

# Voices for Economic Opportunity: A Grand Challenge Rules & Guidelines

Applications due no later than Wednesday, November 13, 2019, 11:30 a.m. U.S.  
Pacific Time

## I. Overview

Grand Challenges is a family of initiatives fostering innovation to solve key problems in global health and development for those most in need. Each initiative is an experiment in the use of challenges to focus innovation on making an impact. Individual challenges address some of the same problems, but from differing perspectives.

Key features of this GC initiative are:

- A two-page application.
- Blinded review process.
- **Awards of \$100,000 USD** will be made initially. Any future rounds of funding will be determined upon completion of the first round.
- **Please note: only United States-based applicants are eligible for this topic.**
- This represents a collaboration between the Bill & Melinda Gates foundation, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation and the Raikes Foundation. Representatives from each of these organizations will have access to applicant data and proposal details.

### Tips for Applicants

- ❖ Your proposal must demonstrate an innovative approach that complies with all restrictions and guidelines. The foundation only funds projects responsive to the call as it has a number of other avenues of funding within currently accepted program paradigms.
- ❖ Proposals are sent to reviewers without personal or organizational information. **Do not include this information in the body of your proposal.** Proposals that include personal or organizational information in the body of the proposal may be automatically removed from consideration.
- ❖ In addition to subject matter experts, your proposal will be reviewed by a panel with broad expertise and a track record in identifying innovations – these reviewers may not be deep domain experts in your field. You must describe your idea in clear language without the use of jargon unique to your field.
- ❖ The work proposed in your application must include a clear set of key experiments or activities that test your idea in a way that could provide sufficient evidence to warrant funding. Proposals with vague descriptions or vague testing methodologies will not be funded.

## II. Application Instructions

### *Schedule*

*Key dates and deadlines for this Grand Challenge*

Key Dates	Event
September 2019	Application period opens
Wednesday, November 13, 2019, <b>11:30 a.m. US Pacific Time</b>	Application deadline
February 2020	Proposal review completed
April 2020	Selections completed, and notifications sent
May 1, 2020	Awarded projects start date

*\*Note, any changes to these dates will be posted on the Grand Challenges website*

### *How to Apply*

Any changes to the Rules and Guidelines will be posted on the Challenge's page of the Grand Challenges website ([gcgh.grandchallenges.org](http://gcgh.grandchallenges.org)), including any changes to the dates listed above.

Subject to the foundation's [Website Terms of Use and Privacy and Information Policy](#), the foundation may share information you provide to us (either orally or in writing) with third parties, including external reviewers, key partners and co-funders.

An applicant may submit only one proposal. Submit your best idea. You may submit multiple ideas in partnership with collaborators, but an individual may lead the submission of only one proposal. View the detailed topic descriptions and determine which topic best suits your idea. You must select a topic prior to submitting a proposal. You may change your topic and edit your proposal any time before the application deadline.

If you are an existing user, you can [log in to your existing account](#). New users must create an account and submit proposals through our [online portal](#).

### *Application Format*

We encourage you to use the provided application form, which can be downloaded at: [Explorations Application Form](#). You are required to submit either a Microsoft Word® or PDF document; no more than two pages in length. Please do not include a cover sheet with your proposal. A cover sheet will be automatically generated from your registration data.

The review and evaluation of your application are not based on your past history or institutional capabilities. **Describe your project without identifying personal or organizational information and do not refer to potential project partners by names or other identifying information. Proposals that do not adhere to these restrictions may be removed from consideration.**

**Proposals must be submitted prior to the submission deadline of 11:30 a.m. Pacific Time on Wednesday, November 13, 2019.**

During the application process you will be required to confirm that you have read and understand the [Website Terms of Use and Privacy and Information Policy](#) and these Rules and Guidelines, and acknowledge that any information that you provide to us (either orally or in writing) will be subject to and handled in accordance with such provisions.

### *Eligibility Criteria*

This Grand Challenge is open to only Unites States-based organizations, including non-profit organizations, for-profit companies, international organizations, government agencies and academic institutions.

Upon registration, applicants must provide information about the tax status of their organization as different terms and conditions may apply. You should confirm your organization's tax status with the appropriate advisor or entity within

your organization such as your grants or contracts department, finance, or office of sponsored research. The foundation may request additional information regarding your tax status. For information about tax statuses, you may check with your own advisors and review information provided on the Internal Revenue Service web site at: [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

### **III. Review Process**

The review of proposals is a critical element of the Grand Challenges initiative - its goal is to filter and harness creative ideas. For each challenge call, we advertise a set of challenges carefully defined to elicit innovative responses to critical barriers in global health and development.

#### ***Handling of Proposals***

The foundation has put in place policies and procedures, exclusive to the Grand Challenges initiative, intended to restrict public dissemination of application materials. These policies and procedures include, when possible, having external reviewers sign confidentiality agreements and requiring that reviewers destroy or return to the foundation all copies of information acquired or created during the course of performing a review. In some instances, however, we are unable to put in place confidentiality agreements or to police the use of application materials.

Additionally, the foundation is required by the IRS to publish a list of its grants. The foundation also provides general descriptions of its grants on its web sites, in press releases, and in other marketing materials. Subject to this [Privacy Policy](#), the foundation may also share information you provide to us (either orally or in writing) with third parties, including external reviewers, consultants, contingent workers, key partners and co-funders. These Rules and Guidelines are subject to these [Terms of Use](#).

#### ***Review of Proposals***

Due to the large number of proposals anticipated, applicants with proposals that are not selected for this award will receive a notification of decline without specific feedback. Nonetheless, applicants are encouraged to submit ideas in future years.

The review process for this GC is executed in four steps:

1. The first step consists of screening submissions to evaluate whether proposals address the key needs described in the topic. We screen for responses that are completely unrelated or specifically excluded in the topic description. In addition, we exclude proposals considered incremental advances, responses similar to work in which the foundation is already investing, or avenues of inquiry we deem ill-suited to the GC initiative. Applicants with proposals removed from consideration during the screening process will be notified that their proposals were declined but will not typically receive specific feedback.

