**2023 Request for Applications (RFA)**

**The Global WACh Rising Star Seed Awards**

**The Global Center for Integrated Health of Women, Adolescents and Children (Global WACh) at**

**The University of Washington (UW)**

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| **Key Deadlines** | **Date** |
| **RFA Released** | **September 5, 2023** |
| **Applications Due** | **October 23, 2023 at 11:59 PM PST** |
| **Notification of Award** | **December 8, 2023** |

**See the following pages for a description of the award program and application process.**

**Submit the full application as a single Word document or PDF to** **gwach@uw.edu****.**

 **Purpose**The purpose of the Global WACh Rising Star seed award is to identify highly talented junior investigators from institutions in low-middle income countries (LMIC) who are committed to a career in research in woman, adolescent, and child health, and support their career pathway to becoming independent researchers. A secondary aim of this award is to strengthen Global WACh’s and UW’s relationship with our partner institutions, and broaden our base of collaborators.

**Applicant Eligibility (must meet all eligibility criteria to apply)**

1. LMIC national based at a Global WACh partner institution
2. Enrolled in PhD or post-graduate medical specialization training, or within five years of graduating from a PhD or medical specialization
3. Must have a medical degree or masters degree
4. Have a project mentor based in LMIC with research experience in field of interest

Applicants are only allowed to submit one application to this program per cycle.

**Project Eligibility**

Research projects must relate to the health of women, adolescents and children. We will prioritize projects that are unlikely to be eligible for other UW seed awards, including the CFAR HIV related research and UW Global Mental Health awards.

**Program Benefits**

1. A $10,000 seed grant which aims to fund preliminary data collection for future grant applications.
2. A 12-month non-residential Affiliate Scientist position within the Global Center for the Integrated Health of Women, Adolescents, and Children (Global WACh) which will provide access to the following resources:
	* Networking opportunities to meet with faculty, staff and students in the grantees topical and methodological area of interest, and when desired, mentorship from available faculty members and research cores
	* A UW NetID providing access to the UW online library resources, and our data support tools, such as RedCap and Github
	* Career development resources including an overview of common pathways to independence and an index of funding sources for junior investigators without US citizenship or permanent residency
	* NIH Grant writing support from Global WACh’s pre-award team, including access to examples of relevant recent NIH grants that were successful in receiving funding
	* Sponsored access to online learning resources, including a select e-DGH courses and classes which provide access to DataCamp.com data management and analysis courses
	* Access to scientific communities of learning and working groups including: GWACh monthly meetings, Kenya Research & Training Center (KRTC) monthly seminars, the Working Group in Implementation Science (WISE), UW-CFAR seminars and any other relevant group at UW or our partner institutions
3. An invited virtual lecture at the UW

**Submission Requirements**

1. Completed application cover page
2. A two-page research plan, that includes a brief background, project aims and approach
3. A Curriculum Vitae
4. A one-page description of the applicant’s previous research experience and intended career pathway
5. A letter of support from the applicant’s primary mentor. Strong letters should detail the candidate’s commitment to research, evidence that the applicant’s home institution is committed to support this candidate, a description of funding sources that will support the candidate continued development after this award (i.e. Dr. Applicant is supported on a 5-year NIH grant to provide clinical/analytic oversight in that study)
6. Budget on the provided template (Note: No indirect will be provided. Funds may be used to support salary.)

**Review Selection Criteria**

Successful candidates will be selected by a panel of LMIC mid-level and senior investigators. However, oversight and clarifying inputs will be provided by the project leaders from UW. Awards will be made based on the following criteria:

1) The candidate’s demonstrated commitment to career that includes woman, adolescent, and child health research

2) The impact that this award may have in catalyzing their research career

3) Scientific merit and impact of their proposal

4) Its feasibility given the limited budget

5) Its likelihood of leading to future funding

**Award-Program Oversight**

A steering committee of senior investigators from LMIC countries will meet annually to review the program goals, RFA, RFA dissemination plan, selection rubrics, and to nominate members of the selection panel.

**Application Instructions**

1. Complete form items 1-3 on the following page
2. Complete the ‘Research Plan’ section and the ‘Previous Research Experience and Next Steps in Your Research Career’ section. Please use Arial typeface, single spaces, and a font size of 11 points. Do not adjust the margins.
3. Complete the Budget Template Form
4. Include the following attachments:
	* Your Curriculum Vitae
	* Letter of Support from your primary mentor. They should comment on your career trajectory, and the degree to which your institution is committed to supporting your career. Ideally, they will list evidence of your commitment to a career in research and your institutions commitment to supporting you in this goal.
5. Submit the application as a single Word Document or converted PDF in an email attachment to gwach@uw.edu.
6. Applications must be submitted by **Monday, October 23, 2023 at 11:59 PM PST**.

**Rising Star Seeds Award Application**

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| **1. Project Information** |
| Title of Project: |
| City and Country of Project:       | Research Site:       |
| Project Period:       | Proposed Budget:       |
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| **2. Applicant Information** |
| Name and Title:       |
| Organization:       |
| Address:       |
| City:       | Country:       | Telephone:       |
| Email:       |
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| **3. Mentor Information** |
| Primary Mentor:       |
| Organization:       |
| Address:       |
| City:       | Country:       | Telephone:       |
| Email:       |
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**Research Plan** *(Instructions are in italics and should be deleted prior to submission - Do not exceed two pages)*

Background: *Describe the significance of the research problem. Include information on incidence or prevalence and severity of the problem in women, adolescents, or children. Describe what is not known about the problem that the proposal intends to address. Include any preliminary data or additional background information indicating the rationale for the proposed research.*

Project Aims: *Describe precisely the specific aims of the proposed research.*

Approach: *Describe your plans and procedures for research that span the steps from broad assumptions to detailed methods of data collection, analysis, and interpretation.*

**Previous Research Experience and Next Steps in Your Research Career** *(Do not exceed one page)*

**Complete the budget table below with your proposed use of funds. Add additional rows if needed. Please attach quotes for supply and equipment estimates over $500 USD.**

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| --- |
| **Budget Template Form** |
| **PERSONNEL** |
| NAME | JOB TITLE | ANNUAL BASE SALARY | FTE ALLOCATION | FRINGE BENEFITS | **TOTAL COST** |
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| **SUBTOTAL:**  |  |
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| **SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT** *(Itemize by Category)* |
| ITEM | QUANTITY | UNIT COST | **TOTAL COST** |
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| **SUBTOTAL:** |  |
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| **OTHER EXPENSES** *(Itemize by Category)* |
| ITEM | QUANTITY | UNIT COST | **TOTAL COST** |
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| **SUBTOTAL:** |  |

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| **GRAND TOTAL** (USD $) |  |

**BUDGET JUSTIFICATION** **[250 WORD LIMIT PER SECTION]:** *Please provide a brief justification of all items in the budget.*

*A) Personnel:*

*B) Supplies and Equipment:*

*C) Other Expenses:*