

Ralph W. and Grace M. Showalter Research Trust Fund

The Ralph W. and Grace M. Showalter Trust grants program was established to promote medical and scientific research.

The Trust directs that no funds may be used to finance research in psychiatry, sociology, or social studies, however.

NOTE: This is considered external funding and must be routed through ORA.

ELIGIBILITY (SEE ALSO RESTRICTION SECTION BELOW)

Rank: Only current IUSM full-time faculty having a rank of Assistant Professor or Assistant Scientist at the time of application are eligible to apply for funding. The primary appointment must be in the School of Medicine. Faculty in visiting ranks are not eligible for funding through this mechanism.

Tenure Status: The selection committee will accept applications from non-tenure track faculty; however, these applications may be evaluated more stringently. Within the proposal the applicant, mentor, and department chair should discuss what factors led to a non-tenure track appointment.

Second Showalter Applications: It is the primary intent of the Trustees to fund applications from faculty who have not held a Showalter award previously. If a second application is submitted, the rationale (extenuating circumstances) should be explained in detail in the application and in the Department support letter.

While there is no blanket prohibition against receiving a second Showalter grant, the fact that an applicant seeks a second grant is not irrelevant and it may be that the second proposal will be subordinated to an equally-compelling proposal submitted by an applicant who has never received a Showalter grant.

Additional Showalter Awards: If a PI has received a second Showalter grant it is very unlikely that a third award would be made to that same faculty member.

RESTRICTIONS

Donor intent prohibits the use of Showalter Trust funds for research in psychiatry, sociology, or social studies.

In the event that a Showalter funded investigator receives an award from another external agency for the same or similar proposal, the individual must verify that the grants do not have any budgetary or scientific overlap in order to retain the Showalter grant. If there is overlap, the investigator will be required to relinquish one of the grants. The Showalter Trustees do not wish to fund duplicate external grants.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Deadline for Routing to ORA: January 8, 2026 5:00 PM

Deadline for Uploading ORA Approved Proposal: January 15, 2026 11:59 PM

The Office of Research Administration (ORA) will review applications and contact the PI if any revisions are needed.

The **PI** will receive the signed application (PDF) back from ORA which then needs to be uploaded to the Indiana CTSI website via the **Start a Submission** link [2026 Showalter Trust Link](#)

Applications will then be reviewed by the Biomedical Research Committee of the IUSM.

APPLICATION SEQUENCE

Note: It is STRONGLY suggested that applicants ask senior colleagues to review and comment on the proposal before submission.

Each application must include the following in the order listed, paginated consecutively:

1. The Proposal cover sheet, which includes the title of the project, the name of the Principal Investigator, and the investigator's rank, department, and address.
2. A one-page, double-spaced "Layman's Summary" that emphasizes the importance of the work in layman's terms - language that is clearly understandable to non-scientists. It replaces the abstract that is normally part of a grant proposal. The focus of the layman's summary should be a clear identification of the problem, the general approach, and the benefits anticipated from the results.
3. A one page Response to Reviewers' comments if this is a resubmission. If the request is a resubmission of a proposal previously reviewed by the Biomedical Research Committee, the applicant must include a detailed introduction showing what changes have been made to address the previous comments. Changes should also be noted in the body of the proposal and prior review comments included in the appendices. This should not exceed one page.
4. A budget and a one-page budget justification. The maximum budgetary request is \$75,000, **which must include indirect costs calculated as 20% of direct costs (excluding equipment)**. Funding will begin July 1 and end June 30

The percent effort of the Principal Investigator to be funded by the proposal **should be limited to no more than 10% of the NIH cap**.

Equipment should not exceed 30% of the direct cost request.

Travel requests should be minimal, only those that are necessary to carry out the

goals of the project.

Funds should go primarily toward needed supplies and technical assistance. Green card fees, membership fees, and other non supplies / technical assistance are not approved budget items. These should be paid via departmental funds.

No salary for other faculty will be allowed. See Budget Instructions on the succeeding page.

5. A “Biosketch” of the Principal Investigator, senior / key personnel and significant contributors. Sections A-C should be limited to five pages. Please use the NIH Biographical Sketch format.
6. Other Support for the Principal Investigator (no page limit) in the NIH format.
7. A brief but carefully developed scientific proposal, which does not exceed 6 single-spaced pages excluding references and future directions, uses one-inch left / right margins and Arial 12 point font.

The independence of the investigator and proposal should be documented.

The proposal should not continue research currently funded as part of a larger group.

References should follow the scientific proposal but are not counted as part of the page limit.

