

Michael J. Fox Foundation Rapid Response Innovation Awards

Short description of the award and the fellowship

Rapid Response Innovation Awards program quickly supports high-risk, high-reward projects with little to no existing preliminary data, but potential to significantly impact our understanding or treatment of Parkinson's Disease.

The MJFF has funded close to \$150 million of innovative PD-related research since 2000. This funding opportunity seeks investigator-initiated proposals that can open new insight into PD and its treatment, validate promising biological disease targets and ultimately move novel treatments into clinical testing phases. Although MJFF has no pre-conceived ideas about the kinds of projects that are submitted to this program, ideal applications will focus on efforts related to at least one of the following priority areas:

Definition and development of strategies that protect or restore degenerating and/or dysfunctional neurons affected in PD.

Better understanding and improved treatment of motor symptoms of PD.

Definition and treatment of non-motor symptoms of PD, such as cognitive dysfunction/dementia, depression/mood disorders, autonomic dysfunction, or sleep disorders.

Strategies for alleviating complications of PD treatment including dyskinesias

The award is for up to one year in duration and \$75,000 in total costs including up to 10% indirect costs. Budgets must be appropriate and justifiable for the work described. Funds awarded cannot be used for general equipment and travel costs: specific requests will be considered only if essential to the execution of the proposed work. No equipment only grants will be considered. Each item and its cost must be clearly detailed in the budget and justified within the project description. In the event of a collaboration between multiple institutions, indirect costs are only paid once – either to the principal investigator's (PI) institution as a percent of total direct costs, or in the case of multiple PIs, to each PI's institution as a percent of each institution's total direct costs.

Eligibility for Application

Applications may be submitted by U.S. and non-U.S. entities, public and private non-profit entities, such as universities, colleges, hospitals, laboratories, units of state and local governments, and eligible agencies of the federal government. Collaborative efforts are welcome. Postdoctoral fellows are eligible to apply as principal investigators for this RFA. However, any postdoctoral fellow who applies is required to collaborate with an Administrative Principal Investigator (PI) who serves as the director of the laboratory in which the research will be conducted. The Administrative PI will be responsible for assisting in providing all institutional documents required for the project and will be required to sign any award contract. Responsibility for the planning, direction, and execution of the proposed project will be solely that of the principal investigator. Training or mentoring only applications are not appropriate for this RFA. For proposals involving postdoctoral fellowships as applicants, biographical information is required for both the postdoctoral fellow and the Administrative PI.

Application Deadline

Research proposals must be submitted online any time during the year and funding decisions will be made within six weeks of receiving the application. Interested applicants should follow the application instructions on the MJFF web site

Web-site

<http://www.michaeljfox.org/>