



Hartford Award for Research and Practice Call for School of Nursing Faculty Applications

Applications due: April 21, 2025, by 5:00 p.m. PDT
Anticipated date for notification of award: June 13, 2025
Funding begins: Upon the IRB approval, but no sooner than September 1, 2025

The purpose of the Hartford Award for Research and Practice (HARP) program is to provide support for School of Nursing (SON) faculty research and practice change projects aimed at improving the health and health care of older adults in Oregon and beyond. The research funding is to support pilot studies to assess feasibility, collect preliminary data to support an external grant application, or a process improvement initiative. The HARP program core values include innovation, accountability for outcomes, and sustainable programs of research or practice improvements. Investigators are encouraged to consider the strategic directions established by the National Institute on Aging (NIA), in the [“National Institute on Aging: Strategic Directions for Research, 2020-2025”](#) document.

Applications are invited for one-year projects of up to \$25,000.

Faculty Eligibility Criteria

The HARP Program is available to all OHSU School of Nursing faculty who have completed a clinical or research doctorate. Preference is first given to faculty who have completed their terminal degrees within the past 10 years, then to faculty who have completed their terminal degree more than 10 years ago and are developing an interest in nursing care of older adults. *Senior faculty members are strongly encouraged to mentor junior faculty on collaborative projects.* Previous PIs of HARP grants are eligible to apply, but priority will be given to new applicants and proposals that investigate GOAL F in the NIA’s Strategic Directions for Research: 2020-2025, [“health disparities related to aging and strategies to improve the health status of older adults in diverse populations”](#).

The Hartford Center of Gerontological Excellence (HCGE) welcomes applications from all qualified individuals. We do not discriminate based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic make-up, gender identity, or sexual orientation.

Significant changes to personnel or their effort commitments require prior approval. Funding is not transferrable to another institution. In a case where the HARP awardee leaves OHSU, in consultation with the HCGE Director, another SON faculty on the study or project team will be appointed as PI.

Proposal Process and Timeline

Applicants are required to work with the SON Office of Research Development and Support (SNORDS) staff in development of a budget. SNORDS staff are responsible for assuring HARP proposals meet the OHSU Office of Proposal and Award Management (OPAM) requirements. To start the budget process, email SNORDS@ohsu.edu to set up a meeting with SNORD staff one month in advance of the Hartford

Center deadline. Develop a draft of your budget and budget justifications before meeting with SNORDS staff. (See Proposal Guidelines 3. below for details). Applications are considered incomplete until SNORDS staff review planned expenses.

Each grant proposal will be evaluated by external reviewers with substantive expertise in the topic addressed. **Please list two possible proposal reviewers, outside of OHSU, familiar with your topic area.** A summary of reviewer comments will be provided to the applicant. The final decisions are based on the scientific merit and relevance to the HARP's purpose and core values.

The deadline for submission is April 21, 2025, by 5:00 p.m. PDT. Please send one combined PDF to Beverly Bruechert, HCGE Program Administrator, at bruecher@ohsu.edu, with a copy to SNORDS@ohsu.edu. Funding begins upon the IRB approval, but no sooner than September 1, 2025.

Proposal Guidelines

The proposal includes the following five elements:

1. Proposal Title Page:
 - a. Study title
 - b. Principal Investigator name, credentials, and contact information
 - c. Co-investigator name(s) and credentials, and/or list of key personnel
 - d. Abstract
2. Proposal should include the following sections (limited to 5 pages; must be single-spaced in Arial, 11-point font; with 1" margins on all sides):
 - a. *Narrative*: Specific Aims, Background/Significance, Preliminary Studies or Activities, Project Design and Methods, Human Subjects (if applicable)
 - b. *Timeline*: Discuss project feasibility and include a plan for conducting the project within the one-year timeframe
 - c. *Plan for future extramural funding or sustainability*: Potential future funding agency and planned submission date with tentative aims for future proposal(s), or the need for additional pilot work as a necessary step toward extramural funding, or the development of a sustainability plan.
 - d. *Additional deliverables that support merit*: Peer-reviewed journal articles and briefing papers; blogs, video primers, or vlogs (video blogs); establishment of community partnerships that could lead to new projects; programs that could support the recruitment of students interested in gerontological research/scholarship; and/or research agendas that outline research/scholarship/practice needs and opportunities.
3. Budget and justification for proposed expenses: The budget is not included in the page limit. The budget should be approximately one page and include line items with costs, followed by a narrative budget justification.

