DSF Research Grant Programs offers funding for research directly related to Dravet syndrome and associated disorders. These grants fund initial research hypotheses that have not been fully explored. The results extracted from this type of research will help bring untested research to the point that it can qualify for larger governmental funding. Research applications are judged principally on novelty of the hypotheses, innovative approaches with a direct relevance and application to Dravet syndrome and related epilepsies, scientific quality, strength of approach, and likelihood of success. Applications undergo a rigorous NIH-style scientific review process and final decisions are made by the DSF Board of Directors, ensuring projects funded by DSF meet high scientific standards and align with the most pressing needs of the patient community. Research Grant Awardees are required to give updates on their work throughout the grant cycle and present their findings at our annual Research Roundtable meeting.

DSF offers five types of grant programs: Transformational Science Grants, Research Grants, Clinical Research Grants, Postdoctoral Fellowships, and Clinician-Researcher Awards.

Special 2023 Request for Applications!

DSF is announcing a special Request For Applications in our 2023 grant cycle for projects that aim to increase our understanding of the broader genetic impacts on phenotype in Dravet syndrome. DSF will consider budgets of up to $1M distributed over 3 years.
2023 Basic and Translational Priority Areas Include:

- Understanding the mechanisms of epileptogenesis in Dravet syndrome
- Development of enhanced models to study Dravet syndrome
- Understanding of the cellular, molecular, and genetic mechanisms that contribute to the pathogenesis of Dravet syndrome
- Revealing causes and interventions for seizures and comorbidities in Dravet syndrome
- Understanding causes and developing interventions for SUDEP
- Development of novel treatments and interventions that will prevent the onset or halt the progression of Dravet syndrome; this includes research that may overcome the current size and delivery hurdles for gene-therapy approaches

2023 Clinical Priority Areas include:

- Research that helps identify patient trends, characteristics, epidemiology, or other clinical aspects of Dravet syndrome and/or its comorbidities
- Research that helps to understand, predict, and prevent SUDEP
- Research that will encourage the development of novel therapies to prevent onset or halt the progression of the Dravet syndrome

Click on the buttons below to learn more about each type of grant.

Transformational Science Grants

Award: $500,000 over 3 years

Eligibility:

- MD, PhD, DO, or equivalent degree
- Independent investigator affiliated with an academic or research institution (Awards are not given to private companies)
- Faculty appointment or offer letter and department/institution commitment of resources and space
- US citizenship not required

Indirects: Not to exceed 10% of total award

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Research Grants

New Larger Budget introduced in 2023!

Award: $250,000 over 2 years

Eligibility:

- MD, PhD, DO, or equivalent degree
- Independent investigator affiliated with an academic or research institution (Awards are not given to private companies)
- Faculty appointment or offer letter and department/institution commitment of resources and space
- US citizenship not required

Indirects: Not to exceed 10% of total award

LEARN MORE

Clinical Research Grants

New Larger Budget introduced in 2023!

Award: $250,000 over 2 years

Eligibility:

- MD, PhD, DO, or equivalent degree
- Project has a clinical focus, utilizing patient data
- Independent investigator affiliated with an academic or research institution (Awards are not given to private companies)
- Faculty appointment or offer letter and department/institution commitment of resources and space
- US citizenship not required

Indirects: Not to exceed 10% of total award

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Clinician Researcher Awards
Now Includes Funding Opportunities for Clinical Trainees!

**Award:** $75,000 for one year

**Eligibility:**
- MD, DO, or equivalent
- Active U.S. medical license
- Eligible applicants include full-time medical residents, fellows, early-career clinicians, or established clinicians lacking research experience who are affiliated with an academic or research institution on or before the start date of the award. (Awards are not made to private companies)
- Applicant should have a direct research mentor with experience in the proposed area of research
- Not the PI of a current multi-year research grant > $225,000, a current R01 research grant or equivalent, or any other fellowship (with the exception of NIH Career Development Awards)
- U.S. citizenship is not required.

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