



PILOT FUNDING PRE-APPLICATION WEBINAR

Deadline November 1, 2026, at 5 PM PT

AGENDA

Welcome and
Introduction to
the ARC-BH
Consortium

Pilot Grant Aims &
Logistics

Pilot Grant
Application
Process

Q&A

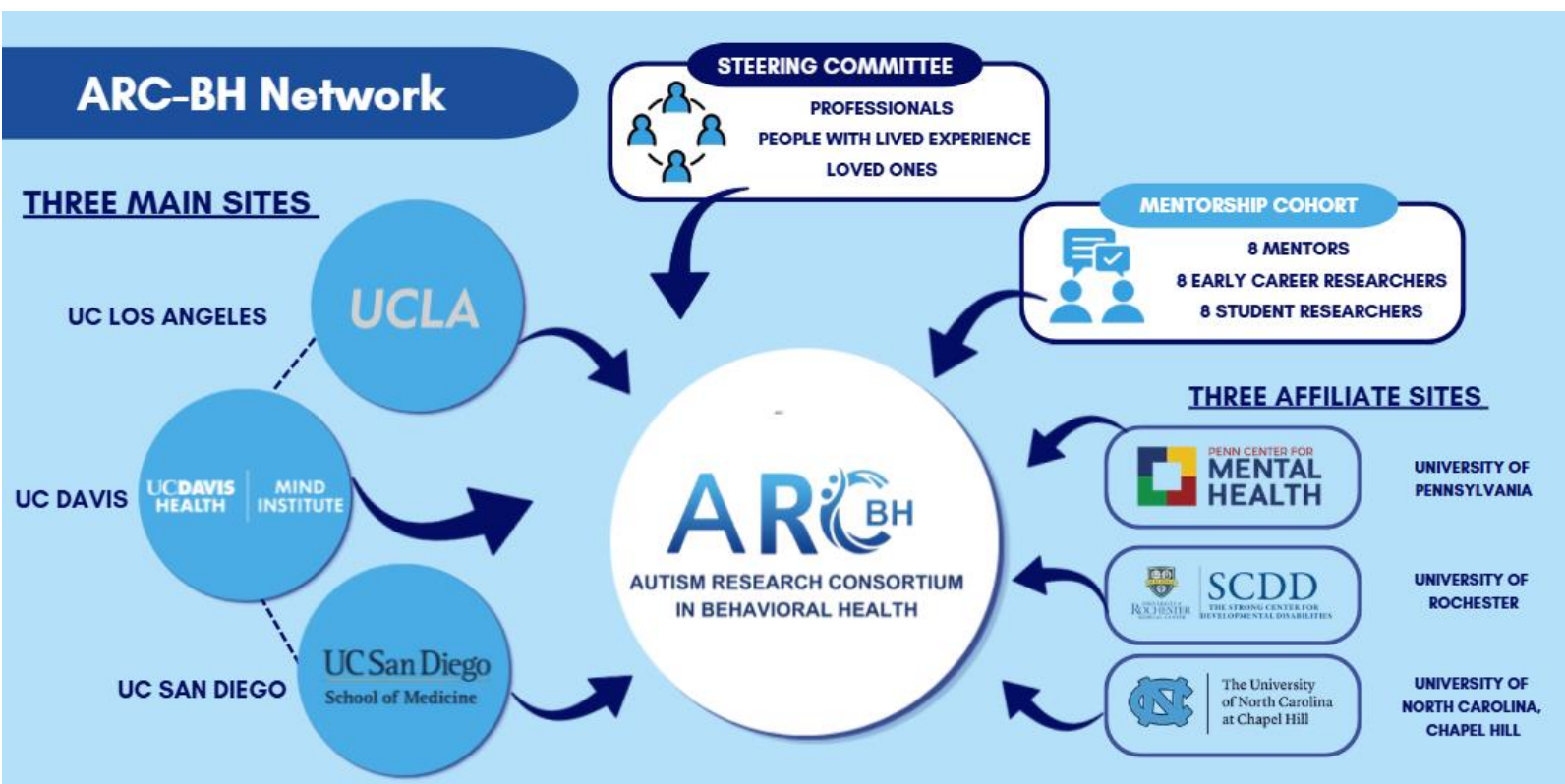
SESSION LOGISTICS

Please share your questions and comments in the chat.

You may enable live closed captions on your Zoom tool bar.

