



MARYLAND CRIME RESEARCH AND INNOVATION CENTER

August 5, 2019

To: Maryland Crime Research and Innovation Center (MCRIC) Network

From: Gary LaFree, MCRIC Director

Re: Finding partners for 2019-2020 data projects

Dear Colleagues, We have developed three data intensive projects and are seeking partnerships with researchers to provide expertise and innovation.

Project #1 involves a feasibility pilot study for a criminal justice data warehouse based on data already being collected to support the Maryland Victim Information and Notification Everyday (VINE) program. The project will be co-led by MCRIC project liaison Dr. Jinney Smith.

Project #2 is aimed at using traditional and unconventional data sources to develop methods for estimating crime rates that are more current than those available from traditional sources of crime data alone. The project will make crime estimates available to policy makers at the county and jurisdiction level and on a monthly basis. The project will be co-led by MCRIC project liaison Dr. Jim Lynch.

Project #3 aims to bring machine learning algorithms and risk assessment instruments to examine patterns of serious violent reoffending in Maryland. The project will be co-led by MCRIC project liaison Dr. Kiminori Nakamura.

We are attaching detailed descriptions of each project.

Awards

A proposal will be awarded within the range of \$30,000 to \$40,000 for each of the three projects. This solicitation is open to all University of Maryland researchers.

Proposals Submission Process

Proposals must be submitted electronically to mcric@umd.edu, by Friday, September 27, 2019. Each proposal should focus on one of the three projects described in the attached document. Proposals should be single spaced, using Times New Roman 12 point font, with the proposal narrative limited to 2-3 pages — no more than 3 (see below). Each proposal will be evaluated by the Maryland Crime Research and Innovation Center (MCRIC). Notifications of results from the review will be issued by October 18, 2019.

Content and Format for Proposal

- Project Abstract — must cite the project # the application is directed toward
- Project Narrative — should include:
 1. Proposed research approach (methodology) that will be pursued to meet the objectives
 2. Description of expertise, qualifications, and experience of researcher(s)
 3. Identify required resources and explain any challenges and obstacles
- Period of Performance: October 18, 2019 – June 30, 2020
- Budget and cost summary showing requested funding for the proposed period of performance (within the range of \$30,000 to \$40,000), including budget justification
- Vision for advancing the project beyond this initial grant
- Biographies/Resumes of Researcher(s): Concise (shall not exceed two pages per person) resume for the principal investigator and other key researchers

Note: This round of pilot funding may only be used for salaries and benefits, and subcontracts. Indirect costs should not be included. Please note that an IRB review may be required for your project, and should be noted in your proposal.

Reporting Procedures:

Interim and final technical and financial reports are required. Participating in site visits may be required.

Deadline and Schedule:

Proposals are due to mcric@umd.edu by 5:00 PM, Friday, September 27, 2019.

Late proposals will not be accepted. It is expected that awards will be announced and funded by October 18, 2019.

Contact

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