

## **Neiman Health Policy Institute Grants Program in Radiology Policy and Practice Research**

*Harvey L. Neiman Grant*

### **2025 Request for Applications**

#### **PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

The Neiman Health Policy Institute (HPI) Grants Program will advance the HPI's mission by funding novel research that provides evidence to inform health policy and radiology practice that promotes safe and effective patient care and the efficient use of healthcare resources. We seek proposals for research projects that will produce actionable results to pave the way for new health policy or radiological practice advancements that improve patient outcomes, reduce health disparities, informs the appropriate use of care, or demonstrates the value of the radiology specialty to support adequate reimbursement and sustain patient access.

The Harvey L. Neiman Grant, described herein, funds independent research by awarded investigators.

#### **Grant program objectives**

- To facilitate novel, empirical research that contributes directly to the HPI mission
- Funded research proposals will:
  - o be pertinent to current policy priorities in radiology
  - o be hypothesis driven (versus hypothesis generating)
  - o include a research plan that will provide actionable information that can be readily understood by stakeholders; and
  - o have the potential to directly inform health policy and practice.
- Extend Neiman Institute's current capabilities<sup>1</sup> in areas of expertise, research methods, populations, or data sources

#### **GRANT AWARD**

We invite applications up to \$75,000 total budget (including indirect costs, capped at 15%). The budget can provide salary support for the investigator(s) and any support staff for the project, as well as technical or data resources. Because the goal of the grant is to extend HPI resources, funding will not be provided for data if the proposed project aims could be accomplished using data already available to the HPI staff. Please see a summary of HPI data resources at the end of this document.

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<sup>1</sup> For more information about HPI current capabilities, see the HPI website ([www.neimanhpi.org](http://www.neimanhpi.org)) or contact staff at [grants@neimanhpi.org](mailto:grants@neimanhpi.org)

Note: The Duszak Grant is another opportunity for research support, and a separate request for applications that should be considered if the proposed research requires analysis and resources from the Neiman Institute.

## Harvey L. Neiman Grant

This award is named in honor of Harvey L. Neiman, MD, a highly honored radiologist broadly considered a luminary in the field. Dr. Neiman was an accomplished, outstanding physician, and a respected leader and medical scholar who dedicated his professional career to improving patient care. He was one of the leading minds in medicine regarding radiology, medical imaging policy, and economics. The Harvey L. Neiman Health Policy Institute was created under his leadership as CEO of the American College of Radiology.

The Neiman Grant funds research on the value of advancements in the field of radiology for improving the efficiency or effectiveness of patient care. Priority areas of advancement include:

- **Emerging delivery and payment models as avenues for radiology to provide high-value services for patients.** Example focus areas of interest are studies that: impact policy for radiology or radiology patients, the value of radiology in the context of recent or emerging models, clinician reimbursement that will support practice sustainability and patient access, and innovative approaches for meaningful radiologist participation toward value-based health care goals.
- **Emerging technologies and the impact on radiology practice and patient care.** Research that explores (identifies, explains, and tests) opportunities and challenges presented by emerging technologies with the potential to impact radiology practice. An area of particular interest is artificial intelligence (AI). Additional applicable areas of research include digital health technologies, telehealth, emerging imaging technology, etc. and should include objectives that are pertinent to health policy and/or economics.
- **Cancer screening policy, practice and patient adherence.** Research that tests hypotheses that have the opportunity to improve adherence or quality of cancer screening through policy or practice mechanisms.
- **Value of radiologists within the context of health systems, population health or patient outcomes.** Studies with the potential to expand or bolster the value proposition for the radiologist profession by evaluating and quantifying the value of radiologists generally, radiology subspecialties, or radiology services.
- **Radiology workforce.** Studies using innovative approaches to assess challenges or opportunities to improve the sustainability, scale or efficiency of the radiology workforce, which may include radiologist, assistants, technicians, etc.

- **Innovative radiology practice advancement:** Research focused on practice advancements that tests innovative ideas or established approaches from other fields with respect to impact on health equity, efficiency or cost, and/or patient outcomes. Using quantitative research methods, proposals under this topic should seek to bring new, actionable ideas to radiologists for how to better serve patients in a manner that will improve value and advance clinical practice.

