RISE Fellowship Application FAQs

Who can apply for RISE Fellowship funding?
All faculty at the University of Michigan Medical School are eligible. Staff and learners (medical or graduate students, residents, fellows, and post-docs) are also able to apply if they are able to modify their position/program requirements to accommodate the 25% time required to participate as a RISE Fellow.

What kind of ideas can be funded through the RISE initiative?
We welcome all proposed innovations in medical and graduate education that attempt to push the status quo in the pursuit of better health. Ideas must center on novel educational practices, systems, and/or technology. We have identified our funding priorities through a systematic strategic prioritization process, which represents what our community believes to be key issues facing health and education.

What topics will be funded through RISE?
RISE invites ALL ideas for medical or graduate education innovation that have the potential to advance science, health, and healthcare delivery. RISE is interested in supporting innovative ideas and projects in education that have the potential to transform the way we learn and train. Based on extensive input from our community, Initial priorities during this pilot phase include ideas that will:

1. facilitate learner creativity and scientific problem-solving;
2. support transitions along the continuum (e.g., pre-candidate to candidate; medical school to residency, etc.)
3. coordinate learning systems and clinical/scientific data across the continuum
4. address key health issues currently facing society, such as:
   o Health care access (including costs, delivery, or disparities)
   o High-prevalence health conditions (including obesity, mental health, & chronic pain)
   o Preventative health care (including vaccinations & ecological issues)

The three key health issues were identified by the Michigan Medicine community through our recent Innovation in Medical and Graduate Education at Michigan Medicine Culture Survey, currently open at https://umich.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9uZufSYB63K088R

How does RISE define “innovation in medical and graduate education?”
We define innovation in medical and graduate education broadly as a multi-stage process whereby individuals translate knowledge and ideas into new and improved educational products, services, or processes for the advancement of science, health, and healthcare delivery. When we think of innovation in medical and graduate education, we want to promote innovations that translate education into better health.

Who is involved in the RISE Fellowship selection process?
The core RISE team, along with input from the Advisory Council, will make final selection decisions.
How much funding can be requested in addition to the protected time?

A maximum of $7,500 per proposal can be requested for each proposed innovation. These additional funds cannot be used for additional faculty/staff salary support.

When will RISE salary and project funding start?

RISE 0.25 FTE support and funding is effective October 1, 2019.

When and how will notifications regarding RISE Fellowship selection be made?

All applicants will receive email notification regarding their status mid-May. Top applicants will be invited to interview late-May with final decisions being made no later than early June. Those selected for a RISE Fellowship will be asked to confirm acceptance, in writing, by July 1, 2019. The website will be updated soon after decisions are released to introduce the RISE Fellows and their innovations to Michigan Medicine.

Can I apply for the fellowship if I already have FTE support for an education project?

Yes, although the proposed innovation specifically supported by RISE funding and/or FTE must be separate with unique scope and intended outcomes. Please contact our team at michmedrise@umich.edu if you would like to discuss specifics.

Can I submit supplementary application materials—beyond what is explicitly required?

Yes—we recognize that we are asking for innovative ideas. As such, we are open to non-traditional mediums and approaches to applying for RISE support. At a minimum, you must complete the requirements of the online application to be considered. However, if you wish to provide additional materials in formats or mediums not supported by our online application, please email these directly to (michmedrise@umich.edu with a subject line that includes: Supplemental RISE Fellowship Application Material: Last Name, First Name.)

What is RISE’s policy on IRB approval?

Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval or exemption is required for any research project involving human participants. Successful applicants have three months from the date of the acceptance to obtain IRB approval if the project involves human participants.

If I am not accepted for a RISE Fellowship, will I receive feedback on my proposal?

Yes.

Can RISE Fellowship funds be used to cover salaries and benefits?

The RISE Fellowship covers 0.25 FTE for each Fellow. The additional RISE innovation funds cannot be used to cover salaries and benefits of other University of Michigan employees. (NOTE: RISE will review appeals to this policy on a case-by-case basis).

Can RISE Fellowship funds be used to cover consulting or training costs?

Yes, external consulting or training costs can be paid for using RISE funding. Costs for training or internal consulting are ineligible for funding.
Can RISE Fellowship funds be used to pay for food (e.g., breakfast, lunch or dinner)?

No, RISE funds cannot be used to pay for food where the sole purpose of the event is to promote dialogue or conversation within the department or unit. However, the costs of food may be included as part of a training or data-gathering session.

If I am awarded a RISE Fellowship, how much time will I have to complete my project?

Proposed innovations are expected to be completed within 18-months of the award notification. However, we recognize that, for various reasons, delays may occur. In the event of a project delay, an extension may be requested. The request should include the reason for the delay and how the issue will be resolved and by what expected date. The FTE funding cannot be extended beyond the 18 months.