

2009 Grant Program

UPJOHN INSTITUTE RESTRUCTURES ITS GRANT PROGRAM

NEW FOR 2009

A central purpose of the Institute is to produce and disseminate empirical research that analyzes policies affecting the demand or supply sides of the labor market. To that end, the Upjohn Institute invites the general research community to apply for Policy Research Grants and nontenured faculty to apply for Mini-Grants.

Policy Research Grants

The Upjohn Institute invites submission of proposals to conduct original, policy-relevant research on labor market and regional economic development issues. In past years, we have required grantees to develop book-length manuscripts. For this year, we have restructured the program to focus on article-length research papers, accompanied by a Policy Brief.

The Institute expects its grantees to produce two distinct products: 1) a Research Paper and 2) a Policy Brief. The Research Paper is expected to be suitable for publication in a peer-reviewed journal, and acceptable papers will be published in the Upjohn Institute Working Paper series. The Policy Brief expands upon the policy implications of the analysis presented in the Research Paper, and its 12-page format is intended to be accessible to practitioners and policymakers. Acceptable Policy Briefs will be posted on the Upjohn Institute Web site and may be distributed in paper copy by the Institute's Publications Unit. The research findings and policy recommendations may also be summarized in *Employment Research*, the Institute's quarterly newsletter.

The maximum funding amount is \$15,000.

Mini-Grants

The purpose of the Mini-Grant Program, which is reserved for untenured junior faculty within six years of earning their PhD degree, is to provide flexibility to meet special funding needs that, without support, would prevent researchers from pursuing the project.

Funds could be used as summer compensation or to acquire special data sets, meet unusual computer processing or programming needs, or cover travel to collect primary data. Special consideration will be given to those who use data from the Institute's Employment Research Data Center.

We recognize that research universities provide many of these services, but we also understand that empirical research, particularly that oriented toward policy, may have unusual expenses that prevent the pursuit of topics that are particularly relevant to policymakers or practitioners.

The Mini-Grant recipients are expected to submit their research papers to a reputable journal, to prepare a synopsis of the research for consideration as an article in the Institute's newsletter, *Employment Research*, and to enter the research paper in the Institute's working paper series.

The maximum funding for a Mini-Grant is \$5,000.

Application Procedure

Applicants for a Research Policy Grant should submit eight copies of a proposal of up to five double-spaced pages. The proposal should outline their proposed research and its policy relevance and include a budget.

Applicants for a Mini-Grant should submit eight copies of a proposal of up to three double-spaced pages; it should outline their proposed research and its policy relevance and include a budget.

All applicants must submit eight copies of a vita that describes their professional qualifications.

Evaluation Criteria

Proposals for Policy Research Grants will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- 1) Extent to which the research is likely to influence employment policy discourse
- 2) Extent to which the proposed analysis will contribute to a better understanding of the policy issues
- 3) Appropriateness of the methodology for doing the analysis
- 4) Professional qualifications
- 5) Cost effectiveness.

Proposals for Mini-Grants will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- 1) Contribution to important labor market policy issues and to the professional literature
- 2) Technical merit
- 3) Professional qualifications.

General Instructions

The Institute does not pay indirect costs but will entertain any legitimate research expense as part of the budget. Acceptable items include costs for professional, technical, and support personnel; data acquisition; materials and supplies; computer services; and travel. The Institute does not fund dissertation research (although it does have a Dissertation Award program).

We expect the research to be completed within a year.

Mini-Grant payments will be made to the individual upon award. Policy Research Grant awards are performance-based contracts and will be paid quarterly to the individual's affiliated institution upon invoice, conditional on timely progress toward completing the Research Paper and Policy Brief.

Applications for all grants shall become the property of the Upjohn Institute. It is Institute policy to maintain an unrestricted publication right for the Policy Brief and to enter the research paper into its working paper series. Unaccepted proposals and rejected Research Papers and Policy Briefs will be returned upon request, without restrictions on further use by others. It is also Institute policy to encourage publication of the sponsored research in scholarly journals following submission of the Research Paper to the Institute. Submission of any material waives all rights to make any claim because of any use thereof by the W.E. Upjohn Unemployment Trustee Corporation, its agents and employees.

Submission Deadline and Notification Date

February 27, 2009—Deadline to apply

May 8, 2009—Announcement of awards

Fax and e-mail submissions will not be accepted.

Applications are to be addressed to:

Institute Grant Committee
W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research
300 South Westnedge Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI 49007-4686.

Inquiries may also be sent to: webmaster@upjohninstitute.org.

<http://www.upjohninstitute.org>