



TMCF | Novartis Faculty Research Initiative

The TMCF | Novartis Alliance

The Thurgood Marshall College Fund (TMCF) in partnership with the Novartis US Foundation, is proud to present the TMCF | Novartis US Foundation HBCU Alliance Faculty Research Initiative.

Novartis US Foundation's commitment seeks to change the African-American lived experience and improve health outcomes for Black Americans, with Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Historically Black Medical Schools at the center of the solution.

The partnership includes an investment of \$2.25 million over nine years to award ten faculty research grants per year to HBCU faculty at [participating institutions](#). **Grants awarded will be in the amount of \$25,000 each.**

The Need of Change

As part of the Alliance and as cited in the Novartis Beacon of Hope statement from July 2021, innovative and sustainable solutions are needed to address health disparities affecting minority groups that are endemic in the United States versus non-Hispanic Whites. These disparities include:

- Lower life expectancy.
- Higher mortality rates from cancer.
- Greater likelihood of disease such as asthma.
- Significant rate of infant and maternal mortality.
- Increased exposure to negative environmental factors such as air pollution.
- Disproportionate rates of hospitalization and death in minority groups (as evidenced by the COVID-19 pandemic).

The Catalyst for Change

The Faculty Research Initiative is designed to focus on research within the HBCU Community to drive solutions that:

- Substantiate key drivers of health disparities for African-Americans.
- Quantify and identify actionable solutions, that inform areas of change and impact policy and funding at regional and national levels leading to greater health equity.

Research themes may include, but are not limited to:

- Health care assumptions, diagnosis, treatment, and clinical experience.
- Environmental risks facing the African-Americans and the community.
- Health insurance coverage disparities.
- Attitudes toward African-Americans in the health care system.
- Access to online resources designed to support patient health care.
- Underlying conditions and factors that exacerbate health inequities.
- The impact of social and systemic racial issues that impact health of African-Americans.

Bringing Change to Action

On November 2, 2023, the Faculty grant page and RFP will launch on the TMCF website. The application close date deadline is Monday, February 5, 2024.

Visit the site: <https://bit.ly/3qt82nL>

Questions should be directed to info.novartis@tmcf.org or submitted on the site.

