Melvin Yahr Parkinson's Disease Clinical Research Award Supported by the Parkinson's Foundation and International Association of Parkinsonism and Related Disorders

2024 Request for Applications

The Parkinson's Foundation and the International Association of Parkinsonism and Related Disorders (IAPRD) request applications for the 2024 Melvin Yahr Parkinson's Disease Clinical Research Award.

Purpose of the Award

This award is designed to foster clinical research into any aspect of Parkinson's disease conducted by young investigators who are under-represented in current research. By recognizing and honoring the exceptional contributions of young talented individuals, the award seeks to break down barriers and create a more inclusive and diverse healthcare community. By empowering young clinicians from diverse backgrounds, it is expected that this initiative will spur innovation and promote the translation of cutting-edge scientific discoveries into efficient and practical health measures that will benefit people with Parkinson's disease.

Eligibility Requirements

Early-stage investigators based at universities, research hospitals, or non-profit research institutions worldwide are eligible to apply. Candidates should: hold an MD degree; be specialized in one of these fields: neurology, psychiatry, physical medicine and rehabilitation, or related fields; be either less than 35 years old or 5 years out of the residency program (which one best applies). We particularly encourage applications of investigators from under-represented countries in Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

Level of Support

This is a 1-year award for a total of $50,000. Funds can be used to support research expenses such as salary support for additional trained personnel (e.g., research assistants, study coordinators), equipment or consumables specifically needed for the research plan. Indirect costs are not allowed.

Application Instructions

Applications should contain the following sections:

- **Lay Abstract**: A general audience summary that should summarize the project in lay terms.

- **Project Summary**: A summary of your proposed work. It should include background information, rationale, specific aims, brief methods, and expected outcomes.
- **Research Plan**: The Research Plan should include a one-page specific aims page of the proposed work, background/rationale of the proposed work, preliminary data (if available), experimental design (including statistical/data analysis plan), and a discussion of potential pitfalls and mitigation approaches (maximum of 6 pages).
- **References Cited** (maximum of 1 page)
- **Budget Justification**: This section should describe how the funds will be used (maximum 1 page). The Budget will be completed separately in ProposalCentral.
- **Biosketch of the Applicant**: The format should follow that of the United States National Institutes of Health (NIH) style (see template in [ProposalCentral](#)).
- **Human Subjects (if applicable)**: An Ethics Section should be provided containing: (1) the informed consent procedure/s, (2) justification for standard of care (if applicable), (3) local/regional ethical review procedures (e.g., review by an ethics committee, Institutional Review Board, or similar organization).
- **Letter of Support from Department Chair or Division Head:** This letter should include a description of the facility and resources available to the applicant to carry out the work. It should also contain this statement: "The applicant was selected based on their abilities, and no payments were made within the applicant's institution to permit them to apply".
- **Letter of Motivation:** A letter outlining how this award will help the applicant in their practice or research career.

All components of the application must be submitted online through [ProposalCentral](#), the Parkinson's Foundation's grant portal, where the application guidelines and list of required components can be found. You can find more information about how to register and apply using ProposalCentral at the following links and phone numbers:

- [How to Register as a ProposalCentral user](#)
- [How to Create an Application using ProposalCentral](#)
- Toll-free U.S. and Canada - 800 875 2562
- Direct Dial International - +1 703 964 5840
- e-mail: pcsupport@altum.com

ProposalCentral frequently asked questions (FAQ) and troubleshooting:

- I cannot access my ProposalCentral account.
- I cannot find the proposal that I just started.
- I receive an error message when I try to access a page in my application.
- I keep getting an error message when I upload a PDF file.
- The link to provide my reference letter does not work.
- I need to update my institution and contact information but I'm not sure how.
- The institution that I put in my profile is not a confirmed institution. What do I do?
- It seems that I have more than 1 login for ProposalCentral. Can I merge them?
- I validated my application but the submit button is still not available.

Deadlines

- Deadline for applications:11 January 2024
- Award Notification: May 2024
- Award Beginning and Ending Dates: June 2024 through May 2025

Application Evaluation

Applications will be evaluated in terms of the scientific merit of the application, as well as the applicant's research background and evidence of commitment to research.

Questions and Additional Information

If you have questions regarding:

- Award program eligibility details
- Application deadlines
- Proposal details (e.g., details about required documents)

Please contact grants@parkinson.org and we will be happy to assist you!