

PNASH PILOT PROJECT PROGRAM

2025-2026 INTRODUCTION AND GUIDELINES

The Pacific Northwest Agricultural Safety and Health (PNASH) Center is committed to preventing illness and injury among agricultural producers, workers, and their families. Our mission is to focus on safe and sustainable workplaces and communities in farming, fishing, and forestry (AgFF), with a special emphasis on protecting hired laborers, migrant and seasonal workers, and their families and children. Our approach includes:

1. Collaborating with employers, workers, agencies, and a wide range of research and service organizations,
2. Conducting innovative research and intervention programs that prioritize practical, evidence-based solutions, and
3. Delivering effective solutions to workplaces and communities through training, outreach, and participatory research.

Priority Areas

The PNASH Pilot Program awards up to \$30,000 to recipients and prioritizes academic researchers, especially new investigators and trainees. Projects should address the prevention of AgFF injuries and illnesses to enhance safety and health in Pacific Northwest communities.

PNASH provides investigators with opportunities to:

- Develop preliminary data and/or expertise to support new proposals,
- Adapt or evaluate proven tools or techniques for new populations, workplaces, or delivery methods,
- Evaluate the merit of new ideas, or new approaches to existing methodologies or datasets,
- Explore new directions in research, prevention/intervention, and education/translation,
- Apply their expertise to the field of AgFF safety and health, and
- Leverage emerging technologies in supporting a healthy, safe, and productive AgFF workplace.

Successful applications should include clear plans for pursuing future funding, identifying relevant agencies, organizations, or grant mechanisms that can leverage pilot project data to address the needs of agricultural workers in the Pacific Northwest.

Additionally, the PNASH Pilot Program prioritizes meritorious projects that expand PNASH's work in the AgFF sector and those that support early-stage investigators.

The review criteria for academic-track applications emphasize scientific rigor, innovation, and the potential to secure future funding. Academic-track projects should have at least one well-defined research question focused on preventing illness or injury resulting from agricultural work exposures. Many topics and research types (i.e., basic/etiologic, surveillance, intervention, research translation) will be considered. However, applicants must describe how their projects address NIOSH priority goals for [Extramural Research Priorities](#) within the AgFF sector and/or the [National Occupational Research Agenda for Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing](#).

Eligibility

PNASH welcomes applications from innovative academic and scientific investigators interested in advancing AgFF safety and health. Individuals with relevant expertise are encouraged to partner with an “eligible investigator” to apply. **For 2025-2026, principal investigators must be affiliated with the University of Washington, and the budget must be housed within the University of Washington.** Collaborations with researchers in HHS Region X (Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington) are encouraged when their expertise is vital. Investigators must demonstrate a strong research interest in AgFF worker health and safety or be engaged in complementary or cross-disciplinary fields. Preference is given to UW graduate scholars, medical residents, junior faculty, and research staff. Seasoned UW investigators may apply only if they have not previously engaged in AgFF safety and health research.

Deadlines and Awards

Complete applications will be received on a rolling basis. To be selected for funding the following month, proposals must be submitted by the first **day of the month, 11:59 p.m. Pacific Time**. Funding decision will be made within one month of receipt. For example, applications received by October 1 will be reviewed by October 31 and eligible for a start date of November 1. See “Application Submission Procedure” for additional details. **Projects must be completed by September 29, 2026, with final reports submitted by October 31, 2026.**

Applicants may request funding up to **\$30,000 in direct costs**. See “Funding and Budget Considerations” for additional details. Please note that PNASH has already allocated indirect expenses to UW, so no additional indirect charges are required for UW investigators during this project period.

Please note: All pilot grant awards are conditional on the continued availability of funds allocated by NIOSH to PNASH.

Funded or recently completed projects may be eligible for an additional education or research translation component, with a maximum funding amount of \$5,000.

The release of funds to PNASH Pilot Program applicants is contingent upon compliance with federal regulations. Investigators are encouraged to initiate as soon as possible any applicable human subjects research determination and/or review processes with an Institutional Review Board (IRB). Please contact Paulina Osinska (osinsp@uw.edu), PNASH Center Manager, with any questions regarding IRB procedures.