2. In the second step, responsive proposals are reviewed. The reviews are chaired by a foundation program lead and are conducted by reviewers both outside and within the foundation. Reviewers are selected from the world's leading innovative minds and comprise both experts in the topic area and experts in complementary areas with a track record of innovation. (Not all reviewers have deep expertise in the topic; please consider this information when drafting your proposal.) Unlike most grant initiatives, individual reviewers are empowered to make funding decisions about a portion of the portfolio, without consensus on selections. Proposals are sent to reviewers without an applicant's personal or organizational information.

The criteria considered in these reviews are:

- **Responsiveness to the challenge:** Does the proposal address the challenges described above? Please note the types of projects above that will not be funded.
  - **Innovative approach:** Does the idea address the defined problem in an uncommon way or provide a creative approach to the problem outlined? Does the proposal describe how the project varies from current approaches, or offers new premises or hypotheses to test?
  - **Likelihood of success:** Does the proposal include a clear and realistic rationale for success?
  - **Defined target audience(s):** Does the approach leverage insights about a specific target audience(s) and design content that is most likely to move them?
  - **Efficient use of channels:** Does the concept include technology and/or digital platforms currently being used at scale? Does the proposal seek to utilize existing infrastructure in communities?
  - **Collaborative design:** Does the concept include plans for engaging a set of partners? Does the idea involve individuals or organizations with different skill sets coming together?
  - **Emphasis on lived experience:** Does the concept help the broader U.S. public connect with people experiencing poverty and advance the agency of those experiencing poverty?
3. The third step is the validation and final selection by an Executive Committee at the foundation of the proposals selected by reviewers in the second step of the evaluation. The Executive Committee is chaired by a foundation program director.
  4. The fourth and final step is a due diligence review to ensure that applicants are appropriate recipients of foundation funds. Investigators will be contacted as part of the due diligence review.

### ***Management of Conflict of Interest***

To identify and avoid conflicts of interest among application reviewers, such reviewers will not be permitted to review proposals from organizations with which the reviewer has self-identified conflicts of interest.

## **IV. Key Elements of this GC topic**

Detailed sample provisions for each of the two GC Agreements, one for non-profit organizations and one for for-profit organizations, are included in the Appendix to these Rules and Guidelines. Please note that these provisions are merely sample terms. The terms in the agreements between the foundation and GC awardees are subject to change at the foundation's discretion.

The provisions have been developed specifically for this GC initiative **and are not negotiable**. You are advised to ensure that your institution can accept the provisions of the relevant Agreement at the time of proposal submission. If your proposal is selected, you will have only a few weeks after notification of the award in which to have the appropriate institutional officer sign the Agreement and return it to the foundation.

1. Projects have a term of 16 months beginning on the project start date. The amount awarded is up to
2. \$100,000 USD.
3. Project funds may not be used to reimburse expenses incurred prior to the project start date.
4. The applicant must return a fully executed agreement to the foundation no later than the date and time indicated by the Grants and Contracts Services team to receive this GC award. Funds will be disbursed upon

the foundation's receipt of a fully executed agreement.

5. No awardee is permitted to make sub-grants, but all awardees will be permitted to contract for services, up to a maximum of \$49,999 USD. Please be aware that this limit applies to funds paid by an awardee to any other organization (or an individual employed at another organization) as a subcontractor, **including payments to co-PIs working at another organization.**
6. All awardees are entitled to purchase equipment, provided that the cost of each item is less than \$5,000 USD.
7. Project funds may be used to cover the full direct costs of the project, but no awardee will be entitled to use funds to cover indirect costs. See the Sample Agreements for the definition of indirect costs.
8. Project funds may not be used to enroll human subjects in any research project subject to Institution Review Board (IRB) or Independent Ethics Committee (IEC) approval until such approval has been obtained for each site.
9. Awardees must agree to conduct and manage the project and the products, services, processes, technologies, materials, software, data other innovations, and intellectual property resulting from the project (including modifications, improvements, and further developments to "Background Technology") in a manner that ensures "Global Access." See the Global Access Section of the Sample Agreements for more information about these obligations.
10. Awardees must agree to abide by the [foundation's Open Access Policy](#) which requires all peer-reviewed published research, and underlying data sets resulting from foundation funded research to be immediately available upon publication. As noted in the Open Access Policy, the foundation is responsible for individual article processing charges and fees to the extent required to comply with the foundation's [Open Access Policy](#). These fees should not be included in project budgets. Open access management and fees will be managed via Chronos, a new service for foundation-funded research. Chronos simplifies and manages the process of publishing under the foundation's [Open Access Policy](#) terms. Primary contacts will receive a Chronos account activation email 6 weeks after the agreement start date.

The Agreement and specific provisions that apply to a project depend on the tax status of the applicant. We strongly encourage you to share the Sample Agreements with the appropriate person or group within your organization such as your grants and contracts department, legal department, finance or office of sponsored research at the time you submit your proposal to ensure that your organization can agree to the relevant provisions.

## **V. Reporting**

All GC awardees must prepare and submit a Final Report. Awardees must submit the report electronically by the date described in the Reporting section of the Agreements. The report should be a cumulative, stand-alone document that describes the work performed with the project funds during the project term. The programmatic section of the report must include any technical data gathered, models developed, and summary conclusions. The financial section of the report should include an account of the manner in which you spent the project funds.

Additionally, GC awardees will be required to participate in the online outputs and outcomes reporting system operated by Researchfish, the vendor selected by the foundation for this purpose, during the term of the award and for four years after the award term. The foundation will provide the awardees with guidance after the award regarding the timing and scope of required reporting through the Researchfish platform.

## **VI. Follow-on Funding Awards**

This competition is for an initial round of funding; any future rounds of funding will be determined upon completion of the first round.

Projects that receive follow-on funding are not subject to the same limitations as the initial awards. Grant terms follow standard grant-making practices at the foundation.