## **APPLICATION DEADLINE**

Applicants are to submit their complete application via email to [grants@neimanhpi.org](mailto:grants@neimanhpi.org)

**Applications must be received by 8 pm ET on February 3, 2025.** Applications not submitted by this time or that are incomplete will not be considered.

## **ELIGIBILITY**

Individuals or groups may submit proposals. Grants are available to full-time faculty and trainees with an MD, DO, PhD, or equivalent degree at educational institutions within the United States. Applicants must be current members of the American College of Radiology, or at a minimum the primary investigator must be an ACR member, with justification provided for why other key personnel are not eligible for ACR membership.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

Submitted applications are first reviewed by ACR staff to confirm that they are complete and meet eligibility criteria. Complete, eligible applications advance to the members of the HPI Research Selection Committee (RSC). The RSC reviews all eligible applications and makes recommendations for funding under both grants. Applications are reviewed and ranked in priority order. Applicants will be notified of the results of the RSC review process.

Applicants with proposals that meet key funding criteria but would benefit from further refinement may be offered the opportunity to present their proposal via video conference to the HPI Executive Director and staff, and in some cases members of the selection committee. These meetings can result in revisions to the design of the study, resources required, and budget to ensure the success of the study in achieving the grant's objectives. Final project design and budget will be submitted to the RSC for final review and award decision.

The review process and scoring guidelines are modeled on the NIH scoring system. The review process will score proposal based on the following criteria:

1. **Significance:** Does the project address an important problem or a critical barrier to progress in the field, and is it aligned with the priority topics outlined for this grant? Is the project

- timely with respect to the current health policy and practice environment? Will the methods provide generalizable results?
2. **Investigators:** Are the investigators capable of performing the research described? Do they have the needed skills and expertise?
  3. **Novelty or Innovation:** Does the project explore a novel research question or fill an important gap or meaningfully extend existing literature? Does it challenge and seek to shift current policy or clinical practice paradigms? Does it employ innovative approaches or methodologies?
  4. **Impact:** Will the study produce actionable conclusions that have the potential to impact current policy and/or practice?
  5. **Approach:** Are the overall strategy, methodology, and analyses well-reasoned and appropriate to accomplish the specific aims of the project? Is the research approach rigorous?
  6. **Extension of HPI Resources/ Infrastructure:** Does the proposal extend the current capabilities of the HPI?
  7. **Timeframe:** Can the project plan reasonably be completed within the funding period? Does the project timeline support the timely publication of project results?

In addition, the RSC will take the following factors into consideration:

- **Budget and Project Timeline.** Reviewers will consider whether the budget and requested period of support are fully justified and reasonable in relation to the proposed research, and whether the project can reasonably be completed within the proposed timeline.
- **Letters of Support.** Letters of support with collaborators will be taken into consideration; at least two are required.

## REQUIREMENTS FOR FUNDED PROJECTS

### Reporting

**Interim report.** Within 60 days of the halfway point of the project period, the investigator(s) will provide a report to the HPI with an update on project status, barriers, and budget. This report should be provided during 30 to 60 minute video conference with HPI staff and may include other HPI collaborators or advisory board members, as applicable. This format offers the opportunity for discussion and active feedback that could aid in project success. It is the responsibility of the grantee to schedule this meeting; in the case that a written report is preferred, the grantee should request this alternative in advance with an explanation of the reason.

**Final Report.** The final written report should cover the entire grant period and must be submitted within 60 days of the end of the grant period. The report is to include information as specified in posted instructions. In the event a grant has been extended without additional funds, the final report is not due until 60 days after the official termination date of the grant.

In the case that the grantee has a reasonable need for a no-cost extension, that request must be made no less than 30 days prior to the grant termination date. Please note that up-to-date reports are required when requesting any grant modifications, including transfers or no-cost extensions.