Timelines of Award

Complete applications are due	Rolling (first day of month by 11:59 pm)
Award notification and announcement	Within thirty (30) days of receipt
Start of award	First day of the following month
Completion of funded small grants project	September 29, 2026
Final Report due at PNASH	October 31, 2026

The PNASH Pilot Program stimulates and supports new and expanded research, prevention/ intervention, and education/translation activities in occupational safety and health in Northwest farming, forestry, and fishing. Special emphasis is placed on supporting meritorious projects that broaden PNASH’s existing work and projects led by early-stage investigators. Pilot projects are expected to identify relevant NIOSH priority goals in their submissions, and evaluation criteria specifically consider alignment with these strategic goals.

Funding and Budget Considerations

Each project may request a maximum of \$30,000 in direct costs.

PNASH awards small research grants (pilot project grants) of up to \$30,000 annually through a competitive process. Competitive applications should include specific, actionable plans for seeking additional funding. Applicants are encouraged to identify agencies, organizations, or grant mechanisms that could use pilot project data to further address the needs of AgFF workers in the Pacific Northwest.

Prepare a budget and budget justification following CDC [guidelines](#). Budgets must not exceed \$30,000 in direct costs.

- Budgets should prioritize implementation of proposed programs and resource development.
- Indirect costs are not required in the budget.

Direct costs are those explicitly allocated to the project, including salary and fringe for the project team members, supplies, equipment, data collection and analyses, and travel associated with executing the project. However, no meeting/conference travel can be covered unless attendance is required to perform project activities. Additional information should be provided within the budget justification for select items of cost, including:

- Equipment in excess of \$5,000 must be project-specific, fully justified, directly allocable to the project, and necessary for the completion of the aims.
- Technological/IT equipment (e.g., computers, iPads, phones, wearable devices, and the like) – must be project-specific, fully justified, directly allocable to the project, and necessary for completion of aims.
- Software or software licenses – must be project-specific and necessary for completion of aims.

Research-related food/meals – must be directly related to completion of aims; food for meetings/conferences is not allowed. Principal investigators are strongly encouraged to contact Paulina Osinska (osinsp@uw.edu) for additional guidance in preparing budgets.

Direct costs are expenses directly allocated to the project, such as salary and fringe benefits for project team members, supplies, equipment, data collection and analysis, and travel directly related to project execution. No meeting or conference travel may be covered unless attendance is essential to carry out project activities to perform project activities. Additional information should be provided within the budget justification for select items of cost, including:

- Equipment purchases over \$5,000 must be project-specific, fully justified, directly allocable, and essential for completion of project aims.
- Technological/IT equipment (such as computers, tablets, phones, or wearable devices) must be project-specific, fully justified, directly allocable, and necessary for project completion.
- Software or software licenses must be project-specific and necessary to achieve the project's aims.

Research-related food or meals must be directly tied to completing project aims. Food for meetings or conferences is not allowed. Principal investigators are encouraged to contact Paulina Osinska (osinsp@uw.edu) for additional budget preparation guidance.

Review Process

Pilot project applications will be evaluated by PNASH Leadership, with consultation from external subject matter experts as necessary. A written critique will be provided to the principal investigators of all pilot grant applications deemed responsive to this request for proposals, regardless of funding decision.

Reporting Requirements

The principal investigator of each funded project is required to provide the following reports:

- Mid-project – brief written progress report (approximately halfway through the project period)
- Final – detailed final project progress report (approximately one (1) month after the end of the project)
- Annual impact survey – for four years following project completion, the principal investigator will be asked to respond to a brief survey to evaluate the ongoing impact of the funded project. The survey will ask about (1) long-term outcomes, (2) presentations, publications, or other products resulting from the project not previously reported, (3) professional collaborations established as a result of PNASH support, and (4) additional grants and contracts resulting from the project (i.e., that project results led to or supported an application for funding).

Publications

Funded investigators will receive detailed instructions on how to complete the required reports listed above. Publications, journal articles, presentations, and similar works relating to PNASH-supported pilot projects are required to include the following statement: “This [publication, journal article, presentation, etc.] was supported, in part, by grant number **U54OH007544** from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) / National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH). Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the CDC, NIOSH, *or the Pacific Northwest Agricultural Safety and Health Center*.

To comply with the CDC’s public access policy, all peer-reviewed manuscripts resulting from PNASH funding MUST be deposited into PubMed Central using the NIH Manuscript Submission system.

