



Meredith Willson Pilot Research Program *Pilot Research Applications*

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Version 2.0

As described in the **Guidelines** (music.ucsf.edu), The Music Man Foundation is partnering with University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) to offer the “**Meredith Willson Pilot Research Program**” to support projects that focus on music and health research. The goal of the pilot research program is to encourage multidisciplinary collaborations to help catalyze research about the impact of music on health. Each pilot proposal will have a maximum budget of \$20,000 for 9-12 months.

Definitions:

Principal Investigator (PI). The individual who will be in charge and lead the funded study. The PI is responsible for study oversight including management, development, and execution of the project. All grants submissions must identify a PI.

Co-Principle Investigator (Co-PI). An individual who works in partnership with the PI to manage, develop, and/or execute the project. Having a Co-PI is not a requirement for this grant.

For grants that have both a PI and Co-PI, at least one of these individuals must hold an academic appointment that allows them to apply for grants (see FAQ #1).

Co-Investigator (Co-I). An individual who makes significant contributions but does not have overall responsibility or authority for the project. Individuals not eligible for PI or Co-PI such as a PhD student, clinician, or community musician can serve as a Co-I.

- 1. Regarding the principal investigator’s academic institution appointment, what type is eligible? I am a music therapist at an academic institution, am I eligible? I am an adjunct faculty member, am I eligible?**

Answer: *The principal investigator (PI) must have an appointment at an academic institution that allows them to apply for grants. Please check with the Contracts and Grants office at your academic institution to see if your academic appointment allows you to apply for grants as a PI and you also meet the other eligibility criteria.*

For example, at UCSF, “University [policy](#) defines “Principal Investigator (PI) Status” as the eligibility to submit proposals for research, training, or public service contracts or grants to extramural agencies, subject to approval of the appropriate department chair/Organized Research Unit (ORU) director or their appointed delegate.”

- 2. Is there a duration of academic position that’s required?**

Answer: *Eligibility needs to be met at the date of submission, and the academic appointment must be active for the duration of the proposal.*

3. Are postdoctoral scholars/fellows eligible to be a PI?

Answer: Postdoctoral scholars are eligible to be a PI if they have an appointment at an academic institution, their academic institution allows them to apply for grants, and they meet other eligibility criteria. (Please see question #1)

4. Is a U.S. citizen or permanent resident who has an academic appointment at a non-US university eligible?

Answer: The principal investigator or co-principal investigator must have an appointment at an academic institution in the US, and the research project must take place in the US.

5. Can PhD students be co-investigators on the proposal?

Answer: Yes, PhD students can be co-investigators as long as they meet the operational definition of co-investigator. (see above)

6. What is your definition of 'music'? Does that include music education?

Answer: Yes, music educators and other music professions are eligible for this grant mechanism as long as they meet all the other eligibility criteria.

7. Can a prior Meredith Willson awardee be on the research team?

Answer: Prior Meredith Willson grant awardees are ineligible to apply as a PI or co-PI. However, prior awardees can serve on a new team, but the proposed pilot needs to represent a different, independent line of inquiry (and not be continuation of a prior pilot project).

Are PIs or Co-PIs of previously funded Meredith Wilson pilot grants eligible to submit a new pilot project grant submission?

Answer: Prior Meredith Wilson grant awardees are not ineligible to apply as a PI or co-PI.

Can prior Meredith Wilson awardees (PIs or Co-PIs) serve as co-investigators on new pilot project grant submissions?

Answer: Yes, prior Meredith Wilson grant awardees (PIs or Co-PIs) are eligible to serve on a new study team as a Co-I. However, the proposed pilot needs to represent a new line of inquiry (and not be a continuation of work from a previously funded Meredith Wilson pilot project).

Are Co-Is of previously funded Meredith Wilson pilot grants eligible to submit a new proposal as PI or Co-PI?

Answer: Prior Meredith Wilson grant awardees who served as Co-Is are eligible to submit a proposal as a PI or co-PI. However, the proposed pilot needs to represent a new line of inquiry (and not be a continuation of work from a previously funded Meredith Wilson pilot project).

8. Are individuals from a non-profit research institute eligible?

Answer: The PI or co-PI must have an appointment at an academic institution that allows them to submit grants as a PI. (see FAQ #1)

9. Can I go through my IRB at my non-profit organization rather than an academic institution?

Answer: No, you must get IRB approval through an academic institution.

10. I work for a community-based music organization, do I need to find someone affiliated with an academic institution to be the PI or co-PI?

Answer: Yes. (see FAQ #1)

11. How might I find collaborators to submit a pilot application?

Answer: Use the [Sound Health Network](#) directory, or a similar database, to search for collaborators and contact them directly.

12. Is it OK if some experts on the pilot applications come from non-academics?

Answer: Yes.

Please review the Guidelines, webinar, and examples on ucsf.music.edu. For additional questions, including about eligibility not answered in the Guidelines or here, contact Julene Johnson at Julene.johnson@ucsf.edu