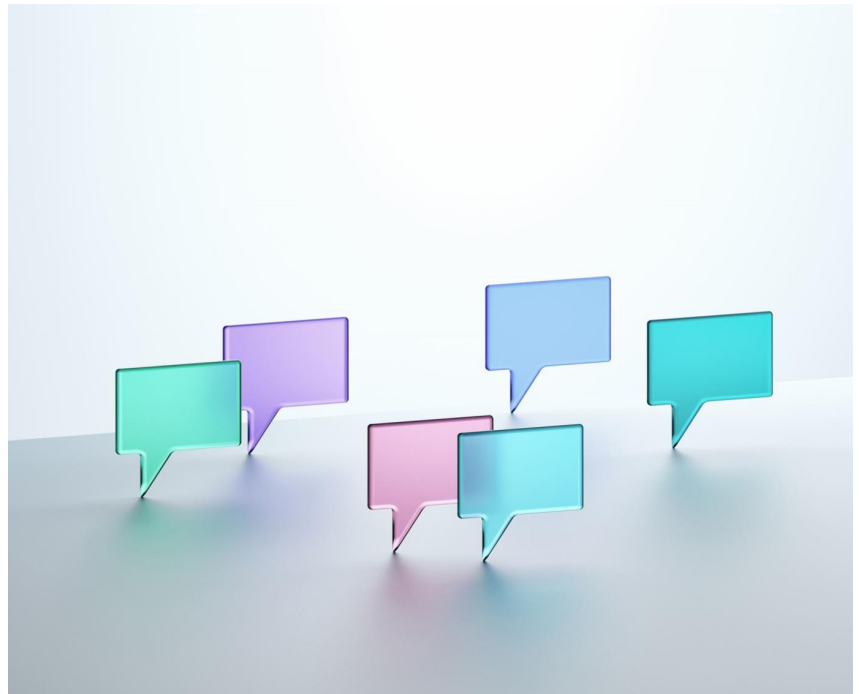
We will record the webinar and post it on the ARC-BH website.

By attending you are consenting to be recorded in some capacity. Please turn your camera off if this would make you more comfortable.



INTRODUCTIONS

Let's get to know each other! Please share your name and affiliations in the chat.



Autism Research Consortium (Autism RC)



- The Autism-RC program is authorized by the Public Health Service Act, as amended by 42 U.S.C. § 280i-1(f) (Title III, § 399BB(f) of the Public Health Service Act).

- The purpose of the Autism RC is to establish research infrastructure and to advance the evidence base on effective interventions, services, supports, and systems for children and adolescents with autism and other developmental disabilities (DD) across the lifespan.

AUTISM RESEARCH CONSORTIA (ARC)

HRSA Funded 5 Consortia

Physical Health * **Behavioral Health** * Systems of Care * DBP * Communication Interventions

GOAL: Research networks about effective and scalable interventions and services

Develop *research-practice partnerships* to identify *best practices* for maximizing the impact of research

Improve systems of care by translating and implementing EBP for autism and DD

Advance the evidence-base on effective interventions, services, supports and systems



- Organization-level implementation strategies
- Autism behavioral Evidence-Based Practices (EBP) use in public service systems.

ARC-BH Website

- arc-bh.com
- Please check out our website for more information and resources!



Request for Applications

- For the full Request for Applications (RFA), please reference the link below.
- The RFA is also accessible on our website!

