

2019

Request For Application

take
ACTION,
create
POTENTIAL



The FamilieSCN2A Action Potential Grant

Through our investigator-initiated grant program, the FamilieSCN2A Foundation hopes to accelerate the development of therapeutic treatments and disease-modifying advancements for those living with changes in the SCN2A gene. This grant program is designed to facilitate preliminary investigations that will potentially lay the groundwork for subsequent grants from the government, industry, or other funding sources, including the FamilieSCN2A Foundation.

The FamilieSCN2A Foundation is interested in supporting research that advances understanding of the cellular, molecular, genetic and systems-level mechanisms of SCN2A related disorders. However, priority will be given to innovative projects which could potentially lead to therapeutic treatments or a cure for those with SCN2A related disorders.

Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must fall into one of the following categories to be eligible for the FamilieSCN2A Action Potential Grant:

- ❖ A postdoctoral fellow
- ❖ A clinical fellow who is a Neurology or Psychology Resident in his/her field of training and considering Epilepsy and/or Autism Fellowships
- ❖ Newly appointed faculty who are within one year of having completed postdoctoral training

Note: International applicants are welcome; however, all materials must be submitted in English.

Budget

The FamilieSCN2A Foundation will provide up to \$50,000 of funding for one year of direct costs. No indirect costs will be funded (see travel stipend information below). The number of grants funded will be contingent on available funds.

2019 Funding Cycle Dates and Deadlines

Activity	Key Dates
Request for Application	February 1
Letter of Intent Deadline	March 1
Full Application Deadline	April 1
Anticipated Award Announcement	June 1
Anticipated Project Start Date	Summer - Fall 2019 (Flexible)

Letter of Intent (LOI)

All applicants must submit a Letter of Intent (LOI). The LOI should clearly and concisely outline the hypothesis to be tested in layman's terms, the specific aims, and provide a brief description of the research plan. The LOI will be reviewed by the FamilieSCN2A Foundation's Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) as well as the Board of Directors (BOD.)

Letter of Intent Submission

Send LOI via email to research@scn2a.org

Letter of Intent Instructions:

Below are instructions for the required scientific summary, future directions and award relevance sections, which together can be no longer than two (2) pages in length.

Scientific Summary: Clearly and concisely outline the hypothesis and specific aims, and provide a brief description of how the proposed research plan aligns with FamilieSCN2A Foundation's mission. (1 ½-page maximum)

Future Directions: Describe what next steps will be taken once the goals of your proposed project have been achieved. (1/2-page maximum, including spaces)

Award Relevance: Explain how this avenue of research is independent from your mentor's research, and how will it lead to a path of independent epilepsy or autism research.

Application Requirements:

Please make sure to include a title page for the proposal being submitted. The main body of the proposal needs to include the following and not be more than 6 pages (total) in length:

- ❖ A description of the project background
- ❖ Hypothesis and specific aims of the research
- ❖ Preliminary data
- ❖ Research plan detailing experimental design and methods
- ❖ Expected outcomes, potential pitfalls and interpretation(s) of outcomes of the research

Mission: Include one paragraph detailing how the proposed research aligns with the FamilieSCN2A Foundation's mission: *to improve the lives of those affected by SCN2A related disorders through research, public awareness, family support and patient advocacy*

Independence: Include one paragraph describing how this avenue of research is independent from your mentor's research, and how it will lead to a path of independent epilepsy or autism research.

Abstract: The abstract must include a Lay and Scientific Summary as detailed below:

Lay Summary: The lay summary will be reviewed by the FamilieSCN2A Foundation BOD. Please take special care to describe the proposed work and its potential impact on SCN2A related disorders in language appropriate for non-scientific audiences.

Make sure to include the following:

- ❖ Project Goals: Bulleted list of the goal(s) of the project.
- ❖ Aims: Bulleted list of how those goals will be tested.
- ❖ Deliverables: Bulleted list of tangible deliverables to result from this work if successful.
- ❖ Impact: Briefly explain how the project, if successful, will contribute to improved treatments and cure. In this section, you may also explain the next steps in your research plan once the goals of your proposed project have been achieved.

Scientific Summary: Please provide a scientific abstract for your project. This will be reviewed in detail by the SAB.

References: Make sure to list all literature cited within the proposal. **Note: references do not count toward the page limit.*

Letters of Reference: In addition to the references mentioned previously, you are required to submit two (2) letters of support. One letter must come from your direct supervisor/mentor and the second letter should come from another senior investigator/clinician familiar with your expertise and experience.

Budget Period Detail: Provide a detailed budget. The budget maximum for this program is \$50,000 for direct costs for one year. Include an itemized list of how funds will be used (e.g., materials, animals, salary, fringe benefits, disposables, maintenance, travel*). Funds are not to be used to purchase equipment. Please note that indirect costs and institutional overhead are not provided. All expenses must be converted to U.S. dollars (USD).

**Note there is a travel cap of \$1,500 for international applicants and \$1,000 for U.S. applicants per year, which can be budgeted for a maximum of two investigators (the PI and Co-PI). If awarded, the FamilieSCN2A Foundation asks all grantees to attend the annual American Epilepsy Society meeting and/or the FamilieSCN2A Biennial Family and Professional Conference to present their findings.*

Current and Pending Support: Provide all current and pending support for key personnel. Please indicate if there is any overlap with the proposed work.

Biosketch: Include NIH-style Biosketches for all key personnel involved.

Submit: Please submit your application via email to research@scn2a.org

Inquiries: Questions regarding these guidelines are welcome and should be directed to the Research Team via email: research@scn2a.org OR call Leah Schust directly at (301) 252-8070