



Research Grant Application Guidelines
2022

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FHER RESEARCH GRANT	3
MISSION	3
2022 GRANT	3
DETAILS TO ADDRESS IN YOUR APPLICATION	3
RESEARCH PROPOSAL SECTION (SECTION III).....	3
CONFLICT OF INTEREST (SECTION IV, RESEARCHER QUALIFICATIONS)	4
BUDGET SECTION (SECTION V)	4
TIMELINE (SECTION VI).....	5
ETHICS (SECTION VIII).....	5
OTHER DETAILS	6
NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY	6
EVALUATION CRITERIA	6
APPLICATION AND SCHEDULE	6
CONTACT	6
FUNDING SOURCE	6

FHER RESEARCH GRANT

The Foundation for Healthcare Environments Research (FHER) is comprised of a volunteer Board of Trustees that serves to uphold FHER's mission. FHER provides funding to selected research projects that enhance the knowledge and effectiveness of those who create healthcare environments. Our research initiative is closely coordinated with the AIA Academy for Architecture for Health and its research committee.

MISSION

The mission of the Foundation for Health Environments Research is to advance the knowledge and effectiveness of those who design healthcare environments by sponsoring research.

2022 GRANT

FHER has allocated \$30,000 for research grant funding for the 2022 fiscal year. Depending on the grant applications submitted, the whole award amount may be dedicated to one research project or may be divided over multiple projects.

For the 2022 cycle, FHER is accepting research grant applications on three topics: building flexibility for future change, design and telehealth, and emergency department design for pandemic conditions.

The FHER grant opportunity is open to applicants from both the public and private sector.

Favorable consideration will be given to research proposals that are carefully planned to result in shareable knowledge that supports design practice. While FHER aims to fund research that is relevant to professional design practice, most successful applications include or are comprised of individuals with formal, advanced training in research methods.

WEBINAR

A Webinar will be held in August 2021 that provides a brief overview of FHER and its mission, funders, and aims and includes a question-and-answer period. Please contact julie.zook@ttu.edu for event details.

DETAILS TO ADDRESS IN YOUR APPLICATION

The topics outlined below correspond to and provide details on completing the "FHER Research Grant Application, 2022", which can be downloaded at <https://foundationhealthenvironmentsresearch.org/>. The sections noted in parenthesis correspond to sections of the grant application.

RESEARCH PROPOSAL SECTION (SECTION III)

For the 2022 cycle, FHER is seeking proposals on three topics that were identified as important to contemporary practice based on consultation with stakeholders in the design and construction of healthcare settings:

- 1. FLEXIBILITY FOR FUTURE CHANGE IN HEALTHCARE FACILITIES*
- 2. DESIGN IMPLICATIONS OF THE RISE OF TELEHEALTH*
- 3. EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT DESIGN FOR PANDEMIC CONDITIONS*

The *Dissemination Plan* (Section III d iii) should include planning for three components.

1. A conference presentation
2. A peer-reviewed journal publication
3. A practitioner-friendly short research summary and/or tutorial (e.g., for digital tools) to be posted to the AAHF public Web site. Tutorials can be in video and/or downloadable pdf format

The dissemination plan should include the presentation of findings at a major conference within two years of the commencement of the grant. Traditionally, conference presentations have been made at the annual *Healthcare Design Conference* or *ASHE Planning Design and Construction Conference*, though other conferences are eligible. Research proposals should list potential peer-reviewed journals that they will target. Identification of FHER as a sponsor in conference presentation, publications and other public-facing activities is expected. A short, practitioner-friendly summary of the completed research summary of the findings of the study must be received and reviewed by the FHER prior to release of the final payment. The practitioner-friendly summary will be held in confidence until after peer-reviewed publication to protect the researcher's/s' intellectual contributions.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST (IN SECTION IV, RESEARCHER QUALIFICATIONS)

The FHER Board of Trustees and its consultants are not eligible to serve as principal investigators. FHER Board Trustees, consultants, and volunteers may serve as consultants to projects led by other researchers. Applications that include participation by FHER or the AIA Academy of Architecture for Health Board members must be clearly identified. Those participants will be recused from the evaluation and selection process.