<https://www.arc-bh.com/pilotaward>

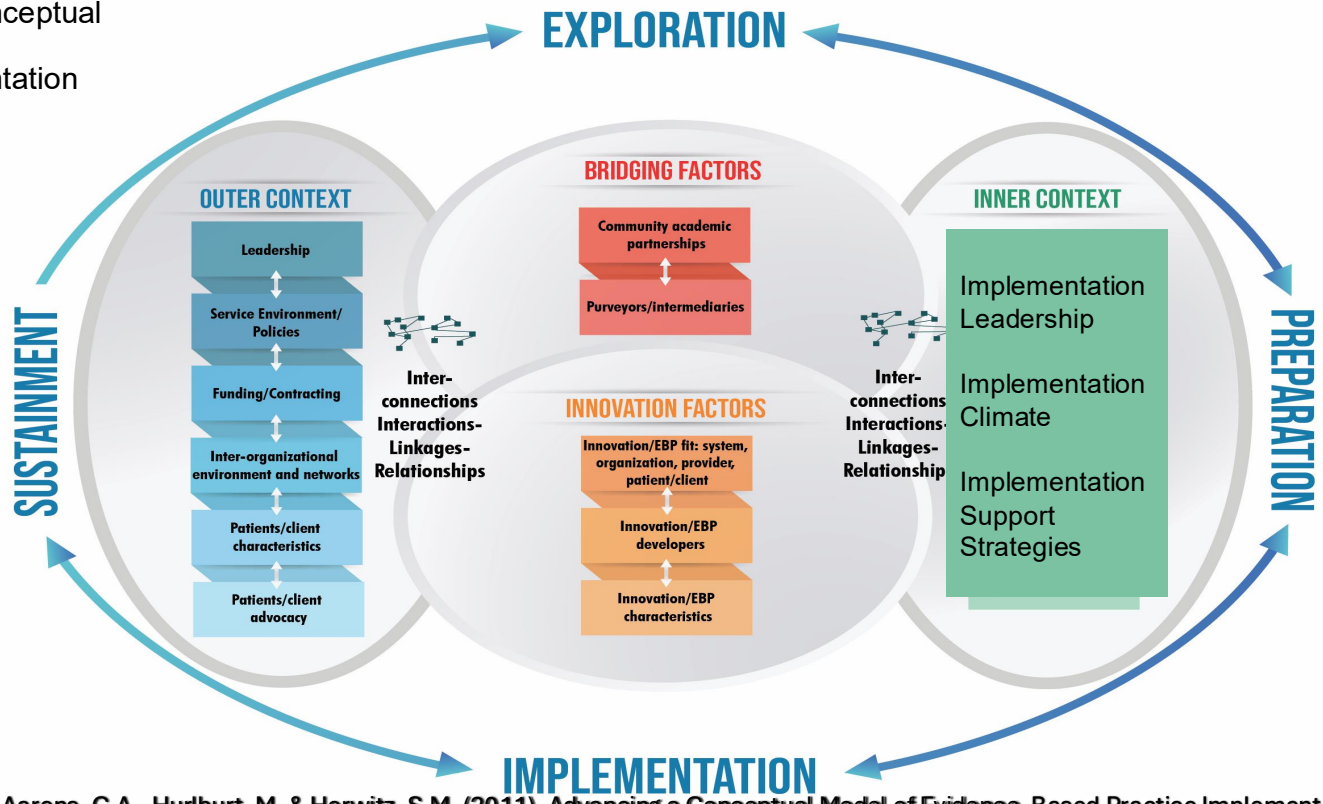
What is your current level experience with organization level implementation strategies?

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

EVIDENCE BASED	PROGRAMS, PRACTICES, PRINCIPLES, PROCEDURES, PRODUCTS, PILLS, POLICIES = 
Effectiveness Research	Whether  works
Implementation Research	Studying how to best help people and places do 
Implementation Strategies	The stuff we do to try to help people and places do 
Main Implementation Outcomes	How much and how well they do 

