Guidelines

• The research proposal must be six pages in length.
• Blinding requirements: The cover page and evidence of IRB submission do not need to be blinded.
• Must have proof of Institutional Review Board (IRB) submission, approval, or exemption and
  • Include copy of survey instrument.
• PI (Primary Investigator) must be in good standing at accredited PAEA member program,
• PI must be employed by program for minimum of 20 hours per week (>0.5 FTE).

*Proposals not submitted according to the guidelines will be disqualified*
Submission Guidelines: General Considerations

• Must be received electronically no later than 4:59 p.m. ET, Wednesday, October 30, 2019,
• Make sure you’ve addressed all submission requirements.
  • Don’t forget your timeline
  • Or your budget
• Identify potential weaknesses or limitations to the project and discuss how they will be overcome.
• Secure letters of recommendation early,
• Request specific feedback from RMAC committee members by emailing research@PAEAonline.org.
A Good Budget Tells A Story

• Develop a plan for completing the research project,
• Create a budget by sections:
  • Time: consultants, research participants (report any in-kind)
  • People: faculty personnel, staff support (report any in-kind)
  • Supplies: markers, printing, materials etc.
  • Misc: software, travel, fees, data access etc.
• Prioritize an accurate estimate by researching the cost,
  • Time x Cost
  • Quantities x Cost
  • Be detailed in describing why you need each budget line item and how it will be used in your research.
  • **Pro Tip:** Commit some grant budget for statistical consulting.
Before You Submit: A Checklist

- Relevant Question
- Blinding Requirements
  - IRB (unblinded) and Survey Tool as applicable
  - Cover page (unblinded)
  - Two copies of proposal, CV
- Budget
- Literature Review and References which put your question in context
- Past Funding History and Collaboration Efforts
- Clear Research Methods which are appropriate for research question
- Expected Outcomes: timeline, dissemination plans, impact on PA field
- Page Limits (6)
- 4:59 PM deadline
- Letters of Support (3)
Evaluation Criteria: Research Outcomes & Budget

- Are the investigators well-qualified to carry out the research as proposed?
  - Consider interdisciplinary or inter-institutional collaborations to increase the expertise on a research team, if necessary.

- Can the project be realistically completed in 1.5 years?
  - Provide a timeline detailing deliverables and thoughtfulness about dissemination

- Are the budget and budget justification consistent with the methods and do not include non-allowable costs?
Pitfalls and Common Problems

• The most common problems start with the research question:
  • Repeating previously-researched question without identifying how the additional research is warranted,
  • Asking a question of limited interest to the PA community or that is ungeneralizable,
  • Asking a question that can’t be answered by the data.

• And subsequent methods:
  • Poorly described,
  • Will likely produce biased results,
  • Unlikely to result in data that would answer the research question(s).
  • Methods need to collect data that would allow generalizability.
Pitfalls and Common Problems

- Your proposal should include appropriate methods for the data collected, and a well-designed research question.
  - Grammar and syntax problems may come secondary as criteria points are not deducted.
  - Not all proposal weaknesses are created equal however, still run spell check.
- What is needed to “make the data talk”:
  - Propose an analysis that fits the study design and the data it will collect.
  - Discussion of whether the methods will collect enough data for the project of have adequate “power.”
  - Identify potential sources of bias and address them in the analysis.
  - Use caution analyzing multiple years of test data that isn’t standardized.
  - Your analysis should match the methods.
Have questions? Need advice? Want an expert to read over your application?

- Members of PAEA Research Mission Advancement Commission (RMAC) are available for email and/or phone consultation.
- Send an email to research@paeaonline.org with a subject line “Don Pedersen Application Support”

Additional Resources

2019 Education Forum & Fall Workshops
October 10-15, 2019

JAAPA- Journal of the Academy of Physician Assistants
NCCPA Research
IPEDS - National education data

PAEA Digital Learning Hub & Professional Learning Communities
Your PAEA Research Team
Questions and Answers