## **VII. Terms of Use, Privacy Notice and Information Security**

This document and your application are subject to the Terms of Use and Privacy & Information Security Policy which are located at <https://gcgh.grandchallenges.org/privacy-policy-and-terms-use>

## **VIII. Inquiries**

Please direct all questions about this initiative, selection criteria, or application instructions by e-mail to the following address: [GrandChallenges@gatesfoundation.org](mailto:GrandChallenges@gatesfoundation.org).

## **Appendix**

### **I. Term of Offers**

GC awards are conditioned upon the foundation's receipt of an executed agreement by the date indicated by the Grants and Contracts Services team in the email to which the Agreement is attached. Agreements received after the deadline may not be considered for funding. More information will be sent to those being considered for an award. The scheduled start date for these GC projects is May 1, 2020.

Set forth below are samples of the Agreements used in making GC awards. Please note that these provisions are merely sample terms. The terms in the agreements between the foundation and GC awardees are subject to change at the foundation's discretion.

### **II. Sample Agreement for Non-Profit Organizations (See below for Sample Agreement for For-Profit Organizations)**

**THIS AGREEMENT** is between <<>> ("**<<>>**," "**You**" or "**Grantee**") and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation ("**Foundation**") and is effective as of the date of last signature. Each party to this Agreement may be referred to individually as a "**Party**" and together as the "**Parties**." As a condition of this grant, the Parties enter into this Agreement by having their authorized representatives sign below.

#### **GRANT AMOUNT AND REPORTING & PAYMENT SCHEDULE**

##### **GRANT AMOUNT**

The Foundation will pay You the total grant amount specified in the Reporting & Payment Schedule below. The Foundation's Primary Contact must approve in writing any Budget cost category change of more than 10%.

##### **REPORTING & PAYMENT SCHEDULE**

Payments are subject to Your compliance with this Agreement, including Your achievement, and the Foundation's approval, of any applicable targets, milestones, and reporting deliverables required under this Agreement. The Foundation may, in its reasonable discretion, modify payment dates or amounts and will notify You of any such changes in writing.

##### **REPORTING**

You will submit reports according to the Reporting & Payment Schedule using the Foundation's templates or forms, which the Foundation will make available to You and which may be modified from time to time. For a progress or final report to be considered satisfactory, it must demonstrate meaningful progress against the targets or milestones for that investment period. If meaningful progress has not been made, the report should explain why not and what adjustments You are making to get back on track. Please notify the Foundation's Primary Contact if You need to add or modify any targets or milestones. The Foundation must approve any such changes in writing. You agree to submit other reports the Foundation may reasonably request.

#### **TERMS & CONDITIONS**

This Agreement is subject to the following terms and conditions.

##### **PROJECT SUPPORT**

##### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND CHARITABLE PURPOSE**

The Foundation is awarding You this grant to carry out the project described in the Proposal ("**Project**") in order to further the Charitable Purpose. The Foundation, in its discretion, may approve in writing any

request by You to make non-material changes to the Proposal.

## **MANAGEMENT OF FUNDS**

### **USE OF FUNDS**

You may not use funds provided under this Agreement ("*Grant Funds*") for any purpose other than the Project. You may not use Grant Funds to reimburse any expenses You incurred prior to the Start Date. At the Foundation's request, You will repay any portion of Grant Funds and/or Income used or committed in material breach of this Agreement, as determined by the Foundation in its discretion.

### **LIMITATIONS ON CAPITAL ASSETS**

You may use the Grant Funds to purchase capital assets such as equipment so long as the assets are used exclusively for the Project during the term of the grant and the cost of any single capital item does not exceed \$5,000.

### **INDIRECT COSTS**

Grant funds may not be used to pay any indirect costs. Indirect costs are defined as (1) overhead expenses incurred as a result of the Project, but that are not easily identifiable with the Project and (2) administrative expenses that are related to overall general operations and are shared among projects and/or functions. Examples of indirect costs include, but are not limited to, executive oversight, accounting, grants management, legal expenses, utilities, facility maintenance

### **INVESTMENT OF FUNDS**

You must invest Grant Funds in highly liquid investments with the primary objective of preservation of principal (e.g., interest-bearing bank accounts or a registered money market mutual fund) so that the Grant Funds are available for the Project. Together with any progress or final reports required under this Agreement, You must report the amount of any currency conversion gains (or losses) and the amount of any interest, or other income generated by the Grant Funds (collectively, "*Income*"). Any Income must be used for the Project.

## **GLOBAL ACCESS**

### **GLOBAL ACCESS COMMITMENT**

You will conduct and manage the Project and the Funded Developments in a manner that ensures Global Access. Your Global Access commitments will survive the term of this Agreement. "*Funded Developments*" means the products, services, processes, technologies, materials, software, data, other innovations, and intellectual property resulting from the Project (including modifications, improvements, and further developments to Background Technology). "*Background Technology*" means any and all products, services, processes, technologies, materials, software, data, or other innovations, and intellectual property created by You or a third party prior to or outside of the Project used as part of the Project. "*Global Access*" means: (a) the knowledge and information gained from the Project will be promptly and broadly disseminated; and (b) the Funded Developments will be made available and accessible at an affordable price (i) to people most in need within developing countries, or (ii) in support of the U.S. educational system and public libraries, as applicable to the Project.

### **HUMANITARIAN LICENSE**

Subject to applicable laws and for the purpose of achieving Global Access, You grant the Foundation a nonexclusive, perpetual, irrevocable, worldwide, royalty-free, fully paid up, sublicensable license to make, use, sell, offer to sell, import, distribute, copy, create derivative works, publicly perform and display: Funded Developments and Essential Background Technology. "*Essential Background Technology*" means Background Technology that is (i) owned, controlled, or developed by You, or in-licensed with the right to sublicense; and (ii) either incorporated into a Funded Development or reasonably required to exercise the license to Funded Developments. You confirm that You have retained sufficient rights in the Funded Developments and Essential Background Technology to grant this license. You must ensure this license survives the assignment or transfer of Funded Developments or Essential Background Technology. On request, you must promptly make available the Funded Developments and Essential Background



Technology to the Foundation for use solely under this license. If You demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Foundation that Global Access can best be achieved without this license, the Foundation and You will make good faith efforts to modify or terminate this license, as appropriate.

