



Standard Operating Procedures for Accessing Funds to Support AMPATH Research Working Groups	Version No: 1
	Approved Date: January 31, 2022
	Effective Date: January 31, 2022

Overview

This SOP describes new internal funding opportunities to support AMPATH Research Working Groups initiatives and describe the application process for these funds to support research mentorship, activities and/or infrastructure.

Background

AMPATH Research Working Groups (ARWG) have been a critical and unique resource to support research collaboration and activities since the start of the research program. These disciplinary-focused groups were designed to be an interface between clinical care and research, to be a resource for mentorship especially for early-stage investigators and junior faculty, to prevent overlap and duplication of research efforts, and to create opportunities for collaboration particularly between Kenyan and AMPATH Consortium investigators.

To achieve these goals, ARWGs are responsible for:

- reviewing and approving new research studies and assisting in their development
- providing peer review and feedback of proposals;
- assisting in connecting investigators and trainees with collaborators and research resources; and
- providing guidance for ongoing projects.

After the 2019 AMPATH Research Stakeholders meeting in which several challenges were identified with the current organization and operation of many ARWGs, the AMPATH Research Program provided guidance to ARWGs on restructuring, requiring ARWGs to submit updated Terms of Reference for their groups by the end of the year 2021. As part of this restructuring effort, several ARWGs expressed a need for pilot funding to support restructuring efforts and new working group activities that would help to achieve goals. In response to this request, the AMPATH Research Program Office has created a small pool of funding to support these efforts.

Funds to Support Working Groups

In 2022, the AMPATH Research Program invites ARWGs to apply for grants of up to USD \$2,000 to support working group operations and activities. These funds may go to support any activity that advances the goals of the ARWGs as outlined in their Terms of Reference. Priority will be given to projects that include activities to engage and support junior faculty and/or trainees including registrars. Eligible activities include but are not limited to:

- mentorship and professional development activities (e.g., proposal development teams, mentored workshops, and conference participation and/or presentations)
- pilot research projects and/or supplement projects to ongoing research projects.

Eligibility

Only ARWGs that have submitted updated Terms of Reference to the AMPATH Research Program Office are eligible to apply for funding. If you have questions about updated Terms of Reference, please contact the AMPATH Research Program Office. Requests for funds should come from an active member of an ARWG and have the approval of ARWG leadership. Until notified otherwise, each ARWG will be limited to one award per year.

Instructions to Apply

Applications should be submitted directly to the AMPATH Research Program Office by email (research.manager@iukenya.org) using the application template available [here](#). Applications will be accepted and reviewed on a rolling basis. Please contact the Research Program Office with any questions.



Version	Date	Authors	Summary of Changes
Version 1	31 January 2022	J. Kiplagat-Kirui M. Scanlon K. Wools-Kaloustian	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• First version