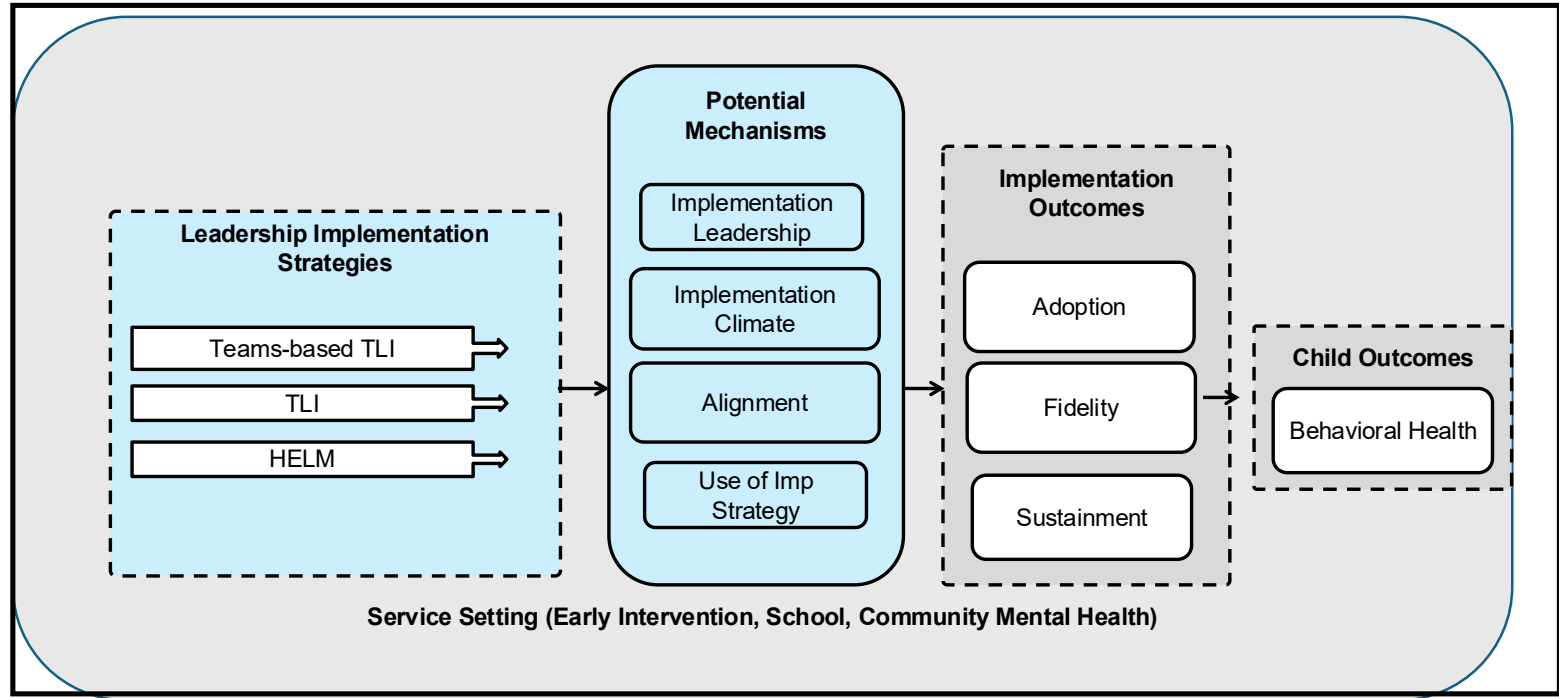
Adapted from: Curran, G.M. Implementation science made too simple: A teaching tool. *Implement Sci Commun* 1, 27 (2020). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s43058-020-00001-z>

EPIS Conceptual Model of Implementation



Aarons, G.A., Hurlburt, M. & Horwitz, S.M. (2011). Advancing a Conceptual Model of Evidence-Based Practice Implementation in Public Service Sectors. *Administration and Policy in Mental Health and Mental Health Services Research*.38, 4-23.

Organization Level Intervention Theory of Change



Pilot Grant Aims & Logistics

AIMS OF PILOT FUNDING

1. **Stimulate research** focused on testing or adapting organization level implementation strategies to support use of EBPs in community-based systems serving children with autism and developmental disabilities;
2. Address **practical, organization-level questions** and generate lessons that can be shared with others
3. Use and **build on the infrastructure** and tools provided by ARC-BH.
4. **Increase the public health impact** of EBP implementation efforts in community care settings that serve children with autism and other developmental disabilities.
5. Build research community partnerships.

Example research questions and topics

How can a district implementation leadership strategy best be adapted to support school-wide implementation of autism evidence-based interventions?

How do we best match organizational implementation strategies to specific implementation barriers?

Which organizational supports are most effective for increasing fidelity to evidence-based autism practices?

Which implementation leadership strategies are best for improving sustainment of evidence-based practices?

How do organizational implementation strategies need to be adapted for community organizations service rural or under-resourced settings?

Can leader level strategies be adapted to for medical settings?

Proposal Example

- ▶ Small Town Unified School District (STUSD) wants to implement Super Great Intervention (SGI) as a district-wide Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports initiative.
- ▶ To inform scaled implementation efforts, one elementary school is piloting the implementation.
- ▶ In partnership with STUSD and this elementary school, your proposal aims to conduct a mixed-methods needs assessment of **implementation climate** and **school level implementation strategies** impacting SGI **fidelity**.
- ▶ This needs assessment will inform future research wherein the adaptation of a leader level implementation strategy will guide and test district-wide SGI implementation

ARC-BH Infrastructure you can access

- **Implementation Consultation & Assessment:** Expert guidance on organizational strategies, including tailored assessments of implementation leadership, organizational climate, and provider attitudes toward evidence-based practices.
- **Data & Analytic Support:** Statistical and methodological consulting, alongside access to the **InPractice Data Repository** to leverage large-scale implementation data.
- **Dissemination Opportunities:** Shared platforms and strategies to effectively translate and communicate your research findings to both academic audiences and public service community programs.

