

Frequently Asked Questions

Does my project fit the scope of a JOI grant?

We are interested in a broad range of topics that relate to employment (see our RFP Overview on our [RFP page](#)). For example, this may include job skills training for young people, efforts to increase female labor force participation (FPLP), or strategies to help businesses grow and employ more people.

Before applying to JOI, please consider whether your proposal may be better suited for other initiatives at J-PAL and IPA, such as J-PAL's [Gender and Economic Agency Initiative](#) (GEA) or J-PAL and [CEGA's Agricultural Technology Adoption Initiative](#) (ATAI). These initiatives share similar themes and support rigorous research that will lead to policy relevant findings. If you are uncertain about which initiative to apply to, please contact JOI@povertyactionlab.org.

I think I have a great idea, but I'm not sure if it fits or how interesting it would be to JOI. Could I have a call with someone from the JOI team?

Yes! We encourage you to get in touch (JOI@povertyactionlab.org)! We are always happy to talk more about your ideas and to think through the process with you.

What can JOI do in terms of staff support for our research in the initial stages of project development?

We, as staff, can assist with the following:

- Connecting you to policymakers in priority countries (often in collaboration with IPA).
- Providing information on the RFP and initiative research priorities, as well as clarification on eligibility for potential projects.
- Upon request, supporting on policy outreach including:
 - Initial meetings with policymakers.
 - Coordination with other projects.
 - At a later stage, sharing of results with memos, events and conference presentations.

I am not a J-PAL affiliate, though I am a grant recipient from another J-PAL Initiative and am sometimes invited to apply to J-PAL competitions. Am I eligible to apply?

J-PAL initiatives, including JOI, are open only to J-PAL affiliates, J-PAL post-docs, and invited researchers who are eligible to apply for funding under a specific initiative. In addition, initiatives are open to PhD students who have a J-PAL affiliate or invited researcher as an advisor in their dissertation committee. If you have questions about your eligibility, please email JOI@povertyactionlab.org.



I've received funding for my project from another external source, or from another initiative at J-PAL. Am I still eligible to receive additional funding from JOI?

Yes - if you've obtained funding for this project from another external source, please indicate this in your proposal cover sheet and in your total proposal budget. If you've obtained funding from another J-PAL initiative, please indicate so as well. Please note, however, that you may not submit the same proposal to more than one J-PAL or IPA initiative at the same time.

Is there a limit to the number of times I can apply for funding from JOI?

Yes; there is a limit to the number of times you can apply for funding from JOI within a 12-month period. Beginning in January 2019, any J-PAL affiliate, J-PAL postdoc, invited researcher, or eligible PhD student can submit a maximum of three pilot or full-scale proposals within a 12 month period to a specific initiative. For example, if a researcher submitted two pilot or full-scale proposals in JOI's Spring 2021 round, they can then only submit a maximum of 1 pilot or full-scale proposal in our Fall 2021 round.