

C4H Pilot Projects Program

Key Dates

- Applications are due by 5:00 pm on **July 31st, 2026**
- Awards to be made by **September 15, 2026**
- Budget end date **July 30th, 2027**. All award funds MUST be invoiced / spent. There is no possibility of carry-over.

Award Categories

Urban Resilience Awards (due July 31, 2026)

Urban Resilience Awards will fund research proposing to transcend traditional disciplinary boundaries to address the following important domains for C4H:

- ❖ Enhancing health resilience through sustainable adaptation and mitigation strategies (e.g., urban planning, housing, transportation, air quality management, health services) to reduce exposure to heat, pathogens, or environmental toxicants
- ❖ Basic, clinical, population, or behavioral research exploring the role of exposure to excessive heat, pathogens, or environmental toxicants on health

Grassroots Collaboration Awards (separate RFA and deadline sent out later in 2026)

The Grassroots Collaboration award program is a mechanism for supporting research that begins with community-level articulations of the health effects of climate change. This RFA will be announced via Green Umbrella and the Climate Research Incubator program. [Visit the website for more information.](#)

I. Eligibility

Faculty, senior research staff with doctoral-level training, and postdoctoral fellows are eligible to apply for Urban Resilience Pilot Awards. PIs for the Grassroots Collaboration Award must be members of the community. Community members are defined as students, educators, health care providers, public health professionals and other interested people.

II. Required Steps – **Prior to Submission**

When submitting a proposal that includes human subjects or human specimens, applicants should be aware that an approved IRB protocol will be **required** before any award can be made.

III. Deadlines and Funding Information

- Applications must be received by **5:00 pm, July 31st, 2026**.
- The pilot project period is limited to the current grant year ending August 31st with no extensions or carryover allowed. Any unused funds will be returned to C4H.
- Applicants may request up to **\$25,000 for the Urban Resilience Awards** and **\$20,000 for the Grassroots Collaboration Awards**.
- Indirect or F&A costs are not allowed.

VI. Application Requirements

1. **C4H cover page** and abstract is **required** of all applicants ([download the cover page here](#); provide all information requested).
2. **Proposal narrative** (**≤ 3 typed pages**, single spaced, Arial font 11, ≥ 0.5” margins) providing the following:
 - a. Specific Aims and Hypothesis
 - b. Importance of Research (Significance and Innovation)
 - c. Rigor and Feasibility (Approach)
 - d. Relevance of the project to climate and health
 - e. Plan for enhancing public/community impact
 - f. Bibliography (not included in the 3-page limit)
3. **Biographical sketches** of the PI and all key personnel ([new NIH Common Form Biosketch](#))
4. All projects that require the consent of Human Subjects or use existing data / Human Specimens **must** provide:
 - A copy of your **IRB approval** or IRB document showing exempt from IRB review. If exempt, provide a description of the study, what human data/samples will be used, and from where they will be obtained.
 - [PHS Human Subjects and Clinical Trials Information](#) must be completed for non-exempt research. This should include an Inclusion Enrollment Report.

Award dollars for successful proposals involving Human Subjects/Human Specimens cannot and will not be released until the C4H receives documentation of IRB approval and a completed PHS Human Subjects and Clinical Trials Form.

5. **Itemized budget** and a **written budget justification** are required.
 - Use of [PHS 398 face page 4](#) (fp4) is **required**.
 - Budgets may NOT include faculty salaries. Budgets may NOT include publication or page charges. Budgets may NOT include travel costs to present findings.
 - Budgets will be reviewed for accuracy and appropriateness.

Submit applications to **Jessica Bloomer** (bloomejl@ucmail.uc.edu)

Questions regarding the application and review process may be directed to Kelly Brunst (kelly.brunst@uc.edu) for scientific concerns, Michelle Burbage (michelle.burbage@uc.edu) for community-related partnerships, and Jessica Bloomer (bloomejl@ucmail.uc.edu) for administrative issues.

V. Post Award Duties

Acknowledgment of C4H Support

All abstracts, posters, publications, and reports emanating in whole or in part from the funded work must acknowledge the support of C4H, *e.g.*, *Research described in this article was supported by the Cincinnati Center on Climate Change and Health through the NIEHS award P20ES036792.*

The **NIH Public Access Policy** applies whether work leading to a publication is supported in whole or in part by C4H funds, and whether the person receiving C4H funds is primary author or co-author. Accordingly, C4H-supported authors **must**

- a) acknowledge the C4H grant (NIEHS award P20ES036792)
- b) ensure that any final peer-reviewed journal manuscript arising in whole or in part from C4H funds is [submitted to PubMed Central](#) immediately upon acceptance for publication (whether the journal publisher does it automatically, or the author makes arrangements with the publisher, or the author does so via [NIH Manuscript Submission System](#)).

Once a paper has been submitted to PubMed Central and is **In Process** or fully **Compliant** with the NIH Public Access policy <https://publicaccess.nih.gov/> authors must associate the P20ES036792 award to their publications via their **MyNCBI \ MyBibliography**: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/account>

Public Dissemination of Findings

Awardees are required to present pilot results obtained during their award period. This activity can be fulfilled by participating in the annual C4H symposium, Weathering Change seminar, or other outreach activities available through the CEC or Admin cores. This activity constitutes part of the annual evaluation process of the success of the DC, CEC, and C4H more broadly.

Complete a Final Report and Annual Survey

The final report and annual survey should describe progress, publications, grants (planned, submitted, funded) resulting from the grant. The annual survey will query outcomes (manuscripts/grants). This information will be collected for the 3-year post award.

Provide a lay summary of findings

Awardees will work with members of the Community Engagement Core to craft lay summaries of their work. This will increase the visibility and impact of research while also serving as building blocks for broad and transparent communication of C4H research.

Peer-Reviewers

Awardees may be asked to participate as reviewers in future cycles of the C4H Pilot Projects Program.