

## Consortium Health Justice Series: Request for Proposals (RFP)

### About the Program

The UCSF-UC Law Consortium on Law, Science & Health Policy is soliciting proposals for its annual “Health Justice Series,” which provides funding to faculty, staff, students, alumni, and community members interested in hosting events, workshops, and other convenings on issues related to health justice. The purpose of this program is to:

- 1) Uplift a broad array of voices across campuses and the community in rigorous conversation about health justice issues facing our community and others
- 2) Provide funding, resources, and other logistical support to individuals or groups seeking to bring attention to a health justice issue, deepen our understanding of it, and/or advance solutions and action through events, workshops, and conferences
- 3) Support and deepen multidisciplinary and multistakeholder connections and interactions across campuses and community

### What is Health Justice?

**Health equity** is a public health concept that envisions a state in which everyone has a fair and just opportunity to attain their highest level of health. Public health research for years has demonstrated that achieving better population health outcomes requires not just access to high quality, affordable health care services, but “ongoing societal efforts to address historical and contemporary injustices; overcome economic, social, and other obstacles to health and healthcare; and eliminate preventable health disparities.” (See e.g. CDC [About Health Equity](#).) In other words, attainment of health for all is about more than access to health care services; it is about addressing the social, economic, political, built, and natural environments and resources humans need to thrive.

**Health justice** draws upon the health equity literature and specifically examines the ways in which law, policy, and social justice movements are specific levers by which health equity or inequity are advanced. (See e.g. Benfer 2015, [Wiley et al 2022](#)) Because the social drivers of health are numerous, affecting all of us across our lifespans, many areas of law and policy are implicated such as:

- Employment
- Education
- Housing
- Food and Nutrition
- Tax and Economic Policy
- Political Systems and Democracy
- Technology
- Environment
- Health Care Delivery
- Health Care Financing
- Care Economy
- Workforces with particular ability to impact health (e.g. health, social services, law, etc)

- Discrimination (on any protected basis, within or outside of the health care system)
- Immigration
- Criminal Justice
- Access to Civil Justice

### **Available Funding and Support**

Funding amounts will depend on the length and nature of the event, up to a maximum of \$20,000. Formats of these can vary and include:

- Events of any length, ranging from one hour up to two days
- Events held in person, Zoom, or both
- Public events
- Invitation-only workshops

Funding may be used to support:

- Speaker, organizer, and/or attendee honoraria and travel
- Catering
- Rental of event space, if the free available space at UC Law SF is unavailable or inadequate.
- Materials and supplies
- Marketing materials such as posters and advertising can be provided by the Consortium, however requests for funding for supplementary advertising through other channels or organizations will be considered.

### **Proposal Requirements**

Applicants must submit the following:

- Proposal Application Form
- Budget Template

Please review the RFP and the forms before completing.

We encourage applications from people who may not be familiar with writing proposals. If you would like to send your idea (a paragraph or few sentences in any format) to us ahead of completing the full proposal, we would be happy to give you initial feedback or provide a mentor to help you complete the proposal process. Our assistance in developing a proposal is not a guarantee of funding.

### **Budget Guidance**

The amount of the requested budget should be reasonably proportionate to the format, length, and scope of the event and comply with UC Law SF Fiscal policies. These policies are also noted in the Budget Template and include:

- Speaker travel may be funded at economy class-level only. Upgrades are the responsibility of the speaker and/or must be funded through other sources.
- Hotel stays have a per-night maximum of \$333 (excluding taxes and resort fees).
- Catering is subject to the following state-mandated daily ceilings:
  - Breakfast: \$34.00 per person
  - Lunch: \$58.00 per person
  - Dinner: \$101.00 per person
  - Light refreshments: \$23.00 per person
- Honorarium: Applicants are encouraged to consider whether honoraria are appropriate for a given event. There are a range of ways in which speakers and other participants may be compensated for their participation in the event. Not all participants need be compensated in the exact same way, but they should be compensated *equitably*. Considerations can include:
  - What is being asked of participants in time, preparation, speaking, and travel. For instance, a keynote speaker may be appropriately compensated at a greater rate than a panelist.
  - Accommodations to facilitate participation. For instance, a community member based in a rural area may be asked to speak on a Zoom panel but may not have reliable access to internet. Providing additional compensation or cost reimbursement to enable the speaker to travel to nearby internet access would be appropriate. As another example, a speaker with a language or disability-related need may need to bring a translator or care supporter with them and pay that person for their time or travel.
  - Institutional, professional, or cultural norms. Some speakers, such as government officials, may be legally or ethically prohibited from accepting honorarium. Some academics may be reliant on soft funding and may need or expect compensation to a greater degree than others, particularly if the topic on which they will be speaking has been historically or currently underfunded. Some speakers, such as community members, have historically been unpaid or underpaid by academic institutions for their efforts and may now appropriately expect to be compensated for their time and contributions as other experts would.
  - For help thinking about compensation of community members in particular, see this [helpful practical guide from the Center for Health Care Strategies](#).

