13 May 2019

2020 Social Science Research Grant Program -- Call for Proposals

The World Anti-Doping Agency’s (WADA’s) Call for Proposals for its 2020 Social Science Research Program is now open; for which, proposals must be received, via WADAGrants, no later than 14 July 2019 (23:59 GMT).

Background

‘Increasing and enhancing research-led anti-doping education’ is one of WADA’s strategic priorities. Accordingly, WADA’s Education Committee is tasked with identifying relevant areas of social science research in the field of anti-doping to inform more effective doping prevention strategies. WADA-supported research requires that clean sport education programs and initiatives are grounded in scientific knowledge and evidence.

2020 Proposals

While WADA’s Call for Proposals is open with all topics being accepted for review, WADA would draw your attention to the “Application Guidelines”, which includes an updated list of topic areas that WADA is interested in.

In particular, proposals are invited for research that specifically ‘measure the effectiveness of existing anti-doping strategies and interventions for athletes and support personnel’.

All proposals, regardless of topic, should provide a strong rationale, underpinned by a sound appraisal of the evidence base.

Applicants must clearly demonstrate how the results of the proposed research have the potential to inform the development of effective doping prevention programs.

WADA seeks to expand the portfolio of social science research to include a diverse range encompassing, amongst other things: research focused on advancing scientific theory; and research aimed principally at developing practical applications.

It should be noted that, proposals that demonstrate partnerships and collaboration between research institutions and anti-doping organizations will be looked upon favorably during the decision-making process. Similarly, interdisciplinary proposals drawing from multiple social science fields (e.g., sociology, psychology, law, economics, and management science) are encouraged. Extra weighting will also be given to projects involving more than one country.

WADA is of course keen to support research that is ambitious and has the potential for high impact in preventing doping in sport. As such, the Agency is willing to award funding in excess of USD 100,000 where applications can clearly demonstrate that the research project builds on an established program of research and offers implementable solutions to prevent doping in sport.

All proposals responding to the terms and conditions of this Call for Proposals will be evaluated by external peer-reviewers, whose recommendations will be reviewed by WADA’s Social Science Research Project Review Panel and the Education Committee for recommendation to the Agency’s Executive Committee. Applicants will be notified of the results at the end of 2019.

For further information regarding the 2020 Program, including the application process, please refer to the FAQ section of the WADAGrants platform.