



2011 Request for Proposals (RFP)

CMB Collaborating Programs Health Policy and System Sciences

Invitation for Proposals

The China Medical Board (美国中华医学基金会) invites eligible universities in China to submit proposals for funding of **CMB Collaborating Programs (CMB-CP)** in the field of health policy and system sciences (HPSS). This RFP continues CMB's efforts to promote academic excellence in HPSS through developing outstanding CMB collaborating research and educational programs in China. This note describes the background, content, application process, and management of the RFP.

Background

The CMB has supported philanthropic work in China and Asia for nearly a century. CMB established the Peking Union Medical College from 1914-1951, supported medical universities in 16 countries across East and Southeast Asia from 1951-1981, and has been assisting 13 Chinese medical universities to strengthen their faculty, research, and education programs since 1981. It has recently extended eligibility for CMB support to several additional universities.

Over the course of the 20th century, health in China has advanced significantly. But as in all advanced and complex societies, China confronts many challenges in providing universal, high quality and affordable health care to its people. The ongoing health reform in China is encouraging experiments with different polices aimed at improving health system performance to address the new and re-emerging health challenges. Academic support to guide China's reforms involves targeted research and educational activities that generate knowledge and produce professionals needed to reform China's health system.

Since 2008, the CMB has been encouraging Chinese universities to engage in HPSS-focused research and educational initiatives, with 48 grants in action totaling near 20 million dollars. These have continued the CMB's long tradition in capacity development, including:

- Grants to promote understanding, recognition, and commitment of the medical leadership in the effort to improve academic capacity in HPSS, including support for the Peking University China Center for Health Development Studies (www.cchds.pku.edu.cn), the Sun Yat-sen Center for Migrant Health Policy (cmhp.sysu.edu.cn), and program clusters and projects in health problems, health polices, health system innovations and global health.
- CMB fellowships (www.iiebeijing.org/cmb/cmb.html) managed by the Institute of International Education to build up HPSS academic capacity through advanced studies overseas in HPSS.
- CMB in-China training (Project 991) managed by Peking Union Medical College that offers research grant opportunities coupled with continuous mentoring and methodology trainings.

Information about our grants can be found in our 2009-2010 biennial report.

CMB Collaborating Programs (CMB-CP)

What is a CMB-CP? A CMB-CP is a CMB-supported faculty-lead and university-based research and/or educational program focusing on a specific domain or theme in HPSS. Led by a distinguished faculty leader, the CMB-CPs usually will consist of a core multidisciplinary research group that addresses a high priority challenge in health policy or health systems. CMB-CP initiatives are intended to focus CMB's limited resources in partnership with leaders in Chinese universities to promote breakthrough knowledge in specific HPSS domain areas. Examples might include programs in health financing, in non-communicable diseases, or in human resources for health. A specific example could be a psychiatrist who heads a working group of epidemiologists, health economists, management scientists, and sociologists to pursue research on mental health policies and programs. CMB-CP may or may not have a physical structure such as a formal space and university-sanctioned center. But the program group must have sufficient linkages through common research and educational activities that have the potential to achieve national excellence.

CMB will award **up to five CMB-CPs** this fiscal year. As the program is aimed at the field of HPSS, laboratory-based biological research programs will not be considered. Priority will be given to programs that focus on policy or systems studies in the following areas:

- Emerging health challenges in China, especially policies and programs in non-communicable diseases including mental health, cancer, diabetes, respiratory diseases, hypertension and cardio-vascular diseases
- Challenges in health policies and health systems related to health financing, human resources, primary and hospital care systems, health technology assessment, drug and pharmaceutical policies, and health informatics

Most programs will have one primary disciplinary base, such as epidemiology or economics, but will be supported by allied disciplines to create a multi-disciplinary team for advancing specific domains or areas of HPSS.

CMB-CP Entitlements: Successful CMB-CP will receive funding for an initial three year term with the possibility of renewal depending upon performance. CMB-CP support will be flexible totaling up to **US\$ 300,000 over three years** to support priority activities in research, faculty development, data acquisition and processing, staff support, and infrastructure development (computers, website development, etc.). CMB-CP awardees will be entitled to:

- Official **prestigious designation** as a CMB-CP, including use of CMB's logo
- Potential **technical and relational supports** facilitated by the CMB's extensive international platform
- Consideration for **upgrading to become a CMB center of excellence** if the program achieves sufficient research and educational excellence
- Access to the **linkages with other HPSS activities** consisting of CMB-CPs, CMB affiliated centers of excellence, and CMB fellows and alumni
- Participation in the proposed CMB **network of CMB-CPs** with common infrastructure, website, research resources, symposiums, study tours and workshops.

