

William T. Grant Foundation

Research Grants on Improving the Use of Research Evidence—LOI

More Information: <http://wtgrantfoundation.org/grants/research-grants-improving-use-research-evidence>

Eligibility:

Grants are made to organizations, not individuals. Grants are limited, without exception, to tax-exempt organizations. A copy of the Internal Revenue Service tax-exempt status determination letter is required from each applying organization. We do not support or make contributions to building funds, fund-raising drives, endowment funds, general operating budgets, or scholarships.

2021 LOI Deadlines:

- **January 13 @ 3PM EST**
- **May 5 @ 3PM EST**
- **August 4 @ 3PM EST**

Contact:

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Program Details:

Purpose: The Foundation's mission is to support research to improve the lives of young people ages 5-25 in the United States. One way that we pursue this mission is by investing in high-quality field-initiated studies on reducing inequality in youth outcomes.

Over the past decade, a growing body of research has illuminated the conditions that facilitate the use of research evidence in policy and practice. For example, studies find that when research is relevant to decision makers, deliberated over thoughtfully, and embedded in policymaking processes, routines, and tools, the findings are more likely to be used. Still, there remain many unanswered questions that are critical to understanding how to improve the production and use of research evidence. What's more, there is a scarcity of evidence supporting the notion that research use in policy and practice will necessarily improve youth outcomes. Serious scientific inquiry is needed. We need to know the conditions under which using research evidence improves decision making, policy implementation, service delivery, and, ultimately, youth outcomes. In short, we need research on the use of research.

Toward this end, we seek studies that identify, build, and test strategies to enhance the use of research evidence in ways that benefit youth. We are particularly interested in research on improving the use of research evidence by state and local decision makers, mid-level managers, and intermediaries. Some investigators will focus on the strategies, relationships, and other supports needed for policy and practice organizations to use research more routinely and constructively. Others may investigate structures and incentives within the research community to encourage deep engagement with decision makers. Still other researchers may examine activities that help findings inform policy ideas, shape practice responses, and improve systems.

Amount: \$100,000—\$1,000,000

Duration: two to four years

Full guidelines: <http://wtgrantfoundation.org/library/uploads/2020/11/2021-Application-Guidelines-Improving-the-Use-of-Research-Evidence.pdf>