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2024-2025 Pilot Project Proposal Application Page Count Advisory

APPLICATION CONTENT	Required Pages
Cover Letter <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On Letterhead • Project Title • Narrative of one to three sentences about project and potential impact • Dated and signed 	1
Front Cover Page <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Title Table • Project Narrative • Key Personnel and Brief Collaborators Summary • Project Timeline Summary • Budget Summary • Specific Aims Summary • Abstract/Project Summary (300 words) 	3
Body Of Application	
A. Research Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objectives and Specific Aims • Background and Significance • Methodology • Potential Impact • Collaborative Arrangements 	3
B. References (Hyperlinks recommended)	1
C. Budget and Budget Justification <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget Justification – required 	Pages as needed
D. Timeline and milestones	1
E. Biosketch(es) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biosketch Format Pages, Instructions and Samples grants.nih.gov 	5 pages per Biosketch
F. Letters of Support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If PI is a student/trainee, the application must include a letter of support from their faculty advisor. 	Pages as needed
G. Outcome Metrics Table - See Template and PNASH's Evaluation Guide - required	Pages as needed
Appendix <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Items may include draft surveys/questionnaires, background information on web tools or smartphone apps, training materials, maps, etc. Note, however, that reviewers are not required to read appendices. 	Optional
Human Subjects and Animal Care Committee Approvals	Compliance or Plan of Action

PNASH PILOT PROJECT PROGRAM

2025-2026 Pilot Project Program Application

APPLICATION COVER PAGE FORM (3 pages)

Project Title		
Principal Investigator		
Name		
Title		
Department		
Address		
Phone		
Email		
Funding Period	Start Date:	End Date:

Project Narrative

(Three sentences that describe the proposed project. For more information, refer to the NIH guidelines:
<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/format-and-write/page-limits.htm>)

Key Personnel and Brief Collaborators Summary

Project Timeline Summary

Autumn	
Winter	
Spring	
Summer	

Budget Summary

Direct Costs (up to \$30k):	
F&A: Indirect/F&A costs are allowed at the applicant's negotiated federal indirect cost rate agreement. If applicant does not have a negotiated cost rate agreement, you may request the federal de minimums of 15%, per CFR 200.414. F&A only required for non-UW applications	
Total:	
Will Human Subjects approval be required?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Are any additional approvals or training required to complete the proposed research? (e.g., Animal subjects, radiation safety, biological hazards, etc.)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
If so, which are required, and which training have you and/or your team received?	
For applicants outside of the UW, a maximum amount of 15% F&A costs will be awarded. For UW applicants, F&A costs have already been covered.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Will your institution approve a 15% F&A rate?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

Specific Aims Summary

(Bullet point specific aims.)

Abstract/Project Summary

(limited to 300 words)

Describe proposed project and how it relates to the goals of the PNASH Center (see PNASH website: <https://deohs.washington.edu/pnash/>) include the specific relevant priorities of Northwest or National Occupational Research Agendas. Web addresses for relevant strategic goals links may be found at:

- NIOSH Strategic Plan, <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/about/strategicplan/default.html>
- NORA AgFF, <https://www.cdc.gov/nora/councils/agff/default.html>
- Total Worker Health, <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/twh/default.html>
- Future of Work, <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/future-of-work/default.html>
- American Indian and Alaska Native Worker Safety and Health Strategic Plan, <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2023-123/default.html>

END COVER PAGE

Please send completed applications to judy13@uw.edu.

PNASH PILOT PROJECT PROGRAM
2025-2026 Pilot Project Program Application
APPLICATION FORMAT

