

International Home Care Nurses Organization

**Marilyn D. Harris Research Grant**

~ Overview ~

**Purpose:**

The purpose of the funding is to provide seed money, pilot funding, or total funding for research with promising contributions to home care nursing.

***Proposals addressing the International Guidelines for Home Health Nursing are encouraged.***

(Narayan, M., Farris, C., Harris, M. D., Fong, Y. H. (2017). Development of the International Guidelines for Home Health Nursing, *Home Healthcare Now*, 35(9), 494-506.)

Priority will be given to projects that address important and understudied areas in home care nursing, including workforce development, care quality and safety, care coordination, caregiver support, technology-enabled care, and innovative models of home-based care.

Applicants may also align their proposals with one or more of the following International Home Care Nurses Organization (IHCNO) research priorities:

- a. Core clinical competencies of home care nurses/strategies to test and document competencies.
- b. Transition to home care nursing practice.
- c. Education/orientation of home care nurses/core curriculum.
- d. Continuing education/clinical ladder programs.
- e. Leadership in home care nursing.
- f. Best clinical practices for home care patients and families
- g. Patient and person-centered care strategies.
- h. Technology to improve home care nursing practice.
- i. Practice models for the delivery of home care nursing services.
- j. Innovations to enhance home care patient/family outcomes and nursing practice.

The proposal may describe a research study, quality improvement project, or comprehensive literature review focused on home care nursing. Projects may be at the planning stage or already in progress. Significance, clinical relevance, and scientific merit of the proposal are critical factors in the review process.

**Eligibility criteria. The Applicant must:**

- Show evidence of a Registered Nurse licensure in the country of current employment or practice.
- Add your email to the IHCNO distribution list on the IHCNO website so that you receive email updates about IHCNO.
- Hold a doctoral degree or be currently enrolled in a doctoral program, including but not limited to PhD, DNP, DNS, EdD, or DrPH programs with a focus relevant to nursing practice, education, or research.
- Note: There are no U.S. citizenship requirements for Principal Investigators or members of the research team, and applicants are not required to be paid members of IHCNO to apply.

However, if awarded, the Principal Investigator must hold an active IHCNO membership in order to receive the funding.

**Guidelines for the Applicant:**

- Electronically submit a completed research proposal in .pdf format.
- Must implement the research study within 3 months upon being informed of the grant award or be in the process of implementing the research (e.g., additional funds needed for a component of the research).
- Complete the research within two (2) years of funding.
- Submit a final report to the IHCNO Research Committee upon completion of the research.
- Acknowledge IHCNO as a funding source in any research presentation or publication that arises from the research.
- Submit an Abstract to the IHCNO within 2 months of project completion to present findings of the research on the IHCNO website or via a national webinar.
- Submit a photo for posting on the IHCNO website along with 2-3 sentences regarding the research this grant will support.

**The Research Committee will:**

- Evaluate all proposals for scientific merit, focus on the IHCNO research priorities, and appropriateness of the research budget.
- Rate and assign a score to each proposal.
- Select proposals for funding based on the evaluations' scores and availability of research funds.
- Recommend to the Board those proposals selected by the Research Committee for funding by IHCNO.

**Grant Fund Availability:**

The maximum amount that may be awarded is \$5,000.

**~ General Instructions for Applicants ~**

1. The completed Application for Research Funds form (see page 6) and research proposal materials must be submitted electronically to the chair of the IHCNO Research Committee by **September 30, 2026, at 11:59 p.m. EST (New York, USA)**. Proposals received after this date and time will not be considered.
2. All correspondence will be addressed to the principal investigator (the individual responsible for the conduct of the proposed research and submission of the final report).
3. The format for the proposal should be in the most current version of APA style (including page numbers and a running head). Use Arial 11, Times New Roman 12, or Calibri 11 font. *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, (7<sup>th</sup> ed.). Submit the application via email **in one (1) PDF document**. NOTE: The PI's name must be included in the title of the file.
4. Submitted applications must be complete and should include the following:
  - a) Abstract of the proposed research (250 words or less).
  - b) Single-spaced proposal body that is no greater than 5 pages in length.

- c) References – not included in the 5-page limit
- d) Application for Research Funds. See Appendix A.
- e) Biographical Sketch of each investigator limited to 2 pages. See Appendix B.
- f) Appropriate appendices (see preparation of application for details).
- g) Name the file with the applicant's surname. Number the files if submitting more than one.

**Applications should be submitted to: Dr. Jingjing Shang, Chair, Research Committee at  
ihcnorg@gmail.com**

~ Preparation of Application ~

- 1) **Title of Proposal** – include keywords that describe the type of research, population, and important variables.
- 2) **Abstract** – a succinct description of the proposed research that includes the Purpose/objectives, project design or review approach, sample/data sources or literature sources, procedures, measures or evaluation criteria, and analysis/synthesis plan. The abstract should be **250 words** or fewer.
- 3) **Proposal body (Maximum of 5 pages, excluding references)**
  - a) **Background/Specific Aims** – Briefly describe the background for the proposed research. Include specific aims, research questions, or hypotheses.
  - b) **IHCNO Research Priorities** - Identify how the aims address one of the *current IHCNO Research Priorities*. Describe the importance to home care nursing.
  - c) **Conceptual Framework and Review of Literature** – Briefly describe the conceptual framework or qualitative methods that will guide the research. Critically evaluate existing knowledge with identification of the knowledge gaps the proposed research intends to fill. Identify the next research steps/how this research fits into a larger program of research, if applicable.
  - d) **Methods**
    - i) **Design** – Describe the research design to be used.
    - ii) **Sample** – Describe the target population. Specify sample size, rationale for sample size, sampling technique, and sampling procedures. Provide inclusion and exclusion criteria. Address research risks and protection of the subjects.
    - iii) **Setting** – Describe the setting in which the research will take place. Include evidence of access to the setting in the appendices.
    - iv) **Measures** – Describe data collection procedures. Describe variables to be measured and their definitions. Report specific characteristics of the instruments used to measure each variable (reliability, validity, precision, accuracy) as appropriate. For qualitative studies, describe how data will be obtained (e.g., interview questions/observations, etc.).
    - v) **Procedures** – Specify how data will be collected. Include a timetable of events. Discuss limitations of the research.

