

**MacArthur Foundation
100&Change Competition**

Limited Submission Internal Call

Sponsor: MacArthur Foundation

Opportunity Name: 100&Change Competition

Amount: \$100,000,000

External URL: <https://www.macfound.org/programs/100change/>

Internal Selection Submission Date: May 31, 2019

Information Session: May 3, 2019 from 12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m., Research Commons Brainstorming Room, 3rd Floor. Submitting teams are *strongly encouraged* to attend the information session.

Sponsor Registration Deadline: July 16, 2019

Sponsor Application Due Date: August 6, 2019

Internal Applicant Instructions

The MacArthur Foundation's 100&Change Competition aims to fund a single project that promises real and measurable progress in solving a critical problem of our time. Proposals from any field or problem area will be considered. Competitive proposals will address problems and support solutions that are radically different in scale, scope, and complexity and where there is a distinct plan for deployment of a \$100 million investment that will make a measurable impact over a five-year term. Any proposed project must clearly align to one or more of the [United Nations Sustainable Development Goals](#).

The MacArthur Foundation is looking for BOLD, not innovative, solutions. They **will not fund** Research & Development, Clinical Trials, or Basic Research. Proposed solutions must be evidence-based and ready to scale. Competitive proposals will articulate a clear and compelling need and identify a solution that demonstrates understanding of the complex issue, the target population(s), depth and strength of partnership among the organizations/entities working together. Proposals will likewise include a strong evaluation plan, sustainability plan, and a clearly articulated theory of change. *Please note, MacArthur requires that each applicant submit a detailed Memorandum of Understanding outlining the roles, responsibilities, and deliverables/expectations of each partner entity at the initial application stage.*

Senior, Mid-level, and Early-Career Investigators are all eligible to serve as Principal Investigators. Interdisciplinary teams and investigators with existing community-based partners, domestically or abroad, are encouraged to apply. *Interested investigators/teams are strongly encouraged to schedule a consultation meeting with the Office of Foundation Relations prior to beginning the internal intent/application process to discuss your concept. An informational session will also be hosted in early May.*

The following documents are required for the internal competition:

1. Cover Page(s) Include the following:
 - a. Sponsor Name
 - b. Funding Opportunity Name
 - c. PI's name, college/unit, and department
 - d. Title of the Proposed Project
 - e. Identify the [United Nations Sustainable Development Goal\(s\)](#) to which the project aligns
 - g. List of Collaborative Partners (i.e. units within OSU and/or external partner entities)
 - h. Does your solution require a technical, scientific, medical, or engineering process? Yes or No

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2. Responses to Select MacArthur 100&Change Application Questions (*adhere to word limits*)
- a. **Problem Statement (250 words maximum)** – Describe the specific challenges your solution will address, using non-expert language. Share the most specific articulation of those issues and, if appropriate, connect it to any larger social concerns or systems. Describe who is impacted by the problem; why the problem exists in the current environment; what you believe to be the most influential ways to effect the necessary change; and where the leverage points are to begin making a big impact.
 - b. **Demand to Address the Problem (150 words maximum)** – Is the problem recognized as urgent among stakeholders (i.e. target beneficiaries, local leaders, government agencies) in the locations where you are planning to scale your solution? Is there currently a demand for solving the problem among those stakeholders?
 - c. **Solution Overview (250 words maximum)** – Take a deep dive into explaining how you intend to solve the problem. Using non-expert language, address the following questions:
 - i. How does your solution meaningfully contribute to resolving the chosen problem?
 - ii. How will you know that you are making progress?
 - iii. Describe the impact that your solution will have on the chosen problem over a five-year grant period. Will it have broad impact on a large population or geography, or will it have a deep and intense impact on a small population or geography?
 - iv. Describe who will benefit from your solution and the benefits or outcomes of your solution.
 - d. **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (200 words maximum)** – Explain how you will ensure, or have ensured, that your solution will be inclusive. For example, how will it include or engage the community in which your project will take place (or has/is taking place) and also include historically marginalized populations, including persons with disabilities, religious or ethnic minorities, people of color, native/indigenous peoples, women, and gender identity and sexual orientation minorities. Provide additional details on how you will provide opportunities and reasonable accommodations for those populations to either engage with and/or benefit from your solution, including as staff, advisors, partners, et al.
 - e. **Theory of Change (250 words maximum)** – Describe the logic of how your solution will lead to the desired outcome. Your Theory of Change should read as a narrative explanation of both the projected and desired outcomes. Emphasize the methodologies that you intend to employ and how they create a causal link to your shorter-term, intermediate, and longer-term goals. As you develop your response, consider this [Practical Guide for Creating a Theory of Change](#).

