



2015 CMB Request for Proposals (RFP)

Innovations in e-Learning for Health Professional Education

Invitation for Proposals

The China Medical Board (美国中华医学基金会) invites eligible Chinese universities to submit proposals for piloting **e-Learning innovations** to accelerate transformative health professional education in our digital age. The CMB-e-Learning program plans to offer support to innovative educational programs deploying cutting-edge applications and solutions through using of information and communication technology (ICT) to enhance quality medical education in a digital age.

Background

For a century, CMB has sought to strengthen health professional education in China. CMB support for medical education has been wide-ranging – from clinical medicine, nursing, public health, GMER, Lancet Commission, to pilot innovations.

This RFP aims to stimulate e-Learning innovations which promise to revolutionize health professional education around the world. Two years ago in 2013, CMB awarded “start up” grants to four universities in support of developing China’s first public health MOOCs: Fudan in preventive medicine; Peking in epidemiology; PUMC in health systems; and Sun Yat-sen in biostatistics. The aim of this RFP is to continue the promotion of e-Learning, across the range of health professional education in China.

Harnessing power of the digital age can innovate teaching and learning, throughout the educational process. The use of electronic media and digital devices can be tools for improving access to training, communications, and interactions and facilitate learning and practice. In health professional education, e-Learning innovations can consist of many new activities: (1) MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses), various variants (like SPOCs or special programs online courses), (2) distance education, (3) transmission of information for remote health workers in continuing medical education, and (4) computer simulation, testing, and evaluation. The RFP is aimed at learning and education, not at utilizing IT for improvement of health services; projects like mhealth for improving health care delivery are not within the scope of this RFP. The goals are to promote knowledge exchange, synthesis, application and knowledge translation for improved healthcare practices.

CMB e-Learning Programs

CMB is now announcing grant opportunities of **50,000 USD – 150,000 USD per e-Learning project**. Altogether, up to a dozen e-Learning projects may be considered for funding. The central theme for this e-Learning funding opportunity is for innovative applications in the field of health professional education among all health professionals. The proposals may feature aspects of clinical medicine, nursing, public health, and continuing medical education, including e-Learning projects to reach rural general practitioners. The professions covered are not limited to public health and the delivery methods are not limited to MOOCs.

Eligibility to Apply

Faculty members and students from the eligible medical universities and related institutions of these eligible institutions, listed at the end of this RFP including several designated partners are eligible to submit CMB-e-Learning abstracts and proposals. Final selection of the funded CMB-e-Learning projects will be merit-based competition, so eligibility does not guarantee funding.

Abstracts & Proposal Submission

CMB seeks submissions to offer these grants that may be used to jump start the e-Learning production process. CMB recognizes that costs will vary and may even exceed this grant, but CMB is interested in supporting rapid development and thus would be prepared to see these funds used catalytically and flexibly. Abstracts and proposals should be submitted in English through the respective university's CMB liaison office. There is no quota on the number of abstracts submitted by each institution.

Timeline in 2015

May 15	Submission of abstracts
June 30	CMB decision on abstracts for consideration
August 15	Submission of proposal
December 31	CMB announcement of funding decisions

Abstracts Guidelines

To apply for this funding, each project may submit one 3-5 page abstract that includes:

1. *General information:* University, project title, PI(s) and their leadership/academic titles, contact information, duration of the project.
2. *Project overview and justification:* Brief explanation of the project; explanation of the project's importance to China, your locality, and/or university; justification of use of e-Learning; planned implementation/use of e-Learning (i.e. For university students? For rural doctors training? For general practitioners? Etc.)
3. *Project content:* What is the main content area for the e-Learning project? What content will be produced, what subjects will be covered?
4. *Budget:* Please describe the project budget and explain how the funding will be spent.
5. *Timeline:* Please describe the general project timeline, noting any important stages and/or deliverables.

Proposals should be accompanied by the current CV of the Principal Investigator (PI).

CMB Review

The application process is highly competitive and merit-based. CMB's decisions about which projects to support will be based on the quality, relevance, and topical significance of the abstracts & proposals. Independent reviewers may be invited to examine various project proposals. After initial review, the submitted project proposal may be asked to answer questions or make modifications in light of the review process. This would likely require revisions (mostly modest changes) to be considered in the final decision making.

Grants Management

In naming project proposals, please follow the standard format: **“Year + eLearning+SchoolAbbreviation + PI's Name.”** An example is **15eLearningUniv.FamilyNameGivenName.**

Each participating university has designated “**CMB liaison officer(s)**” (listed below) who will serve as the point(s)-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 **Kun Tang (唐昆)**, CMB Program and Grants Manager, email: ktang@cmbfound.org, phone: 010-5969 5071-807. Backup inquiries should be directed to **Wenkai Li (李文凯)**, CMB Beijing Office Director, email: wli@cmbfound.org, phone: 010-5969 5071-801.

Addendum I
Eligible Institutions (in alphabetic order) & Liaison Officers

Center for Health Statistics & Information, National Health and Family Planning Commission of China
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