STARK NEUROSCIENCES RESEARCH INSTITUTE

INDIANA UNIVERSITY
School of Medicine

Alzheimer's Disease Pre-Clinical Translational Science Grant

AN INITIATIVE FUNDED BY

Roberts Alzheimer's Disease Translational Science Fund

DEADLINE: **July 8, 2024 @ 11:59 p.m.**

Application: **UPLOAD via the Start a Submission link found on the website SNRI AD Pre-Clinical Translational RFA**

Please note that you will be submitting through the Indiana CTSI's grants management software WebCAMP.

The WebCAMP user's guide is available under the funding announcement here: https://www.indianactsi.org/researchers/funding/open-funding-opportunities/

For RFA questions, contact Alan D. Palkowitz apalkow@iu.edu, Director for the IUSM-Purdue TREAT-AD Center

For WebCAMP questions contact Julie Driscol judrisco@iu.edu

INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

GENERAL

The goal of Alzheimer's Disease Pre-Clinical Translational Science Grant program is to enhance our approach to the selection and prosecution of drug discovery targets for Alzheimer's Disease. This mechanism will provide research support up to $50,000 for innovative work that is in scope and aligned with the research activities of the IUSM-Purdue TREAT-AD Center. These include (but are not limited to):

- Bioinformatic analyses and drug target hypothesis generation within neuroinflammatory pathways.
- Target validation studies for proposed drug targets.
- Innovative chemical biology and cellular pharmacology studies for proposed targets that may provide insights to disease initiation and progression.
- Structural biology or biophysical studies on proteins proposed as drug targets.
- De-novo drug design approaches for proposed targets.
- Novel PET ligands and supporting CSF biomarkers for preclinical studies and clinical trials, etc.

This funding opportunity announcement invites applications from all Indiana CTSI investigators with a full-time academic appointment, at IU School of Medicine (IUSM, all campuses), Indiana University (all campuses), Purdue University, or University of Notre Dame. Work supported by these funds is expected to lead to submissions of major extramural grants (NIH R01/equivalent, major foundation awards, DOD, etc.).

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants (the contact PI and Co-PI) belong to the following three categories are eligible to apply.

1. Category 1: New investigators without current or past NIH research support as PD/PI. New investigators, as defined by the NIH, should not have previously competed successfully for a substantial (e.g., R01) NIH-supported independent research award (see http://grants.nih.gov/grants/new_investigators/#definition).
2. Category 2: Established investigators who do not belong to Category 1 and do not have Alzheimer's disease drug discovery experience but wish to apply to enhance their current research.
3. Category 3: Established Alzheimer's disease drug discovery investigators who do not belong to Category 1 & 2 and propose testing innovative ideas that represent clear departure from ongoing research interests.

Applicants (the contact PI and Co-PI) should provide a brief justification of their category. All eligible investigators must have faculty appointments and be independent investigators who have the education, skills, knowledge, and resources necessary to carry out the proposed

research. National and international collaborations are allowed. Faculty in visiting rank and postdoctoral fellows or their equivalent are not eligible. Applicants with limited neuroimaging experience are encouraged to consult the core personnel on the feasibility of their imaging protocols and budget plans.

RESTRICTIONS/ALLOWABLE EXPENSES

1. All budgets must have a start date of September 1, 2024.
2. Costs may not exceed $50,000.
3. Budget requests may not include indirect costs, F&A, PI salary, student stipends, travel expenses, membership fees, or publication charges.

APPLICATION & SUBMISSION PROCESS

Application

The deadline for receipt of the application is July 8, 2024

The 2024 Grant Application Form containing detailed instructions and all the required parts can be downloaded from the Start a Submission link on the website **SNRI AD Pre-Clinical Translational RFA**

Application narratives should follow the sequence provided in the application form and be single spaced in at least 11-point Arial, Helvetica, Palatino Linotype or Georgia typeface, using 0.5-inch margins.

Applications should follow the sequence outlined on the application form:

1. Abstract: Provide a short summary of your project in 250 words or less. Include the project's broad, long-term objectives and specific aims, a description of the research design/methods for achieving the stated goals, and neuroscience interdisciplinary collaborations.
2. Research Plan: Up to 2 pages including specific aims, significance, innovation, and approach.
   - Resubmissions are permitted an additional ½ page to indicate how they have responded to reviewers' comments.
3. References (not included in the research plan page limit).
4. Key Personnel page.
5. Other support for key personnel (2 pages each).
6. NIH Biosketch for all PIs.
7. Facilities and Resources description.
8. Budget and justification:
   - Supplies and costs must relate directly to the performance of the project.
   - Travel and faculty salaries are not allowed.
   - Student stipends are not allowed.

- Core costs should be budgeted at the internal rate.

9. Approved regulatory documents (if available).
10. Letters of support from collaborators.
11. Previous reviewers' comments if this is a re-submission.

MECHANISM FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION

1. Applications will be considered one time per year.
2. Submit the proposal using the **Start a Submission** link on the website SNRI AD Pre-Clinical Translational RFA

POST AWARD REQUIREMENTS

1. Awards cannot be given without proof of any applicable regulatory documentation. It is, therefore, important that applicants be ready to submit any necessary IACUC documents at the time of award notification.
2. Any publications and/or grant submissions should acknowledge this award supported by the Roberts Alzheimer's Disease Drug Discovery Fund, TREAT-AD Center, and Stark Neurosciences Research Institute.
3. Annual progress reporting during the life of the award.
4. Annual follow up for 5 years after the expiration date of the funding period, to provide (a) publications (b) grants submitted; (c) grants funded that used data generated by core, and (d) intellectual property. This information will assist the SNRI in evaluating their funding mechanisms and allow them to calculate ROI.
5. Presentation of findings to the SNRI investigators at one or more SNRI sponsored events.
6. Notification to SNRI executive director in writing, if you leave your institution before the project is complete and/or if the project is transferred to another PI.
7. Requested grant funding period cannot exceed 12 months. However, funded projects may be extended for up to one year with approval. When circumstances prevent a Principal Investigator (PI) from completing their proposed project objectives by the award end date and funds are still available, the PI should consider a no-cost extension (NCE).

   To request a no-cost extension for this grant(s), please use the following instructions to help you through the process. Notably, a no-cost extension MUST be requested before the end date of the award.

   The PI should send the following information to Alan Palkowitz, PhD apalkow@iu.edu.
   - Grant mechanism
   - Principal Investigator
   - Title of project and original expiration date
   - Summary of work accomplished to date
   - Reasons for delay in project and extension request

- New end date requested
- Copies of latest, approved, applicable regulatory documents
- Account number, remaining balance, and how the remaining funds will be spent during the extension.

REVIEW CRITERIA

The application will be reviewed and scored based on its scientific premise by internal and external technical reviewers, and the final selection will be determined by the award Executive Committee.

The research plan should address the following review criteria:

1. Quality – high standards of scholarship.
2. Impact – the results of the proposed project must show a strong potential for subsequent extramural funding (for example, NHGRI, NIA, NIAAA, NIBIB, NIDA, NIMH, NINDS, DOD, and/or the VA).
3. Future Plans - briefly specify plans for publication, applying extramural funding, and timeline.