## **PUBLICATION**

Consistent with Your Global Access commitments, if the Project description specifies Publication or Publication is otherwise requested by the Foundation, You will seek prompt Publication of any Funded Developments consisting of data and results. “*Publication*” means publication in a peer-reviewed journal or other method of public dissemination specified in the Project description or otherwise approved by the Foundation in writing. Publication may be delayed for a reasonable period for the sole purpose of seeking patent protection, provided the patent application is drafted, filed, and managed in a manner that best furthers Global Access. If You seek Publication in a peer-reviewed journal, such Publication shall be under “open access” terms and conditions consistent with the Foundation’s Open Access Policy available at: [www.gatesfoundation.org/How-We-Work/General-Information/Open-Access-Policy](http://www.gatesfoundation.org/How-We-Work/General-Information/Open-Access-Policy), which may be modified from time to time. Nothing in this section shall be construed as requiring Publication in contravention of any applicable ethical, legal, or regulatory requirements. You will mark any Funded Development subject to this clause with the appropriate notice or attribution, including author, date and copyright (e.g., © 20<> <Name>).

## **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY REPORTING**

During the term of this Agreement and for 5 years after, You will submit upon request annual intellectual property reports related to the Funded Developments, Background Technology, and any related agreements using the Foundation’s templates or forms, which the Foundation may modify from time to time.

## **SUBGRANTS AND SUBCONTRACTS**

### **SUBGRANTS AND SUBCONTRACTS**

You have the exclusive right to select subcontractors to assist with the Project. The aggregate amount of Project Funds paid to subcontractors may not exceed \$49,999. You acknowledge that the Foundation has not and will not earmark the use of any Project Funds for a specific subcontractor. You may not make subgrants under this Agreement.

### **SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

You will have sole discretion over Your selection of any scholarship and fellowship recipients under this Agreement and must conduct the selection process independently of the Foundation.

### **TRAVEL STIPENDS AND CONFERENCE FEES**

You will have sole discretion over Your selection of any recipients of travel stipends or conference expense reimbursements under this Agreement and must conduct the selection process independently of the Foundation. Foundation trustees and employees are not eligible to receive travel stipends or conference expense reimbursements.

### **RESPONSIBILITY FOR OTHERS**

You are responsible for (a) all acts and omissions of any of Your trustees, directors, officers, employees, subgrantees, subcontractors, contingent workers, agents, and affiliates assisting with the Project, and (b) ensuring their compliance with the terms of this Agreement.

## **PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES**

### **ANTI-TERRORISM**

You will not use funds provided under this Agreement, directly or indirectly, in support of activities (a) prohibited by U.S. laws relating to combating terrorism; (b) with persons on the List of Specially Designated Nationals ([www.treasury.gov/sdn](http://www.treasury.gov/sdn)) or entities owned or controlled by such persons; or (c) in or with countries or territories against which the U.S. maintains comprehensive sanctions (currently, Cuba, Iran, Syria, North Korea, and the Crimea Region of Ukraine), including paying or reimbursing the expenses of persons from such countries or territories, unless such activities are fully authorized by the U.S. government under

applicable law and specifically approved by the Foundation in its sole discretion.

#### **ANTI-CORRUPTION; ANTI-BRIBERY**

You will not offer or provide money, gifts, or any other things of value directly or indirectly to anyone in order to improperly influence any act or decision relating to the Foundation or the Project, including by assisting any party to secure an improper advantage. Training and information on compliance with these requirements are available at [www.learnfoundationlaw.org](http://www.learnfoundationlaw.org).

#### **LOBBYING AND ELECTIONEERING PROHIBITION**

You may not use Grant Funds to influence the outcome of any election for public office or to carry on any voter registration drive. You acknowledge that the Foundation has not earmarked Grant Funds to support lobbying activities or to otherwise support attempts to influence legislation. Activities will be conducted consistent with the private foundation lobbying rules and exceptions under Internal Revenue Code Section 4945 and related regulations. You confirm that the Budget (or the combined project budget if there are multiple funders) accurately reflects that You will expend at least the amount of the Grant Funds on (a) non-lobbying activities in the project year, or (b) for multiple year projects, the total non-lobbying portion of the project.

#### **OTHER LOBBYING, GIFT, AND ETHICS RULES**

You agree to comply with any national, state, local, or other lobbying, gift, and ethics rules applicable to the Project. The Foundation is not retaining or employing You to engage in lobbying activities.

#### **OTHER**

#### **PUBLICITY**

A Party may publicly disclose information about the award of this grant, including the other Party's name, the total amount awarded, and a description of the Project, provided that a Party obtains prior written approval before using the other Party's name for promotional purposes or logo for any purpose. Any public disclosure by You or Your subgrantees, subcontractors, contingent workers, agents, or affiliates must be made in accordance with the Foundation's then-current brand guidelines, which are available at: [www.gatesfoundation.org/brandguidelines](http://www.gatesfoundation.org/brandguidelines).

#### **LEGAL ENTITY AND AUTHORITY**

***N/A if grantee is a government unit or international executive order organization:***

You confirm that: (a) You are an entity duly organized or formed, qualified to do business, and in good standing under the laws of the jurisdiction in which You are organized or formed; (b) You are not an individual (i.e., a natural person) or a disregarded entity (e.g., a sole proprietor or sole-owner entity) under U.S. law; (c) You have the right to enter into and fully perform this Agreement; and (d) Your performance will not violate any agreement or obligation between You and any third party. You will notify the Foundation immediately if any of this changes during the term of this Agreement.

#### **COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS**

In carrying out the Project, You will comply with all applicable laws, regulations, and rules and will not infringe, misappropriate, or violate the intellectual property, privacy, or publicity rights of any third party.