PRE PROPOSAL ARC-BH CONSULTATION

ARC-BH members have expertise in areas such as community-partnered research, dissemination and implementation science, user-centered design, team science, and autism.

We recommend setting up a consultation to discuss your proposal, how it fits with ARC-BH and how you can use ARC-BH resources.



Assessment Support

We can provide assessment tool survey links and scoring

- Implementation Leadership Scale
- Implementation Climate Scale
- Implementation Support Strategy Use
- Evidence-Based Practice Attitude Scale

InPractice Portal

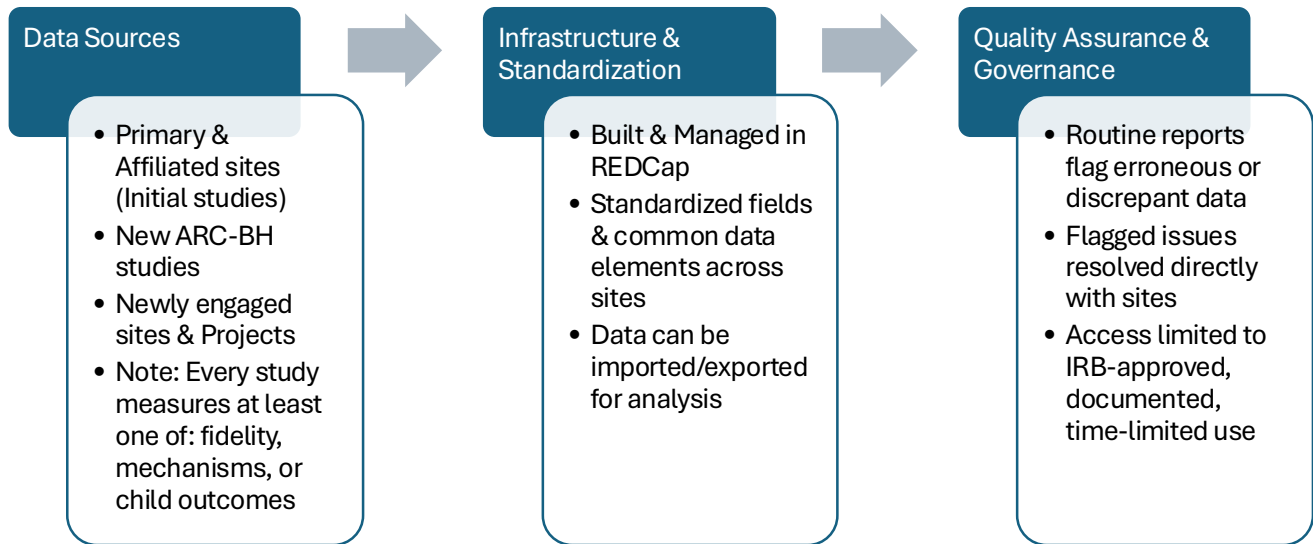
Interactive comparison tool that can be used to explore different leader-level implementation strategies

- Learn about different strategies and their key components
- Use filters to compare strategies by setting, implementation phase, and types of leadership participation required
- Request consultation to learn more about implementing these strategies

Side-by-side comparison			← Back to filters
STRATEGY	HELM	TLI-EBP	
SUMMARY	The HELM project adapted and tested an existing leadership-focused implementation strategy (LOC) for use with elementary school principals in buildings where universal social, emotional, and behavioral programs are being implemented. HELM aims to improve principals' use of strategic implementation leadership to support the adoption and high-fidelity use of school-based EBPs that improve student outcomes.	The TEAMS Leadership Institute on Evidence-Based Practice (TLI-EBP) is a structured leadership training and coaching strategy that supports leadership teams in using local data to identify relevant EBPs that are suited for their needs and plan for implementation and sustainment. TLI-EBP is delivered through six training sessions and three coaching calls over approximately six - nine months. Leadership teams work through identifying their needs and priorities, using research evidence to identify EBPs, assessing fit and capacity, planning for implementation and sustained EBP use.	
TELEHEALTH	Flexible	Flexible	
LANGUAGES AVAILABLE	English	English	
GOALS	Improve principals' use of strategic implementation leadership and build a positive implementation climate to support adoption and high-fidelity use of school-based EBPs that improve student SEB outcomes.	Support district/program leadership teams in selecting, implementing, and sustaining evidence-based practices matched to their setting and organizational needs.	
CORE LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES	Complete leadership assessments; develop leadership goals; participate in coaching; convene leadership teams; monitor implementation	—	