### **Publications and Presentations**

Toward the goals of impact and action stemming from funded projects, funded investigators are expected to submit a manuscript to the Journal of the American College of Radiology or other high impact journal. The manuscript must be submitted to the HPI Executive Director for approval prior to submission. The HPI staff can provide editorial review of the manuscript upon request.

Project investigator is also expected to submit a proposal on the funded study to a national conference.

In the case that a project may not yield publishable findings, that determination must be made in collaboration with the HPI leadership following a final project report.

Publications resulting from research or training activities supported by the HPI must contain the following acknowledgment: “Supported by grant funding from the Neiman Health Policy Institute”. The HPI’s support should also be acknowledged by the grantee and the institution in all public communication of work resulting from this grant, including scientific abstracts (where permitted), posters at scientific meetings, press releases or other media communications, and internet-based communications. If your institution plans a press release involving HPI-supported research, please notify Nichole Gay, Communications and Media Manager at the Neiman Institute (ngay@neimaninstitute.org)

### **PAYMENT SCHEDULE**

Upon submission of a fully executed grant agreement, awarded funds are transmitted to the institution(s) upon receipt of an invoice. The project period is up to 12 months.

### **APPLICATION PROCEDURES**

The application must contain a detailed research plan and a budget for the planned research with all budget needs indicated.

A complete application will include a **Research Narrative** limited to five (5) pages, not including **References**, a one (1) page **Executive Summary**, **Reference List**, **Letters of Support**, **Budget** and **NIH Biosketches or CVs** for Key Personnel.

The **Research Narrative** must include the following elements:

1. Title of the Activity/Project
2. Abstract
3. Background and Significance
  - Include any preliminary analyses if available

4. Research Strategy
  - Specific Aims
  - Methods
  - Analysis Plan
5. PI capabilities
6. Institutional capabilities, if applicable
7. Extension of Neiman Institute capabilities
8. Project Timeline, including brief descriptions of major milestones
9. References

**Letters of Support:**

At minimum, include two (2) letters of support with one being from the applicant's Department Chair. A letter of support from the chair of an ACR commission or committee is preferred to demonstrate alignment with ACR strategy and mission. Additional letters may be submitted at the applicant's discretion.

**Biosketches:** NIH Biosketch for all Key Personnel or CV if Biosketch is not available.

**Budget:** A project budget is required and must account for all that is necessary to run the project. Budget expenses can be used for materials and supplies, equipment, services, travel expenses, consulting expenses, salary support for staff working on the proposed project, and publication costs.

To maximize direct funding to research and project collaborators, indirect cost reimbursement is capped at 15% of direct costs on projects funded through this mechanism. This indirect cost rate is consistent with ACR policy for other similar grant funded programs.

Applicants must work with their Research or Contracts Office to create their project budget. This ensures its accuracy and completeness.

**Format:** 8.5x11 page size, at least 1.5 spacing, 1" margins, Times Roman font, 10-point size.

The application must be submitted electronically via email to [grants@neimanhpi.org](mailto:grants@neimanhpi.org) **by 8 pm ET on February 3, 2025**. Incomplete applications or those submitted after the deadline will not be reviewed. **Please specify in your email that you are applying for the Neiman grant.**

**NOTE:** Applicants with questions are encouraged to reach out to HPI staff using [grants@neimanhpi.org](mailto:grants@neimanhpi.org) during the application period.

**GRANT APPLICATION FORMAT**

1. Research Narrative limited to five (5) pages, not including the Reference List
2. A one (1) page Executive Summary,
3. Letters of Support
4. Budget
5. NIH Biosketches or CVs for Key Personnel

When sending your application elements to [grants@neimanhpi.org](mailto:grants@neimanhpi.org), you must save your files using the naming convention below.

2025\_HPINEiman\_<Element Name>\_<PI First Initial Last Name>

- 2025\_HPINEiman\_Research Narrative\_J Doe
- 2025\_HPINEiman\_Exec Summ\_J Doe
- 2025\_HPINEiman\_LoS\_J Doe
- 2025\_HPINEiman\_Budget\_J Doe
- 2025\_HPINEiman\_Biosketch\_J Doe OR  
2025\_HPINEiman\_CV\_J Doe