#### **COMPLIANCE WITH REQUIREMENTS**

You will conduct, control, manage, and monitor the Project in compliance with all applicable ethical, legal, regulatory, and safety requirements, including applicable international, national, local, and institutional standards ("*Requirements*"). You will obtain and maintain all necessary approvals, consents, and reviews before conducting the applicable activity. As a part of Your annual progress report to the Foundation, You must report whether the Project activities were conducted in compliance with all Requirements.

If the Project involves:

- a) any protected information (including personally identifiable, protected health, or third-party confidential), You will not disclose this information to the Foundation without obtaining the

- Foundation's prior written approval and all necessary consents to disclose such information;
- b) children or vulnerable subjects, You will obtain any necessary consents and approvals unique to these subjects; and/or
  - c) any trial involving human subjects, You will adhere to current Good Clinical Practice as defined by the International Council on Harmonisation (ICH) E-6 Standards (or local regulations if more stringent) and will obtain applicable trial insurance.

Any activities by the Foundation in reviewing documents and providing input or funding does not modify Your responsibility for determining and complying with all Requirements for the Project.

## **RELIANCE**

You acknowledge that the Foundation is relying on the information You provide in reports and during the course of any due diligence conducted prior to the Start Date and during the term of this Agreement. You represent that the Foundation may continue to rely on this information and on any additional information You provide regarding activities, progress, and Funded Developments.

## **INDEMNIFICATION**

If the Project involves clinical trials, trials involving human subjects, post-approval studies, field trials involving genetically modified organisms, experimental medicine, or the provision of medical/health services ("*Indemnified Activities*"), You will indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the Foundation and its trustees, employees, and agents ("*Indemnified Parties*") from and against any and all demands, claims, actions, suits, losses, damages (including property damage, bodily injury, and wrongful death), arbitration and legal proceedings, judgments, settlements, or costs or expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses) (collectively, "*Claims*") arising out of or relating to the acts or omissions, actual or alleged, of You or Your employees, subgrantees, subcontractors, contingent workers, agents, and affiliates with respect to the Indemnified Activities. You agree that any activities by the Foundation in connection with the Project, such as its review or proposal of suggested modifications to the Project, will not modify or waive the Foundation's rights under this paragraph. An Indemnified Party may, at its own expense, employ separate counsel to monitor and participate in the defense of any Claim. Your indemnification obligations are limited to the extent permitted or precluded under applicable federal, state or local laws, including federal or state tort claims acts, the Federal Anti-Deficiency Act, state governmental immunity acts, or state constitutions. Nothing in this Agreement will constitute an express or implied waiver of Your governmental and sovereign immunities, if any.

## **INSURANCE**

You will maintain insurance coverage sufficient to cover the activities, risks, and potential omissions of the Project in accordance with generally-accepted industry standards and as required by law. You will ensure Your subgrantees and subcontractors maintain insurance coverage consistent with this section.

## **TERM AND TERMINATION**

### **TERM**

This Agreement commences on the Start Date and continues until the End Date, unless terminated earlier as provided in this Agreement. The Foundation, in its discretion, may approve in writing any request by You for a no-cost extension, amend the End, and adjust any affected reporting requirements.

### **TERMINATION**

The Foundation may modify, suspend, or discontinue any payment of Grant Funds or terminate this Agreement if: (a) the Foundation is not reasonably satisfied with Your progress on the Project; (b) there are significant changes to Your leadership or other factors that the Foundation reasonably believes may threaten the Project's success; (c) there is a change in Your control; (d) there is a change in Your tax status; or (e) You fail to comply with this Agreement.

### **RETURN OF FUNDS**

Any Grant Funds that have not been used for, or committed to, the Project upon expiration or termination of this Agreement must be (a) returned promptly to the Foundation, (b) applied to another Foundation-

funded project (current or under consideration), or (c) applied to another mutually-agreed upon charitable purpose, as directed in writing by the Foundation. Any Income that has not been used for, or committed to, the Project must be either applied to another Foundation-funded project (current or under consideration) or applied to another mutually-agreed upon charitable purpose, as directed in writing by the Foundation.

#### **MONITORING, REVIEW, AND AUDIT**

*N/A if grantee is a government unit or international executive order organization:*

The Foundation may monitor and review Your use of the Grant Funds, performance of the Project, and compliance with this Agreement, which may include onsite visits to assess Your organization's governance, management and operations, discuss Your program and finances, and review relevant financial and other records and materials. In addition, the Foundation may conduct audits, including onsite audits, at any time during the term of this Agreement, and within four years after Grant Funds have been fully spent. Any onsite visit or audit shall be conducted at the Foundation's expense, following prior written notice, during normal business hours, and no more than once during any 12-month period.

#### **INTERNAL OR THIRD PARTY AUDIT**

*N/A if grantee is a government unit or international executive order organization:*

If during the term of this Agreement You are audited by your internal audit department or by a third party, You will provide the audit report to the Foundation upon request, including the management letter and a detailed plan for remedying any deficiencies observed ("*Remediation Plan*"). The Remediation Plan must include (a) details of actions You will take to correct any deficiencies observed, and (b) target dates for successful completion of the actions to correct the deficiencies.

#### **RECORD KEEPING**

You will maintain complete and accurate accounting records and copies of any reports submitted to the Foundation relating to the Project. You will retain such records and reports for 4 years after Grant Funds have been fully spent. At the Foundation's request, You will make such records and reports available to enable the Foundation to monitor and evaluate how Grant Funds have been used or committed.

#### **SURVIVAL**

A Party's obligations under this Agreement will be continuous and survive expiration or termination of this Agreement as expressly provided in this Agreement or otherwise required by law or intended by their nature.

#### **GENERAL**

#### **ENTIRE AGREEMENT, CONFLICTS, AND AMENDMENTS**

This Agreement contains the entire agreement of the Parties and supersedes all prior and contemporaneous agreements concerning its subject matter. If there is a conflict between this Agreement and the Proposal Narrative, Results Framework and Tracker, or Budget, this Agreement will prevail. Except as specifically permitted in this Agreement, no modification, amendment, or waiver of any provision of this Agreement will be effective unless in writing and signed by authorized representatives of both Parties.