InPractice Repository

ARC-BH will develop the first autism-specific data repository of implementation related measures and data



REVIEW PROCESS

Proposals will be evaluated by **4 masked reviewers** using the following **2 scoring systems**:

1. **NIH scoring** guidelines with 1 = high impact, & 9 = low impact. (50% of total score)
2. The **community-based review** includes three grading criteria centered on community engagement, strength of community partnership, and short- and long-term community outcomes. (40% of total score)
3. Reviews will also consider how the project incorporates **ARC-BH infrastructure** (10% of total score)

NIH Simplified Review Framework

Factor 1

Significance – Is the project important to the field and is there a clear rationale for the work?

Innovation – Are new concepts or methods used or applied in new ways?

Factor 2

Approach – Is the scientific quality of the proposed work high?

Rigor – Will the project produce robust data? Are the analysis plans high quality? Are outcomes clear and justified?

Feasibility – Is the approach achievable in the proposed timeframe?

Factor 3

Investigators – Does the team have the background and expertise to conduct the proposed work?

Environment – Are the institutional resources appropriate to complete the work?

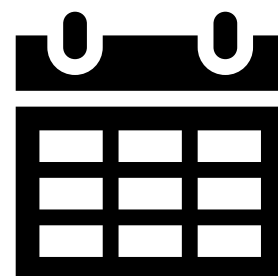
- **Factor 1 : Importance of the Research**
 - Significance, Innovation
 - Scored 1 - 9
- **Factor 2 : Rigor and Feasibility**
 - Approach (also includes Inclusion and Clinical Trial (CT) Study Timeline)
 - Scored 1 - 9
- **Factor 3 : Expertise and Resources**
 - Investigators, Environment
 - Evaluated as appropriate or gaps identified; gaps require explanation
 - Considered in overall impact; no individual score

COMMUNITY BASED REVIEW

Review Criteria	Considerations	Weight
Strength of Community Engagement	Evaluate the strength and appropriateness of the community partnership and/ or community engagement approach. Do community partners share in the design, and conduct of the project? The project oversight? The funding? Will both partners benefit from the work, and from future research, treatments or interventions based on the work? Does the community partner represent, in a meaningful way, the population under study?	33%
Potential Impact on Community	Evaluate the potential for the research to have a significant positive impact on the individuals who are the participants in the community that is the focus of the proposed research. Consider the potential immediate, short-term and long-term impact of the work.	33%
Impact on Human Health	How important is funding this research to improving human health, either in the near future, or distant future?	33%

KEY DATES

- Pre-application Webinar: Today
- Deadline for Applications: **November 1st at 5:00pm PST**
- Preliminary notice of award & scheduling of consultation meetings: Late Dec 2026/Early Jan 2027
- Final funding contingent on successful completion of IRB
- Final Approval and Notice of Award: February 2027
- Funding Period: March 1, 2027 to February 29, 2028 (with funding beyond Aug 31, 2027 contingent on ongoing HRSA funding)



ARC-BH Pilot award APPLICATION STEPS



#1: Application

- ▶ Typed applications can be emailed to arc-bh@health.ucdavis.edu

#2: 5-Page Research Application

- ▶ Provide a maximum **5-page application** describing the project that includes the following sections (in a combined PDF):
 - ▶ Background and Importance (~1 page)
 - ▶ Your Plan (Approach and Strategy) (~2 pages)
 - ▶ What you expect to find (~ 1 page)
 - ▶ Sharing what you learn (~ 1/2 page)
 - ▶ Resources and Team (~ 1/2 page)
 - ▶ References (not included in 5-page limit)

#3: Incorporate ARC-BH Resources

- InPractice Portal
- InPractice Repository
- Measurement tools

#4: BIOSKETCH or Resume

- Provide Biosketch or Resume for each key personnel
- Can use any format – approx. 2-4 pages
- Biosketches need to be compiled into a single combined PDF for upload.

