

Non Research Proposal Reminder

All NCD Mini-Grants must support non-research field investigations. Non-research investigations may include:

- Surveillance activity (e.g., disease, adverse events, injuries)
- Program evaluation activity
- Public health program activity*

**e.g., service delivery; health education programs; social marketing campaigns; program monitoring; electronic database construction and/or support; development of patient registries; needs assessments; and demonstration projects intended to assess organizational needs, management, and human resource requirements for implementation.*

Prior to awarding grants, all finalist proposals will be subject to review for a final research determination. This research determination is separate from any necessary IRB approvals required by a grantee's institution.

To receive a non-research determination, proposals must be able to demonstrate that the investigation is linked to a public health surveillance system, control program, or prevention program and provide concise documentation to that effect. Any program data or supplementary data collected by the proposed investigation should not be used to support generalizable research. While investigations may include human subjects, the primary objective should not be human subject research. Proposals that are determined to be research will not be considered for funding.

Key Definitions

Human subject or participant – is defined as a living person about whom an investigator conducting research obtains (1) data through intervention or interaction with the individual, or (2) identifiable private information (e.g., medical records, employment records, or school records).

Program evaluation – is the systematic collection of information about the activities, characteristics, and outcomes of programs to make judgments about the program, improve program effectiveness, and/or inform decisions about future program development. Program evaluation should not be confused with treatment efficacy which measures how well a treatment achieves its goals which can be considered as research.

Research – is defined as a systematic investigation, including research development, testing and evaluation, designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge. Activities which meet this definition constitute research, whether or not these activities are conducted or supported under a program which is considered research for other purposes. For example, some demonstration and service programs may include research activities. Again, NCD Mini-Grants cannot support research activities.

Surveillance – The ongoing systematic collection, analysis and interpretation of health data, essential to the planning, implementation and evaluation of public health practice, closely integrated to the dissemination of these data to those who need to know and linked to prevention and control.