

## RACE AND JUSTICE REPORTING Call for Pitches

*Rewire* is a daily online publication producing evidence-based reporting on health, rights, and justice. As part of our ongoing work to investigate institutional and systemic racial discrimination that prevents people of color from exercising their full human rights, we are seeking pitches from reporters on race and justice topics affecting Black, Asian-American, Latinx, Native, and immigrant communities in the United States.

The situation is dire for communities of color in the United States, which continue to face rates of maternal and infant mortality, incarceration, and school suspension/expulsion disproportionate to the size of their populations and far higher than those of white people of similar economic and social status. These communities also face wage discrimination, pervasive housing discrimination, and lack of economic investment. Nonetheless, they continue to persevere amid systemic racism, [reimagining birth](#) at a time when it's become dangerously medicalized; [pushing through reforms](#) in the face of unjust bail, policing, and sentencing practices; and [resilience](#) for the next generation of resisting.

We are seeking pitches about race and justice—ranging from short reported pieces to longer analyses to in-depth investigative reporting—that include, but are not limited to, the following areas:

- 1) The drivers of racial inequity in reproductive health care, such as health deserts, and the state and federal policies, budgets, politics, and agencies affecting these trends;
- 2) An examination of the disparities in maternal and infant mortality among communities of color; the systems and institutions contributing to, and/or fighting to end, premature deaths of affected populations;
- 3) Deep dives into the ways in which violence—by the state, law enforcement, immigration and criminal justice systems, and so on—against communities of color is normalized and maintained; how different forms of violence overlap and are tracked;
- 4) The ways in which environmental racism takes shape and how policy and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency changes will alter the regulatory landscape and particularly affect communities of color;
- 5) The current and potential effects of national and state policy and budget debates on communities of color, and how these do or do not reflect people's needs and aspirations in their lives.

We will disseminate this work widely to our readers, the public, other media, and politicians in the interest of informing debate and policies.

The process:

Our editors will select pitches on a case-by-case basis. We also seek to develop longer-term relationships with those freelancers who prove able to provide consistently timely, high-quality reporting in any category.

Pitches should include:

- Clear and succinct outlines of the work proposed, including a strong thesis statement and supporting background information with links to relevant events, research, or articles; the importance of the piece to the issue at hand; and the timeliness of the piece proposed, including how it addresses in a compelling way a specific trend or trends, a set of findings, events, or a political issue.
- First-timers to *Rewire* should include in their pitch links to or samples of other work.
- Investigative pitches should include a budget clearly spelling out costs and rates for the work to be done, as well as deadlines.

Please note: We discourage unsolicited complete articles, and are unable to pay for such pieces, as it is most efficient for us to shape the direction of content starting from the idea phase.

All pitches should be sent to [rjpitches@rewire.news](mailto:rjpitches@rewire.news)

Rates are as follows:

- Shorter reported pieces will be paid at a rate of \$250 to \$350 depending on the scope of work and on experience. Analyses that include substantial original reporting will be paid at rates of \$350 and above, though these are negotiable in some cases.
- Approved travel and other costs will be reimbursed. Pitches for longer-term, in-depth investigative pieces should include a detailed budget outlining writer's fees, travel and research costs, and timelines for the work involved.