- vi) **Data Analysis Plan** – Identify the data analysis methods that will be used to analyze the data and that correspond to the aims/questions/hypotheses.
- e) **References** – List of references used in the body of the proposal using APA style.

#### 4) Appendices

1. **Budget & Budget Justification** – Include only expenses essential to the conduct of the proposed research. Funds from IHCNO may not be used to fund salaries for investigators, expenses related to education, or indirect costs. Educational expenses not covered by these funds include expenses for preparation of theses and dissertations, travel associated with thesis/dissertation approval, purchase of computers, tuition, and textbooks. Budget changes must be approved by the Research Committee.
2. **Documentation of review** by appropriate Institutional Review Board (IRB) equivalent Ethics Committee, or timetable for review. Research funds will not be released until the Research Chairperson receives documentation of approval by the IRB or Ethics Committee.
3. **Documentation of access** to subjects, letters of support, if applicable. Include letters of support from individuals administratively responsible for access to potential subjects and other resources necessary to complete the research.
4. **Research Results Dissemination.** Include a one to two paragraph description of how the final study results will be disseminated.
5. **Completed Appendices A & B.** Complete and send *Appendix A. Application for Research Funds* and *Appendix B. Biographical Sketch* located at the end of this document and evidence of Registered Nurse licensure.

#### 5) Post-Award Procedures

- A. All principal investigators will be notified of the disposition of their application. Applications are treated as privileged communication and are restricted to the IHCNO Research Committee. Notifications with critiques will be sent to all applicants. Under no circumstances will more than the specified maximum funding be awarded.
- B. The awardee will submit a professional photo for publicity use by IHCNO within 30 days of the notification of acceptance. The photo will be used to promote IHCNO's commitment to research and the scholarship program.
- C. Publications or presentations that discuss the research study must contain one of the following statements:
  - a. “Funded by the International Home Care Nurses Organization,” if IHCNO is the only funding source;

- b. “Partially Funded by the IHCNO”, if the IHCNO is not the only source of funding.
- D. Grant awardees will complete the research study within the agreed-upon timeframe, account for funding dollars, and submit a written report to IHCNO on the research progression every six months and at the end of the research study.
- E. The awardee will apprise the IHCNO contact person of any changes related to contact information or changes in the study.
- F. Awardees will be asked to provide voluntary submissions of publications or other professional work for use by IHCNO for publicity.
- G. Awardees will provide the name and title of the official from the affiliate organization responsible for the administration of funds and submission of the final financial report.

Important! Please confirm the address with your Office of Sponsored Programs or Finance Department to ensure that the grant funds are sent to the appropriate address, if your proposal is funded.

### **References**

- American Psychiatric Association (APA). *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, (7<sup>th</sup> ed.).
- Jarrín, O. F., Pouladi, F. A., & Madigan, E. A. (2019). International priorities for home care education, research, practice, and management: Qualitative content analysis. *Nurse Education Today*, 73, 83–87. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nedt.2018.11.020>
- Narayan, M., Farris, C., Harris, M. D., Fong, Y. H. (2017). Development of the International Guidelines for Home Health Nursing, *Home Healthcare Now*, 35(9), 494-506.

## Application for Research Funds

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| <b>Name and credentials of Principal Investigator (PI):</b>  |
| <b>Proposal Title:</b>   |
| <b>Address of Principal Investigator:</b><br>Institution:<br>Street:<br>City, State, Zip Code:<br>Country:<br>Phone:<br>Email:   |
| <b>Registered with IHCNO Website Network:</b> _____ <b>Yes</b> _____ <b>No</b>   |
| <b>Have you applied to other funding organizations, plan to apply for, or are now receiving support for this research?</b> _____ <b>Yes</b> _____ <b>No</b><br><b>If yes, please identify source and amount requested.</b><br><br><i>If other support is received after this application is reviewed or has been funded, please notify the Research Committee Chairperson.</i> |
| <b>Are human subjects involved?</b> _____ <b>Yes</b> _____ <b>No</b><br><br><b>Institutional Review Board action:</b><br><br><b>Approval date or submission date (if not approved):</b>  |
| <b>Are there co-investigators for this research?</b> ____ <b>Yes</b> ____ <b>No</b><br><b>Please include contact information for each co-investigator:</b><br><br>Name and credentials:<br>Institution:<br>Street Address:<br>City, State, Zip Code:<br>Country:<br>Phone:<br>Email:   |
| <b>Total amount of budget:</b> \$ _____<br><br><b>Budget justification must be attached.</b>   |
| <b>Anticipated start date:</b><br><br><b>Anticipated completion date:</b>  |

## Biographical Sketch

**BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

Provide the following information for the Senior/key personnel and other significant contributors.  
Follow this format for each person. **DO NOT EXCEED TWO PAGES.**

NAME:

POSITION TITLE:

EDUCATION/TRAINING (*Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, include postdoctoral training and residency training if applicable. Add/delete rows as necessary.*)

| INSTITUTION AND LOCATION | DEGREE<br>(if applicable) | Completion Date<br>MM/YYYY | FIELD OF STUDY |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|
|                          |                           |                            |                |

**A. Employment and Positions****B. Additional Information: Research Support and/or Scholastic Performance, Honors/Awards, Publications**