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- f. Barrier Assessment and Risk Mitigation (150 words maximum)** – Describe any barriers to the short and long-term success of the project and your plans to mitigate them. Barriers can include problems inhibiting solution scalability, political or public policy concerns, or any other potential operational or tactical hurdles that may hinder your solution’s success. What are the most threatening barriers? How are you prepared to address them?
- g. Case for Partnership (250 words maximum)** – Present a clear case as to why it is important to collaborate and why you believe this will be an effective collaboration. Your response can include a description of past/ongoing partnership between entities, explanation of how your team leverages strengths of each entity to tackle challenges and why are uniquely positioned to deliver results.
- h. Why You? (250 words maximum)** – Explain how your team is uniquely positioned to deliver results and why you are the best choice to solve this problem. Your response can include how your solution aligns with the primary purpose of the organization or, if there is loose or indirect alignment, explain how you have decided to solve this problem. Describe how your team is uniquely positioned to deliver results and why you are the best choice to solve the problem? Describe your team’s past performance or relevant experience that highlights your ability to deliver results, including the largest project you have overseen (financially and/or in terms of the number of people involved).
- i. How would you use the funds (200 words maximum)** – Describe the budget needed, including a brief narrative of how the funds will be used to carry out the work.

Applicant Instructions

Please combine the cover letter and responses to the questions outline above, as well as a copy of the PI’s curriculum vitae, into a single PDF file for submission. *Please adhere to maximum word counts outlined for each response; these have been established by the MacArthur Foundation.*

Internal Selection

The Ohio State University aims to submit between two to three proposals to the MacArthur Foundation for consideration of investment. An internal committee appointed by University leadership will review, vet ideas against institutional strengths and MacArthur’s funding priorities and scoring criteria ([100&Change Scoring Rubric](#)), and select teams to advance. Internal finalist selections will be made by mid-June. Once internal nominees are identified, Ohio State’s Office of Foundation Relations, in tandem with the Office of Research Proposal Development Office, will support teams in the development and submission of responsive proposals on behalf of Ohio State. Internal nominees/teams must demonstrate significant progress toward proposal development and have executed Memorandums of Understanding among partners by the 100&Change registration deadline (July 16, 2019) in order to be advanced to application.

Contact Information

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Internal Review Process & Timeline

Ohio State internal deadlines are in gray; MacArthur Foundation deadlines are in scarlet

Timeline:

April 30, 2019:	MacArthur Foundation to Release Final RFP - Application Portal Opens
May 3, 2019:	Informational Session for Interested Investigators/Teams
May 31, 2019	Internal Intent Deadline
June 15, 2019	Office of Research Announces The Ohio State University Nominees
July 12, 2019	Preliminary proposal and executed Partner Memorandum of Understanding due internally. <i>Teams that do not have a partner MOU executed may not proceed to the application stage.</i>
July 16, 2019:	MacArthur Registration Deadline
July 29, 2019	Full application, video, and Partner Agreements complete and packaged for round-robin review by Foundation Relations and Proposal Development teams. Proposals will also be shared with leadership for a last look prior to submission.
August 6, 2019:	MacArthur Application Submission Deadline
Aug – Sept 2019:	MacArthur Administrative and Peer-to-Peer Review
Sept 2019-Feb 2020:	MacArthur Wise Head and Technical Review
February 2020:	MacArthur Selects Bold Solutions
Spring 2020:	MacArthur Selects 100&Change Finalists
Spring-Summer 2020:	Further Project Development (prior to review/decision by MacArthur Board)
Fall 2020:	MacArthur Announces 100&Change Winner/Recipient