#### **NOTICES AND APPROVALS**

Written notices, requests, and approvals under this Agreement must be delivered by mail or email to the other Party's primary contact specified on the Agreement Summary & Signature Page, or as otherwise directed by the other Party.

#### **SEVERABILITY**

Each provision of this Agreement must be interpreted in a way that is enforceable under applicable law. If any provision is held unenforceable, the rest of the Agreement will remain in effect.

#### **ASSIGNMENT**

You may not assign, or transfer by operation of law or court order, any of Your rights or obligations under this Agreement without the Foundation's prior written approval. This Agreement will bind and benefit any permitted successors and assigns.

## COUNTERPARTS AND ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES

Except as may be prohibited by applicable law or regulation, this Agreement and any amendment may be signed in counterparts, by facsimile, PDF, or other electronic means, each of which will be deemed an original and all of which when taken together will constitute one agreement. Facsimile and electronic signatures will be binding for all purposes.

### III. Sample Agreement for For-Profit Organizations

#### PROJECT AGREEMENT

#### AGREEMENT SUMMARY & SIGNATURE PAGE

**THIS AGREEMENT** is between <<>> (“<<>>”, “You”) and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (“*Foundation*”), and is effective as of the date of last signature. Each party to the Agreement may be referred to individually as a “*Party*” and together as the “*Parties*.” In consideration of the mutual promises contained in this Agreement, the Parties enter into this Agreement by having their authorized representatives sign below.

#### PROJECT AMOUNT AND REPORTING & PAYMENT SCHEDULE

##### GRANT AMOUNT

The Foundation will pay You the total grant amount specified in the Reporting & Payment Schedule below.

##### REPORTING & PAYMENT SCHEDULE

Payments are subject to Your compliance with this Agreement, including Your achievement, and the Foundation’s approval, of any applicable targets, milestones, and reporting deliverables required under this Agreement. The Foundation may, in its reasonable discretion, modify payment dates or amounts and will notify You of any such changes in writing.

##### REPORTING

You will submit reports according to the Reporting & Payment Schedule using the Foundation's templates or forms, which the Foundation will make available to You and which may be modified from time to time. You will submit Your Reports via email to the Program Coordinator according to the payment table below, at [GCE@gatesfoundation.org](mailto:GCE@gatesfoundation.org). For a progress or final report to be considered satisfactory, it must demonstrate meaningful progress against the targets or milestones for that investment period. If meaningful progress has not been made, the report should explain why not and what adjustments You are making to get back on track. The Foundation must approve any such changes in writing. You agree to submit other reports the Foundation may reasonably request.

##### ACCOUNTING FOR PERSONNEL TIME

You will track the time of all employees, contingent workers, and any other individuals whose compensation will be paid in whole or in part by Project Funds. Such individuals will keep records (e.g., timesheets) of actual time worked on the Project in increments of sixty minutes or less and a brief description of tasks performed. You will report actual time worked consistent with those records in Your progress and final budget reports. You will submit such copies of records to the Foundation upon request.

##### REPORTING & PAYMENT SCHEDULE

*Investment Period*  
*Reporting Deliverable*  
*Due By*  
*Payment Date*  
*Payment Amount (U.S.\$)*

Counter Signed Project Agreement  
October TBD  
OR  
April TBD  
Within 15 days after receipt of countersigned Agreement  
\$100,000  
Start Date to October 31, 20XX or April 30, 20XX  
Progress Report  
November 30, 20XX  
OR  
May 31, 20XX

—  
—  
Start Date to End Date  
Final Report  
December 15, 20XX  
OR  
June 15, 20XX

**Total Project Amount**  
\$100,000

#### TERMS & CONDITIONS

This Agreement, is subject to the following terms and conditions.

#### **PROJECT SUPPORT**

##### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND CHARITABLE PURPOSE**

The Foundation is awarding You this grant to carry out the project described in the Proposal ("*Project*") in order to further the Charitable Purpose. The Foundation, in its discretion, may approve in writing any request by You to make non-material changes to the Proposal.

#### **MANAGEMENT OF FUNDS**

##### **USE OF FUNDS**

You may not use funds provided under this Agreement ("*Grant Funds*") for any purpose other than the Project. You may not use Grant Funds to reimburse any expenses You incurred prior to the Start Date. At the Foundation's request, You will repay any portion of Grant Funds and/or Income used or committed in material breach of this Agreement, as determined by the Foundation in its discretion.

##### **SEGREGATION OF FUNDS**

You must maintain Project Funds in a physically separate bank account dedicated to the Project.

##### **LIMITATIONS ON CAPITAL ASSETS**

You may use the Project Funds to purchase capital assets such as equipment so long as the assets are used exclusively for the Project during the term of the Agreement and the cost of any single capital item does not exceed \$5,000.

##### **INDIRECT COSTS**

Project funds may not be used to pay any indirect costs. Indirect costs are defined as (1) overhead expenses incurred as a result of the Project, but that are not easily identifiable with the Project and (2) administrative expenses that are related to overall general operations and are shared among projects

and/or functions. Examples of indirect costs include, but are not limited to, executive oversight, accounting, agreement management, legal expenses, utilities, facility maintenance.

### **INVESTMENT OF FUNDS**

You must invest Grant Funds in highly liquid investments with the primary objective of preservation of principal (e.g., interest-bearing bank accounts or a registered money market mutual fund) so that the Grant Funds are available for the Project. Together with any progress or final reports required under this Agreement, You must report the amount of any currency conversion gains (or losses) and the amount of any interest or other income generated by the Grant Funds (collectively, "*Income*"). Any Income must be used for the Project.

