



From: Faculty Research Development Office  
Office of the Vice President for Research

Subject: Limited Competition: Craig H. Neilsen Foundation's Creating Opportunity & Independence (CO&I) Grant Program

Date: November 19, 2018

The Craig H. Neilsen Foundation was established in 2002 as a private foundation dedicated to spinal cord injury (SCI) research and quality of life programs for people living with SCI. *Craig H. Neilsen Foundation's mission is dedicated to supporting both programs and scientific research to improve the quality of life for those affected by and living with spinal cord injury.* In support of the Neilsen Foundation's mission, Creating Opportunity & Independence (CO&I) grants support innovative programs/projects that improve participation and independence for individuals living with SCI and address critical areas of need in rehabilitation, transitional stages, and in the community. CO&I grant support includes, but is not limited to, access to assistive technology, rehabilitation programs and clinical equipment, transportation, vocational programs, initiatives in education, and patient assistance programs.

The Neilsen Foundation is interested in projects that have broad impact, affect people across the lifespan, demonstrate community partnerships and empower individuals with SCI by providing options and opportunities to achieve greater independence.

**The grantee must be a nonprofit institution/organization. As a result, the selected PI must submit the letter of intent through the UNM Foundation.** Funding is for one year from \$25,000 to \$100,000. Funded programs may be more than one year, but funding for each subsequent year will be contingent on a favorable review of an annual progress and expenditure report. More information regarding the application and access to the submission portal can be found at <http://chnfoundation.org/creating-opportunity-and-independence/>.

**This is a limited competition. An institution may submit only \*one\* letter of intent** for this program. PI LOIs that receive favorable reviews will be invited to submit a grant application. If you are interested in submitting this required letter of intent, **please submit your 2-page preproposal addressing the criteria listed below, a draft budget overview, and an NIH formatted CV. All documents must be in a SINGLE PDF file, 11pt font or larger and submitted by NOON on Monday, December 10, 2018 to [limited@unm.edu](mailto:limited@unm.edu) with the subject line indicating: Neilsen CO&I - your name. No late submissions will be considered.**

The preproposal narrative should include a brief summary of the proposed project keeping in mind to make it both impactful and innovative. CO&I Project Grant applications must clearly address the needs of people living with SCI and must include the projected numbers of individuals to be served and how the project will positively benefit this group. Applicants must demonstrate relevance to the mission of the Neilsen Foundation and the proposed project must be accomplishable within the term of the project. Include an overview of your intended collaborations, evaluation plans, and a discussion on the project's sustainability beyond the foundation funds.

Required Letters of Intent are due to the sponsor January 18, 2019 by 3:00pm MST. Invited full proposals are due April 30, 2019 by 3:00pm MST.

Should you have any questions please feel free to contact us at [limited@unm.edu](mailto:limited@unm.edu).

*If you are affiliated with HSC, please contact Corey Ford ([CFord@salud.unm.edu](mailto:CFord@salud.unm.edu)) or Cassandra Misener ([CMisener@salud.unm.edu](mailto:CMisener@salud.unm.edu)) for more information.*