1. Is the Research Plan for the Springboard pilot study or the proposed R01 or R21 study?
The Research Plan should be written for the R01 or R21 that you anticipate submitting at the end of this program.

*Under Section 2, Cover Letter #4, applicants should discuss why the Springboard pilot study award is necessary (e.g., to establish feasibility [of data collection, response rates, measurement, etc]; provide needed data to refine R21/R01 study aims/hypotheses; and/or address components of the R/21R01 specific aims) and how it will strengthen a competitive R01/R21 application.*

*The cover letter should address how the pilot project will build support for the fulfillment of one or more of the specific aims.*

2. Can the PI or Co-Investigator receive salary support from the Springboard funding?
No funds can be used to directly support faculty effort. However, applications must include the Chair’s letter of support that indicated the specific percent that the PI will devote to the Springboard program. Co-Is can be named in the project cannot receive salary support from Springboard funds. PIs can list themselves and additional faculty in their budget justifications as ‘committed investigators’ with no stated percent effort. Letters of support from co-investigators may be included in the appendices and would be reviewed favorably.

3. What are the unique features of this grant/program?
Successful applicants will receive mentoring both in grantsmanship and in their specific areas of research. Awardees will be involved in the selection process for their subject matter mentors (which can be internal or external to GW). Mentoring may be as frequent as weekly sessions and will continue for grantsmanship and for subject matter expertise over the year-long program. Cohort sessions will also add to the uniqueness of this program.

4. Who will review my application? How will it be scored?
Depending on the research topic, both GW and external reviewers with previous or current NIH funding will serve on the review panel. Proposals will be reviewed using the standard NIH scoring criterion and scoring sheet (see [http://grants.nih.gov/grants/peer_review_process.htm](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/peer_review_process.htm)). Consider these review criteria in writing the proposal.

5. Should I include a Facilities and Shared Resources document?
Facilities documents are not required for this application. Any unique facility or resource needs should be addressed in the research strategy.

Updated 04/16/14
6. Should I include letters of support?  
   Letters of support can be included in the appendices, but are not required.

7. Is this RFA intended only for Early Stage Investigators?  
   PIs at all levels are eligible to apply for the Springboard grant—as long as the stated eligibility criteria are met.

8. Can funds be used for research conducted overseas?  
   Yes, but it would be best to email your specific question to resprop@gwu.edu. Keep in mind that no subawards are allowed for this mechanism.

9. Are subawards or consultant agreements allowed?  
   Subawards are not allowed. Consultant agreements may be allowed but must be strongly justified and reasonably proportionate to the total funding amount.

10. What fringe rate should be used in the budget?  
    25% for salaried personnel and 8.3% for wage earners.

11. Where can I find the funding announcement and application documents?  
    http://publichealth.gwu.edu/research/faculty-research-development

12. I still have questions, what should I do?  
    Send your questions to the Office of Research Excellence at resprop@gwu.edu.

Updated 04/16/14