All funds are subject to Fiscal policies of UC Law SF and **will be held and administered on behalf of awardees by Consortium staff**. In other words, we will manage the money and pay expenses for you.

For UC applicants: please note that UC Law SF is **not** part of the UC system for Fiscal purposes. We cannot transfer funds to other UC campuses in the same way and must set up contracts to do so. For this reason, we prefer to pay directly for your event expenses to the extent possible, and/or initiate contract setup early in the award process.

## **Deadlines**

A Request for Proposals (RFP) will be issued in January, with proposals due no later than midnight (Pacific time) on March 31, 2026. Proposals should be submitted to Rachel Blanchard at [blanchardrachel@uclawsf.edu](mailto:blanchardrachel@uclawsf.edu).

Proposals will be reviewed by Consortium staff and the [Consortium Advisory Board](#), with decisions issued by the end of April.

### **Decision-making and Awards**

The Consortium Advisory Board and leadership team review and make decisions on proposals in April. We use a scoring rubric to assess applications, which will be made available upon request. We may reach out to you with questions or for further discussion about your proposal. Final decisions will be announced by April 30, 2026.

### **Examples of Previously-Funded Events:**

- Everyone Belongs Here Symposium: Medicolegal Partnerships in Immigration Law for Health Justice
  - One-day symposium at UC Law SF
  - \$20,000 awarded (Consortium sole funder)
- Expanding the Circle: A Convening to Support Justice-Involved People with Substance Use Disorder amidst Uncertainty
  - One-day conference at UC Law SF
  - \$6,500 awarded (Consortium sole funder)
- Infant Feeding & HIV: An Interactive, Multi-sectoral, Practical Workshop for Implementation
  - Half-day Zoom conference
  - \$6,500 awarded (Consortium sole funder)
- Bridging the Gap: Health Justice and Exclusionary School Discipline
  - One-day conference at UC Law SF
  - \$10,000 awarded (Consortium one of multiple funding partners)
- Patients, Providers, Pills, and Personhood Post-Dobbs
  - One-day conference at UC Law SF
  - \$15,000 awarded (Consortium sole funder)
- Survival, Healing, and Performance: Formerly Incarcerated Voices on Health Justice Inside and Out
  - Two-hour performance and discussion at UC Law SF
  - \$15,900 awarded (Consortium sole funder)

### **Expectations of Awardees**

1. Hold an initial planning meeting with Consortium staff
2. Keep Consortium staff apprised of event planning progress by email at least 1x/month
  - Consortium staff and awardees may request additional planning meetings
3. No later than 4 months in advance of the event, awardees are expected to:
  - Confirm the final event title, schedule/agenda, and description with Consortium staff
  - Confirm the final speaking roster (even if not yet public)
  - Identify preferred event space and work with Consortium staff to secure it.
    - *Note that space at UC Law SF is free for Consortium events and is the default venue. Applicants wishing to hold their event at another venue should be sure to include budget for space*
  - Confirm key details of the event (title, description, speakers, etc.) with Consortium staff, who will advertise the event and assist with outreach
  - Mention the Consortium and include our logo in any advertising of the event

The Consortium will:

- Provide consultation and assistance with program design, as may be requested
- Manage event registration
- Administer funding and reimbursements for event costs
- Help identify and reserve available space at UC Law SF. If the event is not held at UC Law SF, awardees will be responsible for identifying and securing appropriate space. External space will be subject to approval by Consortium staff and must be within the originally proposed budget.
- Recommend caterers and pay catering expenses from awarded budget
- Provide marketing of the event through Consortium communications channels including email, social media, physical flyers, and the Consortium website

Sample Timeline for Event Planning:

- April: Awardee notified.
- May-June: Hold initial planning meeting with Consortium staff.
- 4-6 months before the event
  - Awardees confirm title, agenda, and brief event description
  - Awardees confirm speaker list
    - Consortium staff arrange travel for speakers (if requested)
  - Awardees and Consortium staff confirm event space
  - Consortium staff create event flyer for awardees' approval
  - Consortium staff provide options for catering (if necessary) and confirm order with awardees' approval
- 4 months before the event
  - Consortium and awardees advertise event through their channels
- 1-2 months before event
  - Consortium staff and awardees confirm day-of logistics via email or meeting; continue publicity