Funding Application FAQs

Who can apply for RISE funding?
All Michigan Medicine faculty, staff, and learners (medical or graduate students, residents, Fellows, and post-doctoral fellows) are eligible for RISE funding. Individuals can apply for the Fellowship if they can modify their position/program requirements to accommodate the required 15% reduction in their employment or education responsibilities. It is the applicant’s responsibility to negotiate and secure this approval from their supervisor prior to submitting their application. A letter of support from a person with appropriate oversight for the 15% reduction in other responsibilities is required at the time of application.

What topics has RISE previously funded?
During the initial pilot (2019-2022) RISE funded a variety of topics. These were initial investments, yet still serve as examples.

What topics will be funded through RISE?
RISE invites ideas that seek to transform the way we learn, teach, and train in health science education. We seek innovation ideas from across the continuum of health science education that have the potential to advance science, health, and/or healthcare delivery. This includes topics from all health science education disciplines.

How does RISE define “health science education innovation”?
We define health science education innovation (HSEI) broadly as a multi-stage process whereby individuals translate knowledge and ideas into new and improved education products, services, or processes for the advancement of science, health, and/or healthcare delivery.

How long can my application be?
You are asked to submit a Health Science Education Innovation (HSEI) Plan that describes your proposed innovation idea. This HSEI Plan should not exceed 2 pages (12-point font, 1” margins). The budget and letter of support should be submitted as separate documents and do not factor into the 2-page limit.

How will my Health Science Education Innovation (HSEI) Plan be assessed?
All Health Science Education Innovation (HSEI) Plans will be assessed using the RISE Health Science Education Innovation Plan Development Rubric. Interviewers will use the RISE Health Science Education Innovation Competency Development Rubric to assess all interviewees.

Who is involved in the RISE funding selection process?
The RISE Core Team, along with input from our Advisory Council, will review applications, conduct interviews, and make final selection decisions.
Can I apply for both a RISE Fellowship and a Mini-grant?
Yes, you can apply for a RISE Fellowship and/or Mini grant; however, you will only be awarded one of these funded opportunities.

How much funding can be requested, in addition to the protected time?
A maximum of $5,000 per application can be requested for as part of the Fellowship and $2,500 for the Mini-grant.

When will the FTE support and project funding begin?
RISE funding is effective January 1, 2023. RISE Fellows will receive 0.15 FTE support, or the equivalent of 15% reduction in other responsibilities for staff and learners to accommodate the effort required for the Fellowship.

When and how will notifications regarding the RISE Funding selection be made?
All applicants will receive email notification regarding their status mid-August. Top applicants will be invited to interview between August 29—September 2, with final decisions being made mid-September. Those selected for RISE funding will be asked to confirm acceptance, in writing, by mid-September.

Can I apply for the Fellowship if I already have FTE support for another education project?
Yes, although your HSEI Plan to be supported by RISE must represent unique scope and measurable outcomes. Please contact our team at michmedrise@umich.edu if you would like to discuss specifics.

Can I submit supplementary materials—beyond what is explicitly required?
Yes. If you wish to provide additional materials in formats not supported by our online submission, please email these directly to michmedrise@umich.edu with a subject line that includes—Supplemental RISE Funding 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. Funded applicants have three months from the date of the acceptance to obtain IRB approval if the HSEI Plan involves human participants.

If I am not accepted for a RISE funding, will I receive feedback on my application?
Yes, you will receive a narrative summary of the strengths and areas for development as they relate to your proposed HSEI Plan.

If I am not accepted for a RISE funding, can I still participate in aspects of RISE?
Absolutely! We would love for you to remain engaged with us. By applying for funding, you become a member of our RISE Community of Practice. This means you will be invited to RISE activities and will be eligible for opportunities such as grant brainstorming sessions, which will offer you innovation networking and much more.
What is excluded from RISE funding?
RISE funds cannot be used to pay for internal training or consulting, food where the sole purpose of the event is to promote dialogue or conversation within the department or unit, conference travel, or regular faculty and staff salary support.

What happens if I do not use all the funds?
All unused funds must be returned.

If I am awarded RISE funding, how much time will I have to complete my project?
Proposed HSEI Plans are expected to be piloted within the 12-month award cycle. However, we recognize that, for various reasons, delays may occur. In the event of a delay, an extension may be requested.