### **GLOBAL ACCESS**

#### **GLOBAL ACCESS COMMITMENT**

You will conduct and manage the Project and the Funded Developments in a manner that ensures Global Access. Your Global Access commitments will survive the term of this Agreement. "*Funded Developments*" means the products, services, processes, technologies, materials, software, data, other innovations, and intellectual property resulting from the Project (including modifications, improvements, and further developments to Background Technology). "*Background Technology*" means any and all products, services, processes, technologies, materials, software, data, other innovations, and intellectual property created by You or a third party prior to or outside of the Project used as part of the Project. "*Global Access*" means: (a) the knowledge and information gained from the Project will be promptly and broadly disseminated; and (b) the Funded Developments will be made available and accessible at an affordable price (i) to people most in need within developing countries, or (ii) in support of the U.S. educational system and public libraries, as applicable to the Project.

#### **HUMANITARIAN LICENSE**

Subject to applicable laws and for the purpose of achieving Global Access, You grant the Foundation a nonexclusive, perpetual, irrevocable, worldwide, royalty-free, fully paid up, sublicensable license to make, use, sell, offer to sell, import, distribute, copy, create derivative works, publicly perform, and display Funded Developments and Essential Background Technology. "*Essential Background Technology*" means Background Technology that is: (a) owned, controlled, or developed by You, or in-licensed with the right to sublicense; and (b) either incorporated into a Funded Development or reasonably required to exercise the license to a Funded Development. You confirm that You have retained sufficient rights in the Funded Developments and Essential Background Technology to grant this license. You must ensure this license survives the assignment or transfer of Funded Developments or Essential Background Technology. On request, You must promptly make available the Funded Developments and Essential Background Technology to the Foundation for use solely under this license. If You demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Foundation that Global Access can best be achieved without this license, the Foundation and You will make good faith efforts to modify or terminate this license, as appropriate.

#### **PUBLICATION**

Consistent with Your Global Access commitments, if the Project description specifies Publication or Publication is otherwise requested by the Foundation, You will seek prompt Publication of any Funded Developments consisting of data and results. "Publication" means publication in a peer-reviewed journal or other method of public dissemination specified in the Project description or otherwise approved by the Foundation in writing. Publication may be delayed for a reasonable period for the sole purpose of seeking patent protection, provided the patent application is drafted, filed, and managed in a manner that best furthers Global Access. If You seek Publication in a peer-reviewed journal, such Publication shall be under "open access" terms and conditions consistent with the Foundation's Open Access Policy available at: [www.gatesfoundation.org/How-We-Work/General-Information/Open-Access-Policy](http://www.gatesfoundation.org/How-We-Work/General-Information/Open-Access-Policy), which may be modified from time to time. Nothing in this section shall be construed as requiring Publication in contravention of any applicable ethical, legal, or regulatory requirements. You will mark any Funded Development subject to this clause with the appropriate notice or attribution, including author, date and copyright (e.g., © 20<> <Name>).

**INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY REPORTING** During the term of this Agreement and for 5 years after, You will submit upon request annual intellectual property reports related to the Funded Developments, Background Technology, and any related agreements using the Foundation's templates or forms, which the Foundation may modify from time to time.

## **SUBGRANTS AND SUBCONTRACTS**

### **SUBGRANTS AND SUBCONTRACTS**

You have the exclusive right to select subcontractors to assist with the Project. The aggregate amount of Project Funds paid to subcontractors may not exceed \$49,999. You acknowledge that the Foundation has not and will not earmark the use of any Project Funds for a specific subcontractor. You may not make subgrants under this Agreement.

### **RESPONSIBILITY FOR OTHERS**

You are responsible for all acts and omissions of any of Your trustees, directors, officers, employees, subcontractors, contingent workers, agents, and affiliates assisting with the Project and ensuring their compliance with the terms of this Agreement.

## **PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES**

### **ANTI-TERRORISM**

You will not use funds provided under this Agreement, directly or indirectly, in support of activities (a) prohibited by U.S. laws related to combatting terrorism; (b) with persons on the List of Specially Designated Nationals ([www.treasury.gov/sdn](http://www.treasury.gov/sdn)) or entities owned or controlled by such persons; or (c) in or with countries or territories against which the U.S. maintains comprehensive sanctions (currently, Cuba, Iran, Syria, North Korea, and the Crimea Region of Ukraine), including paying or reimbursing the expenses of persons from such countries or territories, unless such activities are fully authorized by the U.S. government under applicable law and specifically approved by the Foundation in its sole discretion.

### **ANTI-CORRUPTION AND ANTI-BRIBERY**

You will not offer or provide money, gifts, or any other things of value directly or indirectly to anyone in order to improperly influence any act or decision relating to the Foundation or the Project, including by assisting any party to secure an improper advantage. Training and information on compliance with these requirements are available at [www.learnfoundationlaw.org](http://www.learnfoundationlaw.org).

### **POLITICAL ACTIVITY AND ADVOCACY**

You may not use Project Funds to influence the outcome of any election for public office or to carry on any voter registration drive. You may not use Project Funds to support lobbying activity or to otherwise support attempts to influence local, state, federal, or foreign legislation. Your strategies and activities, and any materials produced with Project Funds, must comply with applicable local, state, federal, or foreign lobbying law. You agree to comply with lobbying, gift, and ethics rules applicable to the Project.

### **OTHER LOBBYING, GIFT, AND ETHICS RULES**

You agree to comply with any national, state, local, or other lobbying, gift, and ethics rules applicable to the Project. The Foundation is not retaining or employing You to engage in lobbying activities

## **OTHER**

### **PUBLICITY**

A Party may publicly disclose information about the award of this grant, including the other Party's name, the total amount awarded, and a description of the Project, provided that a Party obtains prior written approval before using the other Party's name for promotional purposes or logo for any purpose. Any public disclosure by You or Your subgrantees, subcontractors, contingent workers, agents, or affiliates must be made in accordance with the Foundation's then-current brand guidelines, which are available at: [www.gatesfoundation.org/brandguidelines](http://www.gatesfoundation.org/brandguidelines).



## **LEGAL ENTITY AND AUTHORITY**

You confirm that: (a) You are an entity duly organized or formed, qualified to do business, and in good standing under the laws of the jurisdiction in which You are organized or formed; (b) You are not an individual (i.e., a natural person) or a disregarded entity (e.g., a sole proprietor or sole-owner entity) under U.S. law; (c) You have the right to enter into and fully perform this Agreement; and (d) Your performance will not violate any agreement or obligation between You and any third party. You will notify the Foundation immediately if any of these changes during the term of this Agreement.

