

The [Dalio Center for Health Justice](#) is launching the third application cycle of its Health Justice Research Grant, an annual faculty pilot-funding program designed to support research projects aligned with the Dalio Center's mission and vision.

This year, the Dalio Center has partnered with the [EQUIP Center for Learning Health System \(LHS\) Science](#) for a **LHS and Health Justice Research and Training Award**, which will support faculty in conducting systemwide research projects focused on the intersection of health equity and quality in healthcare. This unique opportunity provides the resources needed to successfully complete a pilot research project as well as mentorship and education opportunities that will build foundational research skills.

LHS and Health Justice Research and Training Award

Letter of Intent Deadline:	Friday, March 15, 2024, at 5PM Eastern
Application Deadline:	Monday, July 1, 2024, at 3PM Eastern (by invitation only)
Award Announcement:	July 2024
Maximum Award Amount:	\$200,000 per award
Award Length:	Two years

Application and Review Process

Interested applicants must submit a Letter of Intent (LOI) to the Dalio Center to be considered for the LHS and Health Justice Research and Training Award. The LOI is a short document outlining the proposed research, including the specific aims of the research and the research's role in eliminating health inequities. **See [Appendix A for the LOI instructions](#).**

The Dalio Center and EQUIP Center will review all LOIs and invite a subset of applicants to submit a full, long-form application for consideration. The Review Committee, composed of representatives of the Dalio Center and EQUIP Leadership, as well as faculty from both Weill Cornell Medicine and Columbia University, will review all long-form applications and select the final awardees. **See [Appendix B for the long-form application instructions](#).**

Project Eligibility Criteria

All project proposals should:

- Clearly and directly address the intersection of health equity and/or health disparities with patient safety and quality research. *Learn more about the intersection of health equity and quality [here](#)*
- Help inform a clear path toward sustained reduction in disparities in health outcomes (which could include system-level interventions across the health enterprise, rapid-cycle randomized trials, clinical decision support tools, community based participatory research, and more)
- Closely align with the mission and vision of the [Dalio Center for Health Justice](#) and [EQUIP Center for LHS Science](#)

Principal Investigator (“PI”) Criteria

- Appointed full-time faculty member of Weill Cornell Medicine or Columbia University at the time of application
- MD, PhD, equivalent clinical professional degree, and/or clinical licensure
- During each application cycle, only one submission is permitted per principal investigator (PI). Principal investigators may be listed as co-investigators or consultants on other applications.
- Only one individual may be designated as principal investigator (i.e., no co-principal investigators).

Preference will be given to applications that are enterprise-wide, with co-investigators from both Columbia University and Weill Cornell Medicine.

We encourage faculty who would benefit most from the additional program resources (e.g., [New or Early-Stage Investigator \(NI/ESI\)](#)) and those who have not yet received a substantial funding award (R01 or equivalent)) to apply.

We strongly encourage applications from [underrepresented groups](#).

Timeline

Key dates for the **2024 LHS and Health Justice Research and Training Award** include:

- **Feb 2024** Funding opportunity announced, application submission period opens
- **Mar 15, 2024** LOI due
- **Apr 1, 2024** Finalists notified by Dalio Center and invited to submit a long-form application
- **July 1, 2024** Long-form Application Due
- **Aug 2024** Award notifications sent
- **Aug-Sep 2024** Awardees submit IRB approvals to the Dalio Center; contracting to begin once IRB approval is received.
- **Oct 1, 2024** Execute agreements; 24-month Award period begins; 50% of award funded
- **Oct 1, 2025** Mid-project progress report due; Award check provided 50% of award funded
- **Aug 31, 2026** Final report due

Additional Resources for Applicants and Awardees

Substantial research support services and educational offerings are available for **LHS and Health Justice Research and Training Awardees and applicants**. This investment in our research workforce will help to advance our capabilities in conducting innovative research and increase awareness of research processes in a Learning Health System.

There will be a **virtual info session** on **February 14, 2024 1:00PM**. The session will cover the definition of Health Justice Research, LHS, resources available to support your submission, and more! Please visit the [EQUIP Center site](#) for more information and to find the recording following the session.

Applicants will be able to access:

- Consultations from content-experts

- A curated online education library on research methodologies, LHS and Health Justice Research competencies, career development skills, and more
- Research design support including statistical and data analysis plans

Awardees will also have:

- Access to implementation specialists in EMR programming and data analytics
- Ongoing mentorship support
- Support for information and graphic design and data visualization
- Conference and journal identification, templates, and other dissemination support
- Required training in LHS and Health Justice core competencies. Click [here](#) for more information.