Please note: HARP funds are restricted and do not fund PI or Co-I salaries, i.e., FTE. Also not supported are tuition or fees for GRAs, indirect costs, or travel for general development.

Allowable expenses include:

 - Personnel costs for research staff, including student RAs
 - Services, supplies, and small equipment
 - Publication and printing costs
 - Project implementation costs

Travel expenses necessary for conducting the research or project
Travel expenses for the purpose of disseminating HARP results (up to \$2000)
Consultant fees and travel
Participant incentives
Food and refreshments when appropriate for meetings that include study participants, e.g., focus groups (Food expenses should meet OHSU policy)

4. References cited: References are not included in the page limit. List all references cited in the proposal narrative and, if appropriate, additional resources used to develop the proposal and plan the study. References must be in APA format.
5. Appendices: The appendices are not included in the page limit.
 - a. Contact information and rationale for two (2) external reviewers (outside OHSU) for the proposal
 - b. A current non-fellowship [NIH biographical sketch](#) for each key member of the study or project team
 - c. Instruments and data collection tools (include permission to use instrument or tools, if appropriate)
 - d. Educational or other materials critical to the success of the study or project
 - e. Description of partnerships: When appropriate, include a brief description of partnerships required to complete the research or project. These include any partnership arrangements with a novice researcher, as well as partnership arrangements with transdisciplinary or multi-site studies.
 - f. Letter(s) of support indicating access to settings and participants, and letters from consultants or others important to the success of the study or project

Proposal Evaluation Criteria:

1. *Innovative*: The proposal represents an original idea, or the proposed research or project addresses an important and significant need in a novel way.
2. *Relevant*: The proposal has the potential to improve the health or health care for older adults.
3. *Synergistic*: The proposal leverages existing resources at OHSU through collaborative work across OHSU's schools and programs and other aging initiatives.
4. *Merit*: The aims are likely to achieve the expected outcomes of this funding mechanism (see following section). The approach is supported with sound rationale. The methods of the study are rigorous, well described, and have strong scientific merit.
5. *Feasible*: The proposal is appropriately scoped in budget and aims to be completed within one year.

Expected Outcomes

Grantee agrees to:

1. Develop specific plans on how the proposed deliverables for this grant will be attained. Deliverables will be evaluated based on the impact on furthering gerontological research via external funding, increasing SON capacity to conduct future gerontological research, and its impact on practice (ex. practice change, leadership development) and systems (ex. process improvement, leadership commitment, infrastructure, institutionalization).
2. Provide a brief interim report to the HCGE project administrator by January 30, 2026. In 500 words or less, please update us on where you are in your research or project, including barriers (if any) to timely completion. Include a brief budget report (not included in word count).

3. Complete the HARP study or project within one year and submit a final report within 60 days of the grant's end date. The **final report** is not to exceed two pages and should include an abstract of findings/outcomes, plans for future funding or sustainability, confirmation of dissemination of findings in a publication and of presentation(s), and a final budget report
4. Present the results of the HARP study or project to the OHSU community or relevant conference within six months of the completion date.

Note: Acknowledge the HARP and HCGE as supporters of the funded research project during local and national presentations and lectures, and in publications. Please use the following wording: *This study was supported by the Frances Price Estate Fund through the OHSU Foundation and Hartford Award for Research and Practice (HARP). This fund is administered by the Hartford Center of Gerontological Excellence at OHSU.*

Program Management

The HCGE oversees the HARP program. Post award financial management will be administered by SNORDS.

No-cost extensions for this one-year grant will be considered non-competitively but must be requested within 90 days of the end-date of the awarded grant, not before, and approved by the HCGE.

All communication regarding the HARP program should be directed to Beverly Bruechert, HCGE Program Administrator, at bruecher@ohsu.edu.

About the Hartford Center of Gerontological Excellence at OHSU

The HCGE was funded by the John A. Hartford Foundation (JAHF) from 2001-2015. During that time, the HCGE distinguished itself in gerontological research, family caregiving, and enhancing undergraduate and graduate education in gerontological nursing.

Post JAHF funding, we have made it our mission to enhance and sustain the capacity of health professionals to provide quality care to older adults through interprofessional research, education, adoption of best practices, and faculty and leadership development. A new initiative of the Center seeks to promote *Healthy Aging for All*.

The HCGE is honored to provide consistent stewardship of the HARP program made possible through an endowment of the Frances Price Estate Fund.