## **COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS**

In carrying out the Project, You will comply with all applicable laws, regulations, and rules and will not infringe, misappropriate, or violate the intellectual property, privacy, or publicity rights of any third party.

## **COMPLIANCE WITH REQUIREMENTS**

You will conduct, control, manage, and monitor the Project in compliance with all applicable ethical, legal, regulatory, and safety requirements, including applicable international, national, local, and institutional standards ("*Requirements*"). You will obtain and maintain all necessary approvals, consents, and reviews before conducting the applicable activity. As a part of Your annual progress report to the Foundation, You must report whether the Project activities were conducted in compliance with all Requirements.

If the Project involves:

- a) any protected information (including personally identifiable, protected health, or third-party confidential), You will not disclose this information to the Foundation without obtaining the Foundation's prior written approval and all necessary consents to disclose such information;
- b) children or vulnerable subjects, You will obtain any necessary consents and approvals unique to these subjects; and/or
- c) any trial involving human subjects, You will adhere to current Good Clinical Practice as defined by the International Council on Harmonisation (ICH) E-6 Standards (or local regulations if more stringent) and will obtain applicable trial insurance.

Any activities by the Foundation in reviewing documents and providing input or funding does not modify Your responsibility for determining and complying with all Requirements for the Project.

## **RELIANCE**

You acknowledge that the Foundation is relying on the information You provide in reports and during the course of any due diligence conducted prior to the Start Date and during the term of this Agreement. You represent that the Foundation may continue to rely on this information and on any additional information You provide regarding activities, progress, and Funded Developments.

## **INDEMNIFICATION**

If the Project involves clinical trials, trials involving human subjects, post-approval studies, field trials involving genetically modified organisms, experimental medicine, or the provision of medical/health services ("*Indemnified Activities*"), You will indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the Foundation and its trustees, employees, and agents ("*Indemnified Parties*") from and against any and all demands, claims, actions, suits, losses, damages (including property damage, bodily injury, and wrongful death), arbitration and legal proceedings, judgments, settlements, or costs or expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses) (collectively, "*Claims*") arising out of or relating to the acts or omissions, actual or alleged, of You or Your employees, subgrantees, subcontractors, contingent workers, agents, and affiliates with respect to the Indemnified Activities. You agree that any activities by the Foundation in connection with the Project, such as its review or proposal of suggested modifications to the Project, will not modify or waive the Foundation's rights under this paragraph. An Indemnified Party may, at its own expense, employ separate counsel to monitor and participate in the defense of any Claim. Your indemnification obligations are limited to the extent permitted or precluded under applicable federal, state or local laws, including federal or state tort claims acts, the Federal Anti-Deficiency Act, state governmental immunity acts, or state constitutions. Nothing in this Agreement will constitute an express or implied waiver of Your governmental and sovereign immunities, if any.

## **INSURANCE**

You will maintain insurance coverage sufficient to cover the activities, risks, and potential omissions of the Project in accordance with generally-accepted industry standards and as required by law. You will ensure Your subgrantees and subcontractors maintain insurance coverage consistent with this section.

## **TERM AND TERMINATION**

### **TERM**

This Agreement commences on the Start Date and continues until the End Date, unless terminated earlier as provided in this Agreement. The Foundation, in its discretion, may approve in writing any request by You for a no-cost extension, including amending the End Date and adjusting any affected reporting requirements.

### **TERMINATION**

The Foundation may modify, suspend, or discontinue any payment of Project Funds or terminate this Agreement if: (a) the Foundation is not reasonably satisfied with Your progress on the Project; (b) there are significant changes to Your leadership or other factors that the Foundation reasonably believes may threaten the Project's success; (c) there is a change in Your control; (d) there is a change in Your tax status; or (e) You fail to comply with this Agreement.

### **RETURN OF FUNDS**

Any Project Funds, plus any Income, that have not been used for, or committed to, the Project by the End Date, must be returned promptly to the Foundation.

## **RECORD KEEPING**

You will maintain complete and accurate accounting records and copies of any reports submitted to the Foundation relating to the Project. You will retain such records and reports for 4 years after Project Funds have been fully spent. At the Foundation's request, You will make such records and reports available to enable the Foundation to monitor and evaluate how Project Funds have been used or committed.

## **SURVIVAL**

A Party's obligations under this Agreement will be continuous and survive expiration or termination of this Agreement as expressly provided in this Agreement or otherwise required by law or intended by their nature.

## **GENERAL**

### **ENTIRE AGREEMENT AND AMENDMENTS**

This Agreement contains the entire agreement of the Parties and supersedes all prior and contemporaneous agreements concerning its subject matter. If there is a conflict between this Agreement and the Proposal, this Agreement will prevail. Except as specifically permitted in this Agreement, no modification, amendment, or waiver of any provision of this Agreement will be effective unless in writing and signed by authorized representatives of both Parties.

### **NOTICES AND APPROVALS**

Written notices, requests, and approvals under this Agreement must be delivered by mail or email to the other Party's primary contact specified on the Agreement Summary & Signature Page, or as otherwise directed by the other Party.

### **SEVERABILITY**

Each provision of this Agreement must be interpreted in a way that is enforceable under applicable law. If

any provision is held unenforceable, the rest of the Agreement will remain in effect.

**ASSIGNMENT**

You may not assign, or transfer by operation of law or court order, any of Your rights or obligations under this Agreement without the Foundation's prior written approval. This Agreement will bind and benefit any permitted successors and assigns.

**COUNTERPARTS AND ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES**

Except as may be prohibited by applicable law or regulation, this Agreement and any amendment may be signed in counterparts, by facsimile, PDF, or other electronic means, each of which will be deemed an original and all of which when taken together will constitute one agreement. Facsimile and electronic signatures will be binding for all purposes.