OMB No. 0925-0001/0002 (Rev. 08/12 Approved Through)

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH
Provide the following information for the Senior/key personnel and other significant contributors.
Follow this format for each person. DO NOT EXCEED FIVE PAGES.

NAME: Vucovich, Lee A
eRA COMMONS USER NAME (agency login): LVUCOV
POSITION TITLE: Assistant Director for Reference Services, Associate Professor
EDUCATION/TRAINING (Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing. Include postdoctoral training and residency training if applicable.)

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE (if applicable)	Completion Date MM/YYYY	FIELD OF STUDY
University of Michigan Indiana University	MOTHS MLS	1971 2003	Chemistry

A. PERSONAL STATEMENT
I would describe the experiences and qualifications that make me well suited for the role in this grant.

1. Smith KH, MacCall S, Vucovich L. MedlinePlus ;Go Local, and Consumer Health Collection Development. Journal of Consumer Health on the Internet. 2007; 11(2):453.
2. Vucovich LA, Baker JB, Smith JT. Analyzing the impact of an author's publications. J Inform Assoc. 2008 Jan;96(1):63-6. PubMed PMID: [18219384](#); PubMed Central PMCID: [PMC271117](#)
3. Vucovich LA, Powell TE, Wilhelm CL. Librarians in the Outpatient Clinic, a Five-Year Retrospective. Journal of Consumer Health on the Internet. 2013 April; 17(2):117-138.
4. Vucovich LA. Health Sciences Librarianship. Wood S, editor. Lanham: Rowen and Littlefield. 2014. Chapter 9, Research Services and Database Searching

B. POSITIONS AND HONORS
Positions and Employment
2005 - 2013 Assistant Director for Reference Services, Assistant Professor, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, AL
2014 - Assistant Director for Reference Services, Associate Professor, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, AL
Other Experience and Professional Memberships
2001 - Member, American Library Association
2003 - Member, Medical Library Association
Honors
C. Contribution to Science
1. Contribution. 1/2 page detailing the historical background that frames the scientific problem, the central finding(s); the influence of the finding(s) on the progress of science or the application of those finding(s) to health or technology; and your specific role in the design and work.
a. Vucovich L, Lorbeer L. InfoRetriever with infoPOEMs. The Charleston Advisor. 2007 October; 9(2):35-37.

#5: BUDGET

- ▶ Budget — Provide a detailed budget
- ▶ The funding period is 12 months in two funding periods.
 - ▶ March 1, 2027 – August 31, 2027
 - ▶ September 1, 2027 – February 29, 2028
- ▶ Requests for carry forward for up to 6 months will be considered. Any unspent funds will be returned to UC Davis. Investigators must have IRB approval in place before the beginning of the funding cycle.
- ▶ For any site receiving funding please provide a letter from that agency, on their letterhead, that describes: (a) support for the proposed project, (b) role in the project, (c) the name, address, contact information (e-mail and telephone) of the representative who has primary responsibility for that portion of the project.

#6: IRB

- ▶ **Submit an IRB application** – We recommend that you submit an IRB application at the same time the pilot application is submitted.
- ▶ Final funding is contingent on successful IRB approval.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



HOW MUCH FUNDING IS AVAILABLE?

A total of \$20,000 is available for this funding period and the number of awards will depend on the number of appropriately competitive applications.

WHAT IF MY PROJECT IS IN A FORMATIVE PHASE RATHER THAN AN IMPLEMENTATION PHASE?

We will review project proposals at any stage of the research process. Projects in formative and developmental phases are appropriate. We also understand that pilot proposals need to have appropriate scope and feasible aims for the 1-year duration.

CAN I ASK FOR A MEETING OR CONSULTATION ABOUT MY PROPOSAL?

Yes! You may request a 30-minute pre-submission consultation. ACR-BH investigators can meet with you to refine your methods and ensure your proposal is clear and comprehensive. You may request consultation by visiting the following: **<https://bit.ly/3scyN0F>**



CAN ARC-BH MEMBERS SERVE AS CO-INVESTIGATORS?

Yes! You are welcome to invite ARC-BH Center members (Directors, Investigators) to be Co-Is (contributed time) on your proposal. This may be particularly relevant for those proposing secondary data analysis based on existing Center member research.

WHEN IS THE DEADLINE TO SUBMIT?

The deadline for 2026 applications is
November 1st at 5pm PT.