



CENTER FOR STATE &
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
EXCELLENCE

2007

Research Announcement

Center for State & Local Government Excellence

The mission of The Center for State and Local Government Excellence (www.slge.org) is to help state and local governments become knowledgeable and competitive employers so they can attract and retain talented, committed, and well-prepared individuals to public service.

To accomplish this, the Center is funding research that is focused on state and local government employee pensions and retiree health care sustainability.

The Center is currently funding qualitative and quantitative research on the following topics:

1. **Structure of State and Local Government Retirement**

Plans: What is the fiscal status of major public retirement plans; how are blended/hybrid plans working; how are demographic trends affecting retirement plan practices; what factors affect decisions to continue DB plans versus changing to DC or hybrid plans; what related factors affect bond ratings and plans' rates of return?

2. **Post Employment and Retiree Health Care Benefits:**

What is the financial status of retiree health care benefits and how are these plans structured; what best practices are being used to continue to offer retiree health care benefits?

3. **Financial Wellness and Retirement Planning:**

What practices encourage people of varying income and age to invest in retirement savings; how do public sector compensation policies compare with private sector policies; what employee benefits are most attractive to government employees as they transition between various career stages?

Questions / Submission:

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For more details please see the following page...



Submission Details

- Who should submit proposals for funded research?
Individuals and groups working in or affiliated with US colleges and universities, non-profits, or the media.
- How much time will be given to completing the funded research?
Research should be completed within 6 months of a start date agreed upon by the researcher(s) and the Center.
- What products should be offered to the Center at the end of the 6 months?
A 30 – 40 page well-researched paper should be provided to the Center along with a 3 page practitioner- oriented briefing summary.
- How much funding is offered for each project?
\$14,000. No additional funding will be paid for institutional overhead. Funding can be used as the researcher(s) wishes and can be paid to either the individual or their institution.
- How and when should proposals be submitted?
Email a brief (5 pages or less) description of the proposed research topic highlighting how it addresses the topics important to the Center, the research methodology, the preferred start date for the project, and a general description of the project. Also email the curriculum vitas of all researchers and writers who will work on the project. Proposals can be submitted at anytime. Proposal will be evaluated on a rolling basis.
- How will products be distributed?
Upon completion, the Center may publish, re-package, and disseminate the products of the funded research, citing the researcher(s) who conducted the work. The researcher(s) are free to publish and present the products any way they choose as long as the Center is clearly cited as funding the work.

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