Eligibility to Apply

Faculty members from the eligible institutions (listed at the end of the RFP) who are recognized experts in the domain addressed by the proposal can submit proposals for CMB-CP. Final selection of the funded CMB-CPs will be competitive so eligibility does NOT guarantee funding.

Proposal Submission

This RFP process will be implemented in **two steps**. In the first step, applicants should submit a 1-2 page abstract of the proposal for initial review. In the next step, the PIs of proposals considered suitable will be invited to develop full proposals for final review. Abstracts and proposals should be submitted in English through the respective university's CMB liaison office which will screen the content and submit the proposals to the CMB.

Each institution may submit up to **three (3) abstracts**. The PI must be a recognized expert in the domain of the CMB-CP.

The RFP encourages multidisciplinary research and educational programs that engages faculty and students within and beyond the faculty of medical sciences.

Timeline in 2011

April 30	Submission of abstracts
May 31	CMB decision on abstracts for consideration
June 30	Submission of full proposal
December 31	CMB announcement of funding decisions

Proposal Abstract

Abstracts of 1-2 pages should include the following:

- General information - university, project title, PI (s) and their leadership and/or academic titles, amount of funding required and duration of the project
- Project justification – provide rationale on why the project is important to China, to your locality, to your university, or to yourself. When appropriate, you may integrate this with the project content
- Project content - clear statement of the main problem addressed by the project, goals and objectives, specific activities to achieve the goals, analytic methods, expected results and products, timetable, and estimated budget As a collaborating program, the budget may be flexibly structured to offer optimal agility for the lead investigator to pursue his/her priority domain or theme in HPSS

Abstracts should be accompanied by the current CV of the Principal Investigator. This should be no more than three pages long and include the PI's name, date of birth, major educational and professional experiences, and up to five references for selected publications.

CMB Review

PIs of selected abstracts may be sent comments on the abstract to assist them in focusing their full proposals. Most provisionally accepted proposals will require revisions based on comments generated by the CMB review prior to final acceptance. CMB's decisions about which projects to support will be based on the quality, relevance, and topical significance of the revised proposal. An important criterion is cost-effectiveness in producing key knowledge and educational products for the budget requested. The process is competitive and merit-based. Consequently, some schools may be awarded more than one grant while others may not succeed at all.

It is CMB policy that all research and education products including original datasets generated by its grant support should be widely shared and accessible to the public.

Grant Management

Each participating university has already designated a “**CMB liaison officer(s)**” (listed below) who acts as the point-of-contact between the university and CMB in grant management issues.

The CMB liaison officer at each university should send all abstracts and proposals to CMB's headquarters offices in Boston, USA for **Helen Wang**, CMB's Grant Administrator (email: hwang@cmbfound.org, US phone: 617-674-8516). Technical or substantive inquiries should be directed to **Roman Xu** 徐东, CMB Beijing Office director (email: rxu@cmbfound.org, phone: 010-5969 5071). Advising the process will be CMB senior academic advisor, Professor **Michael Phillips** 费立鹏 (email: phillipschina@yahoo.com, mobile: 18917192966).

CMB Newsletter

Organizations or individuals who are interested in receiving CMB announcements and news can subscribe to an electronic “**CMB Newsletter**” by participating in a survey at <http://www.websurveymaster.com/s/dbaab0e9>.

Eligible Institutions (in alphabetic order) & Liaison Officers

Institute	Liaison	Title	Email	Phone
Central South University	Wu Zhigang	Associate Professor Vice Director International Cooperation Office	wbxiangya@xysm.net	86-731-8877945 /4805209
China Medical University	Pan Bochen	Professor Deputy Director International Exchange Center	cmbofficecmu@gmail.com, panbochen@cmu.edu.cn	86-24-23265539
Fudan University	Zhu Chouwen	Associate Professor Deputy Director Foreign Affairs Office	cwzhu@fudan.edu.cn	86-21-54237421 86-21-65642041
	Lv Yuping	Chief CMB Affairs Office	yplu@fudan.edu.cn	86-21-65642260
Harbin Medical University	Yang Libin	Professor Deputy Director Institute for Medical Education	aaronylb@gmail.com	86-451- 86669493
Huazhong University of Science and Technology	Wang Haikun	Program Officer International Exchange Center	whk107@yahoo.com.cn whk22@hotmail.com	86-27-87548857
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Nanjing Medical University	Xu Shan	Director Office of International Communication and Cooperation	xushan@njmu.edu.cn	86-25-86862011
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Peking Union Medical College and CAMS	Jiang Yuhong	Program Officer Office for International Cooperation	yuhongjiang08@gmail.com	86-10-65253447
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Zhongshan (Sun Yat-sen) University	Xu Jin	Associate Professor Director, Office of International Cooperation and Exchange	xujin@mail.sysu.edu.cn	86-20-84111896
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