

Notification of Funding Availability (NOFA)
2020 Request for Initial Proposal Ideas
ACR/JAMS Foundation Initiative for Students and Youth

The Association for Conflict Resolution (ACR) is pleased to announce this Notification of Funding Availability (NOFA) and request for initial proposal ideas for the 2020 funding cycle of the ACR/JAMS Foundation Initiative for Students and Youth in supporting Conflict Resolution Education for youth. The mission of the ACR/JAMS Foundation partnership is summarized below.

Mission: This ACR/JAMS Foundation Initiative seeks to provide financial support for conflict resolution education and training (CRE) for Pre-K through 12th grade students and youth. The populations to be served by the funding streams will be both (1) youth in Pre-K through 12th grade age range and (2) adults working with these youth populations in ways that directly transfer CRE skills for adults to the youth populations.

Funding Contexts: The contexts for projects may include community, schools, alternative education (online education, charter schools, after school programs), government (juvenile justice facilities, courts) and NGO settings. While some proposals may be able to secure and guarantee access to or cooperation from traditional K-12 school districts/schools, this funding opportunity is intended to provide potential financial support for CRE work in other contexts as well.

The 2020 NOFA funding cycle is intended to support: *The reduction in anti-social behavior in the school building as well as outside the schoolhouse, e.g. field trips, on the playground etc. and an increase in the development of conflict resolution education skills in and with youth that modifies the normative culture and enhances positive school climate in elementary school(s).*

There are three priorities relevant to the criteria in this NOFA:

1. The proposed project would use evidenced-based program(s) to train school personnel in conflict resolution and support the implementation of these learnt practices with their interactions in and with youth, parents and other school personnel;
2. The proposed project would build upon the current work of either the applicant or an applicant's educational institution **and** specifically aim to integrate conflict resolution skills in a manner that **educates youth (kindergarten through elementary school age) in a way that demonstrably changes youth attitudes and behavior;** and,
3. The proposed project would transform school climate in each of the four following

dimensions: 1) school safety; 2) social and civil learning; 3) relationships among peers and with school personnel (respect for diversity); 4) school connectedness and engagement (bonding) with a focus on the reduction in anti-social behavior and a demonstrable increase in the development of conflict resolution education skills with and in youth and school personnel.

Funding Parameters and Criteria for the 2020 Funding Cycle

- Requests for funding may range from \$15,000.00 to \$40,000.00 for the first year of the potential two-year funding cycle. Year Two funding requests may be for no more than \$20,000.00. ACR is looking to recommend a small number of high-quality projects with proven impact and the potential of regional and national impact upon completion.
- The proposed projects can be one or two-year projects, but decisions on funding for a second year will be contingent on evidence of benchmark accomplishments at the end of the first year of funding.
- Preference for funding is given for those that may bring existing programs or exciting new ideas to a level of scalability and sustainability on a regional or national basis.
- Eligible organizations include nonprofit 501(c)3 organizations, educational institutions, and public agencies working in conjunction with nonprofit educational institutions or organizations.

NOFA Process

- An informational conference call will be held on **Monday November 25th, 2019 at 3:30 PM EST**. There is a limited number of spaces for this teleconference, so please register as soon as possible. You may register by going to the following link:

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/3acd20487a5cb90b66858a512be5123a>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

- Interested organizations or individuals are required to submit a 1-3 page Initial Project Idea description (using the guidelines on the following page) to ACR no later than 11:59 PM local time of the organization's legal/main location, **Monday, January 6th, 2020** to jamsacr19@gmail.com
- The JAMS Foundation -ACR Grant review committee will notify applicants if

they have been selected to develop a full proposal for submission and review by **Tuesday February 11th, 2020**.

- A Full Proposal Submission Webinar will be offered on **Wednesday, February 19, 2020 at 3:00 PM EST**. The link for attendance will be sent to those applicants who are invited to submit a full proposal.
- Full proposals (with a required application protocol provided upon notification) will be due to the JAMS Foundation- ACR Grant review committee no later than 11:59 PM local time of the organization's legal/main location on **Wednesday, May 15th, 2020**.
- Funding decisions will be approved by the JAMS Foundation Board at its August 2020 meeting and all grantees will be notified of their status.
- The selected grantees will be formally announced during ACR's 2020 Annual Conference, location and date to be announced. Selected grant recipients should plan on attending.

Please address questions about grant program to Cheryl Jamison at jamsacr19@gmail.com

Initial Proposal Ideas Description

Please note, incomplete submissions and those which do not adhere to the specifications below will not be considered

MANDATORY ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION

Proposal Description must be submitted electronically through the Internet. The subject line of the email must read: JAMS Foundation/ACR Grant and the name of the organization.

Applications must be submitted **electronically by 11:59 P.M., local time of applicant on Monday, January 6th, 2020 simultaneously** to jamsacr19@gmail.com

In the body of the email, please provide **only** the following information:

1. Name of organization
2. Name of the proposed project
3. Name of contact person
4. Telephone number of contact person
5. Email address of contact person.

The proposed project description shall be **no more than three** pages, single spaced, 12-point font, with 1-inch margins. The document must be submitted as .pdf file using Adobe Acrobat 9.0 or a later version. Please include the following information in your description.

Please note, **incomplete submissions and those which do not adhere to the specifications will not be considered.**

Applicant Information:

1. Organization Name/Address
2. Organizational Contact Person (and necessary contact information)
3. Organizational Type (educational institution, LEA, HEI, NGO, etc.)
4. Organization's Previous Work in Conflict Resolution Education (only 1-2 paragraphs)
5. Amount of funds requested for Year 1 and proposed for Year 2.

Project Description:

In your 2-3-page description of the project please discuss the following:

1. Briefly highlight your previous or present work to increase the use of conflict resolution skills by elementary school age youth.
2. Briefly highlight your previous or present work to increase the use of conflict resolution skills by adults.
3. Describe your previous or present work with school institutions, in particular, work that addresses one or more of the four possible dimensions of school climate: 1) school safety; 2) social and civil learning; 3) relationships among peers and with school personnel (respect for diversity); 4) school connectedness and engagement (bonding).
4. Provide a clear description of the nature of the proposed project idea and the need in your partner educational institution to address one or more of the four dimensions of school climate. Include in this response the number of youth that are served by your educational institutional partner.
5. List the measurable impacts that you anticipate will demonstrate your success in reducing anti-social behavior in school, after school and during off-site school related activities.
6. Introduce the capacity of your organization, or an individual who will be connected through this proposal.

Note: *In the event of close scores between applications, a funding preference will be given to those submissions which focus on populations or areas of Canada or the United States that have not previously received funding through this initiative.*