BODY OF THE APPLICATION

- A. **Research Plan (Maximum 3 pages).** A concise research plan following the guidelines outlined below:
- Objective and Specific Aims¹: State the overall objective or long-term goal and the specific aims of the project.
 - Background and Significance: Briefly review relevant literature describing the current knowledge in this field. Identify PNASH Center Goals and Strategic Goals which your study addresses as well as its relevance to Northwest AgFF. See Priorities. If the study does not directly address Northwest AgFF or Strategic Goal, state the evidence that supports your decision to investigate the issue.
 - Methodology: Provide a concise and thorough discussion of the proposed methods, including the study design, involved populations, data collection, and means employed to analyze or interpret the data to attain your objectives. Include a discussion of the proposed method's limitations. A timetable for completion of the project should be provided. Include, if appropriate, a discussion of pitfalls you might encounter and the limitations of procedures you propose to use.
 - Potential Impact/Potential for Future Funding²: Explain how the information gathered during this project will form the basis for future studies, including impact on equity. Please also outline possible future sources of funding. Be as specific as possible, but whether you reference an RFA, Government Initiative, or Agency briefly explain how future projects fit the research objectives of the potential funding source.
 - Collaborative Arrangements: If applicable, provide a description of the collaboration that will occur with other institutions, community organizations, or any group whose cooperation is essential. A letter indicating the institution or organization's willingness to participate should be included in the Appendix.

- B. **References (Hyperlinks recommend – Maximum 1 Page)**

¹ See [Quick Guide For Grant Applications](#) and [NIH Grant Applications - The Anatomy of a Specific Aims Page](#).

² Must address “burden, need and impact” as defined by NIOSH (<https://blogs.cdc.gov/niosh-science-blog/2019/05/07/bni/>) and describe how the project addresses NIOSH priority goals for extramural research in Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing (AFF) and/or the NIOSH NORA for Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing.

C. Budget and Budget Justification (Pages as needed)³.

- Budgets cannot exceed \$30,000.
- Budgets should prioritize implementation of proposed programming/resource development.
- Indirect costs do not need to be included.
- The budget should show the effort of all people, paid and unpaid, who will carry out the activities. This should be followed by a justification page explaining the roles and duties of each individual.
- Administrative salaries cannot be covered.
- Equipment will be supported only if tied directly to the project and equipment costs may not exceed \$30,000 unless permission is granted in advance.
- If the proposal is partially funded by other sources (in-kind support), please specify the source and amount of support.
- In accordance with UW's direct buy limit, payments to consultants may not exceed \$10,000 unless sole sources justification has been provided.

D. Timeline and milestones (Maximum 1 page)

E. Biosketches (Pages as Needed – 5 pages per Biosketch). Pages of the PHS 398 format and a sample for biosketches can be found at:

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm> (use the non-fellowship form), required for the Principal Investigator and Co-Investigator, and optional for key personnel.

F. Letters of Support (Pages as Needed): Your application should include letters of support from your institution, key personnel, collaborators, and other significant contributors. Relevant letters of support will assure your peer reviewers that your collaborations and institutional commitments are on the right track.

G. Outcome Metrics Table (Pages as Needed): PNASH participates in the center-wide program monitoring, tracking progress, activities, and products. To assist with these goals all applicants must include a project specific matrix with your final proposal. The metrics table should include short-term outcomes, indicators, and potential sources of information (See [Template](#) and [PNASH's Evaluation Guide](#)). Please contact us if you have any questions regarding the development of this component.

Appendix (Optional). You are not expected to have completed project materials before submitting this application. However, if appropriate, you may attach *samples* of the types of questions or formats etc. that you will be using in your study to supplement your methodology component of the research plan.

³ Use budget form PHS 398, [Detailed Budget for Initial Budget Period](#). Your budget and budget justification should be prepared in accordance to [CDC budget preparation guidelines](#). A template with application materials can be found at the [Community Initiated Grants webpage](#).

Human Subjects and Animal Care Committee Approvals (Proof of compliance or Required Plan of Action for compliance): Funded projects involving human subjects and animals will have to obtain approval from the appropriate committee before funding is released. If the award is external to the University of Washington (UW), and does not involve any UW employees or facilities, and the grantee's institution has an accredited IRB, then the UW-IRB has waived the need to review these protocols. Otherwise, the UW-IRB handles all Human Subjects and Animal Care protocols.

APPLICATION SUBMISSION PROCEDURE

Email both the signed cover letter and one complete PDF version of the full proposal to judy13@uw.edu. When submitting your application, you must:

- Include in the subject line of the pilot project submission email: "PNASH Pilot Project Submission."
- Receive from the Program Coordinator an email confirming receipt of your email. If you have not received this email within two (2) business days, email the PNASH Pilot Project Director, Elena Austin at elaustin@uw.edu.

YOUR APPLICATION HAS NOT BEEN RECEIVED IF YOU DO NOT GET A CONFIRMATION EMAIL.