

Many researchers approach Gender Spectrum seeking to access families and young people to survey or to partner on a study.

As an organization, we value the role that research can play in supporting our mission and will engage in selected research studies. Research requests will be seriously considered in the context of Gender Spectrum's finite staff and resources.

When appropriate, we will share research requests with our networks of parents, young people and/or colleagues in the field. We will determine the specific nature of that process so as not to inundate our contacts with research requests.

Gender Spectrum also has an interest in engaging researchers who are working with existing data sets or research projects that may be relevant to our mission.

[To download our application, please click here.](#)

The following questions will help researchers understand our priorities and assess whether or not to submit a research proposal.

Assessment Questions for Researchers

1. Does the content align with Gender Spectrum's mission of creating gender sensitive and inclusive environments for all children and teens?

This broad mission includes all places where children and teens spend substantive time, including: families, schools, community groups, and religious organizations. In addition, this includes institutions that have a major impact on children's lives in the area of law, policy, medicine, and higher education.

Gender Spectrum is committed to serving diverse populations and prioritizes research that is inclusive of diverse communities in relation to race, socio-economic status, geography, immigration, and religion.

Topics that GS is currently interested in exploring include:

- How do gender pressures/roles effect all children and teens?
- What strategies among youth-serving institutions - including families, schools, community groups, and religious organizations -most effectively create gender inclusive spaces and communities?

2. How well defined and grounded are research questions and methodology?

- Has the research been approved or in the process of being approved by an IRB?
- Is there a realistic plan for gathering research participants?
- Is the sample size large enough to yield credible results?

3. Does this research have the potential to substantively advance current understanding and practices related to youth and gender?

Areas that will be taken into consideration:

- Quality of previous research
- Relevant references
- Plans for how research will be used once completed
- Demonstrated commitment to research topic
- Track record or ability to both complete the research and position the research to have influence through conference presentations, publication, or influence in key state or national organizations

4. What is expected/required from Gender Spectrum (time, money, promotion, etc.)?

Examples of requirements/expectations:

- Level of active involvement in recruiting people for the study
- Time commitment required of GS staff
- Financial expenses associated with the research (stipends, travel, meetings, etc.) What funding is available to offset these expenses?

5. Will Gender Spectrum be a partner in publicizing research results and have access to data for future research?

Examples include:

- Publication rights
- Access to research data for continued research and collaboration
- Co-authorship on publication
- Joint presentations at conferences or on-line events.

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