



General Questions

Q. How much are the potential grants?

A. We anticipate that grants of up to \$1,000,000.00 will be awarded. The foundation reserves the right to award a grant amount lower or higher than what is initially proposed, in which case we will ask for revisions of the budget and proposal.

Q. How many awards will be funded?

A. The foundation anticipates funding 5 to 10 proposals from the LOI's received.

Q. Who can I contact if I have a question?

A. Please submit your questions to RTTC@gatesfoundation.org. Questions will be routed to the appropriate foundation staff for response.

Q. Can I submit multiple Letters of Inquiry (LOI)?

A. We will only accept one LOI per institution.

Q. Will you provide guidance on an application before I submit it?

A. We cannot provide individual guidance on ideas before submission.

Application Process

Q. Is there a specific format for the application?

A. Please download and use the LOI Application form provided in the Online Application Tool. The length of the LOI document should be no more than five pages. Please refer to the LOI Rules and Guidelines document for additional information on what should be included in your LOI. Appendices are only allowed if the total application page limit does not exceed five pages

Q. Am I able to edit my profile and LOI once submitted?

A. Until you hit the "Submit Application" button, you may edit content at any time prior to the close of the application period. Once you submit your application, you cannot edit or resubmit.

Q. When will the notification of awards be made?

A. By November 16, 2012 the foundation aims to request full proposals from successful LOI applicants. The deadline to submit completed proposals is December 20th, 2012. The foundation aims to notify applicants of final decisions on funding by February 28th, 2013. Work may commence only once a grant agreement has been executed between the foundation and the proposing institution, with effective start dates targeted at April 1st, 2013.

Q. Do I have to submit my LOI using the Online Application Tool?



A. Yes, all applications must be submitted through the Online Application Tool. Under exceptional circumstances, we will consider accepting submissions from those unable to use the online tool. Please contact RTTC@gatesfoundation.org if you have any questions.

Q. Is it possible to have multiple applicants on a proposal?

A. Teaming and collaboration are welcome within a single application. However, applicants need to elect one primary contact per team.

Q. I submitted my LOI but did not receive a confirmation. How would I know if my proposal went through?

A. Our system automatically sends an email when you submit your LOI document. Please check your junk mail folder.

Review Process

Q. What is the review process?

A. LOIs and proposals will be reviewed by internal and external experts based on adherence to the terms and requirements specified in the Terms of Reference document.

Q. Will my idea be treated as confidential during the review process?

A. The foundation has put in place policies and procedures to restrict public dissemination of grant application materials including, 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. However, *the foundation does not guarantee that any information submitted will be maintained as confidential.*

Grant Terms and Conditions

Q. Do you publish or publicly disseminate proposals or grant applications materials?

A. The foundation does not publicly disseminate or "publish" proposals or supporting information related to a grant application. For IRS compliance reasons we are required to publish a list of grants that we have made. We do not publish the full proposal or any supporting materials, however, we provide a general description of the grant on our web sites including at gatesfoundation.org. These brief descriptions are also made available in press releases and other communications materials.

Q. Who will own the rights to technologies created by the grants? What is being done to ensure access for developing countries?

A. In general, the grantees will own the rights to any technologies they invent. They are, however, required to manage these rights in such a way as to ensure Global Access. Global Access requires that (a) the knowledge and information gained from a funded project be



promptly and broadly disseminated, and (b) the technologies be made available and accessible at reasonable cost to our intended beneficiaries. Global Access obligations are a condition of receiving a grant. Please refer to the Global Access Summary document provided with the application materials.

Technical Support

Q. I can't log in. Where do I get my temporary password?

A. When you first create an account, a temporary password is sent to the email address you have provided. If the email does not appear in your inbox please check your 'Junk Mail' folder or with your system administrator. Sometimes emails are blocked by an enterprise level spam filter. When you first log in using your temporary password, you will be prompted to change your password.

Q. The application tool is not loading for me. What can I do to fix this?

A. If other websites load normally, it is likely that a large number of users are currently accessing the system. Wait at least one hour and try the site again. If the issue persists, please email the specifics of your problem to RTTC@gatesfoundation.org

Q. Will my data be lost if I navigate away from this site?

A. The application tool will back up data entered into fields in real time as long as you are connected to the Internet. You will be logged out after one hour of inactivity.

Q. How do I edit a previously submitted proposal or LOI?

A. 1. Login to the Unison website. 2. Click on "Proposal" on the left hand navigation. 3. Fill in all required fields. 4. Upload your updated file and click "Submit." 5. Your proposal will be resubmitted and you will see a page thanking you for your submission. You will also receive a confirmation email. 6. You have successfully updated your proposal.

Q. I'm having trouble uploading my application file. What should I do?

A. The system will only accept one document. Your document must be saved with one of the following extensions: *.pdf, *.doc, or *.docx. Otherwise, try recreating your document using Microsoft Word, Adobe Acrobat, or Word Pad and uploading again.

Selection Criteria

Q. Why wasn't my proposal selected?

A. Given the size and nature of the program, we are not able to provide individualized feedback to each applicant. Generally, applications are not funded due to one of the following reasons:

1. It presents an idea that is explicitly excluded from consideration for funding.



2. It is not complete. Applications that do not contain a coherent idea, design or description of the work to be performed are not considered for funding.
3. The proposal does not describe how the idea offers a creative approach to the problem and how it varies from current or conventional approaches.
4. It does not clearly outline or describe the specific objective(s) to be accomplished within the time period of the proposed project.
5. Costs do not correspond to the value added of the proposed grant. This RF LOI has allowed for a wide range of budgets to accommodate various stages of research and idea development.