Other potential conflicts of interests with other organizations or companies should be identified in the application.

Research that develops proprietary knowledge or tools will generally not be favorably considered given the FHER mission of enhancing profession-wide knowledge and practice.

Organizations or individuals that submit more than one proposal are eligible to have only one proposal funded per organization/individual.

BUDGET SECTION (SECTION V)

Application section V. *Budget* should be completed using the budget worksheet provided in the application. Favorable consideration may be given to proposals that demonstrate committed financial match to help maximize financial support for the selected research project.

Funds will be disbursed incrementally, with 50% of the awarded funds issued upon contract for the research, an additional 25% following the mid-point review and the final 25% upon completion to be released upon receipt of requisite deliverables.

Allowable Expenses

Expenses directly related to the funded research are allowed. These direct expenses include faculty/researcher time, research assistant time, research equipment/technology, project-related travel expenses (e.g., travel to project site, field work) and travel to present research

findings at a national conference, which is required. Other expenses will be considered given appropriate rationale.

Disallowed Expenses

Due to the relatively small size of the grants, it is the policy of the AAHF to not pay indirect expenses such as program administration and overhead. Indirect expenses include but are not limited to office supplies, general telephone service, postage, travel to visit research consultants, and administrative/clerical support staff not directly engaged in the funded research.

TIMELINE (SECTION VI)

Projects should usually be completed within twelve (12) months from the signing of the funding contract, unless a specific condition exists that would warrant an exception. Conditions include but are not limited to academic calendar conflicts and delays in Institutional Review Board approval. If an extension is required, the individual grantee must file for an extension and receive approval from the FHER Grants Committee. The grantee must submit a request for extension and receive approval from the Research Committee to extend the grant period beyond 12 months. FHER reserves the right to approve or deny any requested exceptions at their discretion.

Research Mid-Report

A progress report needs to be submitted by the grantee to the FHER Grants Committee six months from the official start date (for example June 30th if a January 1st start date). The intent of this mid-report is to update the Board on progress to date. This mid-report needs to be submitted to the Chair of the Research Grants Committee.

Research Final Report

The practitioner-friendly short research summary plus a brief summary of research details may serve as the final report. Final reports must be completed and submitted to the FHER Board of Trustees for review and approval no later than 12 months from the project start unless a specific condition exists warrants an exception.

ETHICS (SECTION VIII)

Research studies that involve human subjects must satisfy the following requirements prior to commencing research (though not necessarily prior to application):

1. Human Subjects Training (such as Collaborative Institutional Training (CITI) or National Institutes of Health (NIH) Human Subjects Training) must be completed for all actively involved investigators.
2. Applicants must have an Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval on file and available if requested.

OTHER DETAILS

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

FHER is an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. FHER does not discriminate based on race, color, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, age, national origin (ancestry), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

FHER trustees evaluate proposals that address the FHER mission. FHER seeks proposals that are well conceived and demonstrate sound research methodology. Specifically, FHER seeks proposals that:

1. Are relevant and useful to the practice of healthcare architecture and the creation of healthcare environments.
2. Present a research design and methodology that answer to the proposed research question/s.
3. Demonstrate that the research team is knowledgeable on the research topic and qualified to execute the relevant methods and techniques.

FHER reserves the right to reject any/all proposals. Examples of past grant recipients can be found on the FEHR website:

<https://foundationhealthenvironmentsresearch.org/research/research-summaries-3/>

APPLICATION AND SCHEDULE

Applications must be received by 11:59 p.m., Central Time, September 20, 2020.

Applications should be submitted by email as PDF files to julie.zook@ttu.edu.

A review panel convened by the Board of Trustees will review applications. The panel will recommend selected projects for approval to the Board. The Board of Trustees will announce the successful applicant(s) on or before Monday, October 25, 2020.

CONTACT

Questions regarding the submission can be sent to:

Julie Zook

Chair of the Research Grants Committee, julie.zook@ttu.edu

FUNDING SOURCE

Funding to support this research is provided by the Foundation for Health Environments Research.