Funding and Financial Management

The Dalio Center and EQUIP Center will administer the contracts and financial arrangements with each awarded PI.

The maximum award will be \$200,000 per award and will cover two years. The award funds will be disbursed in two payments: 50% on grant contract execution and 50% at the start of year two, following the mid-project progress report.

Funding requests for all items must be directly related to the project and be clearly outlined in the budget justification.

In-kind support: In addition to the award, the program will provide in-kind statistics and data analysis support, training benefits, graphic design support and navigation of other research resources, to be detailed with the long-form application. Awardees do not need to budget for this in-kind support.

Allowable Costs: *Faculty Salary* - While not required, we expect the budget and budget justification to reflect investigator commitment with salary support. The PI and Co-Investigators are expected to dedicate significant effort to the project and using award funds for faculty salary is encouraged.

Grant funding can be used for personnel support, meetings, conferences, travel, research-specific software licenses (e.g., GIS/SAS/SPSS) or costs associated with generating/purchasing data sets. Funding for Lab supplies are allowed only if they are directly related to the project. Funding for computing devices (desktops& laptops, iPads, notebooks, hard drives, etc.) as direct costs is allowable if essential to the conduct of the project.

Not Allowable Costs: Telecommunications devices; membership fees or dues to organizations; foreign travel to conduct research (Note: Foreign travel to present research IS allowable); general lab supplies that are NOT ATTRIBUTABLE to the project; office supplies; administrative and/or clerical salaries; personnel NOT working on the project; equipment; general software (e.g., Microsoft Office or One Note.)

We anticipate announcing 4 awards totaling \$800,000 in July, divided equally between Columbia faculty and Weill Cornell faculty. If the full \$800,000 is not awarded (e.g., due to lack of appropriate applications), the Dalio Center and EQUIP Center may solicit additional research applications by invitation.

Awardees Progress Reporting and Dissemination Expectations

All awardees must file a mid-project progress report and a final progress report. Awardees are also expected to present their findings at the Dalio Center's research symposium and at national conferences, as applicable.

Additionally, as the EQUIP Center is funded by a federal grant, we ask that you cite the grant in any relevant publications, abstracts, chapters, and/or posters as follows: "This publication was supported in part by the Agency For Healthcare Research And Quality (AHRQ) through Grant Number P30HS029763 and the Dalio Center for Health Justice at NewYork-Presbyterian."

Institutional Approvals

All projects involving human subjects research that are chosen for potential Dalio Center and EQUIP Center pilot funding are conditionally selected until appropriate approvals are received. Long-form application research teams are expected to submit their protocol for IRB review at the time of their application. In order to execute the final contracts, all documentation must be submitted to the Dalio Center immediately after IRB approval is received and within seventy-five days of notification of potential funding. Dispersal of funds cannot occur until all required approvals are obtained.

Dalio Center for Health Justice Overview

[The Dalio Center for Health Justice](#) at NewYork-Presbyterian aims to understand and address the root causes of health inequities with the goal of setting a new standard of health justice for our patients, our team members, and the communities we serve. Through the Dalio Center, we invest in research and education, advocate for policy change, and drive measurable improvements in health outcomes for all. Because 80% of health is driven by behavioral, social, and environmental factors, the Dalio Center's work will not be limited to addressing health care access and quality. We support research and community initiatives that aim to champion economic empowerment, social engagement, workforce development, neighborhood revitalization, and education.

EQUIP Center for Learning Health System Science Overview

The [EQUIP Center for LHS Science](#) focuses on addressing equity and quality in healthcare by providing research support and training for embedded clinical investigators in the health system. LHS Scientists leverage health system data and collaborate with stakeholders to generate evidence that can be rapidly implemented to improve patient, population, and health system outcomes. The Center's name reflects its key domains: **E**quity and Health Disparities; **Q**uality and Safety; **I**mplementation Science and **I**formatics; **P**atient-Centered Outcomes Research and **C**omparative Effectiveness Research. The EQUIP Center is a collaboration of Columbia University, Weill Cornell Medicine, and Albert Einstein College of Medicine, and their affiliated healthcare delivery systems, NewYork-Presbyterian and Montefiore Health System. Led by Columbia, the EQUIP Center brings together the complementary and multidisciplinary strengths of each institution to provide education, mentorship, rigorous research training, operations experience, and resources to support LHS Scientists' research projects. The Center supports a diverse array of applicants

with education and guidance in developing a robust project proposal and provides additional services for awardees with tailored mentoring, consulting support, and technical and analytic resources needed to conduct LHS projects. Awardees are also provided support to disseminate their research findings with a wide range of stakeholders including community groups.