The proposal should include:

1. Specific Aims (1 page of the 6 page limit)
2. Significance
3. Research Plan
4. Future Directions (one paragraph) – include how the funding will lead to an extramurally funded research application or generate IP
5. References (not included in the page count)

Appendices should include all of the required items below when applicable. Please use the appendices cover page provided in the application forms to list and briefly describe the documents included.

In addition to the required items, you may include other supporting documents up to a maximum of five additional pages.

Information key to understanding the proposal such as diagrams and data should not be presented here; key scientific information must fit within the 6-page ‘Research Plan’ limit.

1. Required - Timeline describing the milestones and expected achievement date for the tasks within the proposed research. A table may be inserted in lieu of text.

2. Required – A brief one-page status report for applicants with any previous Showalter awards.
3. Required – A letter from the Department Chair that indicates support for the proposal and for the development of the research career of the faculty member. Space, equipment, dedicated departmental research funds and other departmental support should be detailed in this letter.
4. Required – If the applicant is an Assistant Research Professor or Assistant Scientist and is working under the mentorship of a senior investigator, an additional letter from the senior investigator clearly describing the pathway to independence for the applicant and how the applicant will develop a distinct line of research. Note that inadequate description of this matter is likely to negatively impact the investigator's likelihood of funding
5. Required – Letter(s) of support from key collaborators indicating their willingness to participate in the project.
6. Required – Match letters detailing the cost share commitment(s) when cost share is proposed.
7. Required – Prior scientific reviews for applications previously submitted or resubmitted to the Biomedical Research Committee (BRC).
8. Required – Regulatory approval documentation, when available.
9. Required – A complete and unedited copy of reviewer's comments must be included for all Showalter proposals previously submitted
10. Optional – Other pertinent information such as vendor quotes for consultation or core services, etc.

Once ORA has approved the **PI** is responsible for uploading the application using the Start a Submission link [2026 Showalter Trust Link](#)

BUDGET INSTRUCTIONS

The following budget information should be used for Showalter Trust project budgets. The budget, which **must include indirect costs calculated at 20% of direct costs minus equipment costs**, should not exceed a total cost of \$75,000. Budgets must be completed in accordance with the following and should run July 1 and end June 30.

SALARIES & FRINGES

Principal Investigator

The budget should identify the percent of full-time university effort (not to exceed 10%) devoted to the project and the amount of salary support requested. Salary is not allowed for any other faculty.

Post-Doctoral Fellows/Graduate Research Assistants

The budget should indicate the number of post-doctoral fellows/graduate research assistants to be employed on the research project, the percent of effort each will devote to the project, and the corresponding salary and fringe amount (including graduate student tuition and fees) requested from Showalter for each person.

Clerical, Technical, Service Support

The budget should indicate the type of support requested (i.e., clerical, technical, or service), the percent of full-time university effort requested for each position, and the amount of funds requested.

Student Labor

The budget should identify the amount requested for student labor.

PERMANENT EQUIPMENT

All permanent equipment requested should be separately identified along with its estimated cost, which must be at least \$5,000 per IU capitalization guidelines. The equipment category is limited to no more than 30% of the requested direct costs.

SUPPLIES AND EXPENSE

The budget should identify major supplies and expenses; list equipment costing less than \$5,000 in this category.

TRAVEL

The budget request can include travel expenses, but this category of costs should be kept to a minimum; include only travel that is necessary to meet the objectives of the project.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR AWARDEES:

All award recipients must comply with the reporting requirements as described below.

1. At time of award, provide all required investigator and study (regulatory) information.
2. Annual progress reporting in December while the project is still active. You will be contacted by an Indiana CTSI representative with a link to the online reporting system when these are due.
3. Annual reports for up to five years that provide (a) publications (b) grants submitted; (c) grants funded that used data generated by core, (d) intellectual property e) specific questions from the Showalter Trustees. You will be contacted by an Indiana CTSI representative with a link to the online reporting system when these are due.
4. Notify the Indiana CTSI @ trnslddev@iu.edu in writing if leaving the university prior to the closure of this project. Spending on the account must immediately cease, and any remaining balance will be pulled back by the Dean's Office. The Indiana CTSI must be notified, and approval obtained, for all transfers to a new PI.
5. Contact the CTSI @ trnslddev@iu.edu If changes in the budget exceed or vary greater than 10% from the proposed budget to discuss the budget modifications and activities. The revised budget will then be reviewed and if granted, the PI and ORA will be notified.
6. Grant recipients are required to acknowledge receipt of support in any presentation or publication of work funded by a Showalter award: *This [(publication was made possible) (project was supported)] by an award from the Ralph W. and Grace M. Showalter Research Trust and the Indiana University School of Medicine. The*

content is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the official views of the Showalter Research Trust or the Indiana University School of Medicine."