Program Contact Information

Administrative Questions

Please e-mail: NYPHealthJustice@nyp.org

Scientific Questions

Please e-mail: Elizabeth Aikman, MBA, MSPOD, RN,
ela9108@nyp.org

Appendix A. Letter of Intent (LOI) instructions

Interested applicants must submit a Letter of Intent (LOI) to be considered for the grant.

Key elements include:

Study Overview (Abstract)	<p><i>500 words or less</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identify the research aims: Provide a clear description of the problem the research addresses and the specific aims of the research. Identify the study design, hypothesis, and short- and long-term outcomes of the research. ▪ Discuss the significance: State how the research extends the boundaries of current knowledge. ▪ Summarize the research plan: Provide an outline of the research plan, including the methods, intervention, data collection, and data analysis plan. ▪ Timeline: Provide an estimated timeline for the project which shows how the project will be completed within the 24-month period.
Impact on Health Equity and Disparities	<p><i>250 words or less</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Describe how the proposed research informs a path toward elimination or sustained reduction in disparities and improvement in quality
Investigators	<p><i>1,000 words or less</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Include a list of all investigators ▪ Provide name, degrees, email address, and phone number, as well as institution name, department & division, and title/appointment ▪ Include roles (e.g. Principal Investigator, Co-investigator, Collaborator) ▪ NIH-style bio sketch, see the NIH webpage for instructions and a template
Form	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Word Document, ½” margins, 11pt font ▪ The top of each page should include the Principal Investigator’s name and title of the proposed study ▪ Strict adherence to the word limits outlined above ▪ Emailed to NYPHealthJustice@nyp.org

Appendix B. Long-form Application Instructions

Invited Applicants will submit Long-form Applications that should be organized as follows:

Specific Aims (not to exceed one page).

State the specific aims and goals of the research study and summarize the expected outcome(s), including the proposed impact the results will have on the field(s) involved such as health disparities and quality of care. List succinctly the specific objectives of the proposed research (e.g., to test a stated hypothesis; create a novel design; solve a specific problem; challenge an existing paradigm or clinical practice; address a critical barrier to progress in the field; or develop new technology).

Research Strategy (not to exceed four pages—references are separate and do not have a limit).

Organize the Research Strategy in the order specified below. Start each section with the appropriate section headings: Significance, Innovation, Approach.

Significance. Explain the importance of the problem or critical barrier to progress in the field that the proposed project addresses. This section may include relevant background. Explain how the proposed project will improve scientific knowledge, technical capability, and/or clinical practice in one or more broad fields. Describe how the proposed project informs a path toward elimination or sustained reduction in disparities and improvement in quality. Describe how the concepts, methods, technologies, treatments, services, or preventative interventions that drive this field will be changed if the proposed aims are achieved.

Innovation. Explain how the application challenges and seeks to shift current research or clinical practice paradigms. Describe any novel theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation or intervention(s) to be developed or used, and any advantage over existing methodologies, instrumentation, or intervention(s). Explain any refinements, improvements, or new applications of theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation or interventions.

Approach. Describe the overall strategy, methodology, and analyses to be used to accomplish the specific aims of the project (unless already addressed elsewhere in this application). Include how the data will be collected, analyzed, and interpreted, as well as any resource sharing plans as appropriate. Discuss any preliminary studies, data, and/or experience pertinent to this application. Discuss potential problems, alternative strategies, and benchmarks for success anticipated to achieve the aims. If the project is in the early stages of development, describe any strategy to establish feasibility, and address the management of any high-risk aspects of the proposed work.

Timeline (not to exceed one page).

- Provide an estimated timeline for the project.
- Provide a list of tasks/accomplishments which will be met in the *first half* of the project, which will be reported on in the mid-project progress report.
- Provide a list of tasks/accomplishments which will be met in the *second half* of the project, and which will be reported on in the final progress report.

References (does not count towards the six-page limit).

- Include your cited references.

(Instructions continue on the next page.)

Budget and Budget Justification (*Standard PHS 398 Form, does not count toward the six page limit*).

- Provide the requested grant amount, along with an explanation of what the funds will cover, using the standard PHS 398 form: <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/fp4.pdf>. Refer to the funding section above for allowable and non-allowable expenses.

Form:

- Word Document, ½” margins, 11pt font
- The top of each page should include the Principal Investigator’s name and title of the proposed study
- Strict adherence to the page limits outlined above
- Emailed to NYPHealthJustice@nyp.org