




About FARA's Research Program

FARA supports research through funding competitive grants across the spectrum from basic research through drug development and clinical research programs in Friedreich's Ataxia (FA). We promote collaboration among scientists, advocate for public-private partnerships and host open forums for leading scientists to share their insights and ideas to advance therapeutic development for FA.

FARA's Grant types, Deadlines, and Budget Limits are described in the table below. You can view special interest requests for proposals (RFPs) and other grant program updates and announcements [here](#).

All investigators interested in FA-related research are invited to submit a Letter of Intent (LOI) through our [submission portal](#). All proposed research must fall within [FARA's Grant Program Priorities](#). For more information on how to apply for a FARA grant, [click here](#).

Grant types, Deadlines, and Budget Limits					
Grant Type	Letter of Intent (LOI) Deadline	Application Deadline	Award Notice	Grant start dates	Maximum Budget (in US dollars)
+ General Research Grant	Feb 15 Aug 15	Apr 15 Oct 15	Aug 1 Feb 1	Sep 1 - Oct 1 Mar 1 - Apr 1	\$125,000 per year for 1 or 2 years
 Award for Innovative Mindset (AIM)	No LOI	Feb 1	May 1	Jun 1 - Jul 1	\$100,000 for 1 year

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+	Keith Michael Andrus Cardiac Award	Nov 1	Feb 1	Jun 1	Jul 1 - Aug 1	year for 1 or 2 years
+	Kyle Bryant Translational Research Award	Nov 1	Feb 1	Jun 1	Jul 1 - Aug 1	\$250,000 per year for 1 or 2 years
+	Bronya J. Keats Research Collaboration Award	Nov 1	Feb 1	Jun 1	Jul 1 - Aug 1	\$200,000 per year for 1 or 2 years
+	Postdoctoral Research Award	Feb 15 Aug 15	Apr 15 Oct 15	Aug 1 Feb 1	Sep 1 - Oct 1 Mar 1 - Apr 1	\$100,000 per year for 1 or 2 years
+	Postdoctoral Fellowship	Feb 15 Aug 15	Apr 15 Oct 15	Aug 1 Feb 1	Sep 1 - Oct 1 Mar 1 - Apr 1	Trainee salary up to 2 yrs
+	Graduate Research Fellowship	Mar 15	May 15	Sep 1	Oct 1 - Nov 1	\$50,000 per year up to 3 years
+	Request for Proposals and Ad-hoc Requests	FARA will issue requests for proposals (RFPs) on an ad-hoc basis.				

The FARA Fellow Program

The FARA Fellow Program recognizes young investigators who will commit their early career to FA research. Growing and training the next generation of FA scientists is a priority for FARA and this program provides young investigators the opportunity to grow their profile within the research community and network with other investigators, together with a cash award and opportunity to attend scientific conferences. Eligible candidates are postdoctoral trainees who have demonstrated or hold promise for outstanding research achievements in FA. Both new and existing postdoctoral trainees with fewer than 6 years working as a postdoctoral trainee, accounting for career disruptions, and fewer than 4 years working in an FA lab as a postdoctoral trainee, can be nominated to receive the award. Nominations must be submitted by the trainee's PI or prospective PI and consist of the trainee's CV, a brief abstract describing the trainee's project with a list of publications and/or presentations related to the project, documentation providing evidence that the PI can support the trainee's salary for 2 years and a letter briefly describing how the trainee's qualities and research accomplishments will support FARA's mission of developing treatments and a cure for FA.

The award consists of \$10,000 USD and financial support to attend one scientific conference per year and the FARA & CHOP FA Symposium in Philadelphia (maximum covered cost of \$4000 USD that includes: airfare in coach class, hotel accommodation and conference registration fees. These expenses will be reimbursed directly by FARA). Postdoctoral trainees can be nominated and receive the award for a maximum of 3 years, but nominations are required each year. Nominations must be submitted by the PI and include trainee's CV, a brief abstract describing the trainee's project with a list of publications and/or presentations related to the project, documentation providing evidence that the PI can support the trainee's salary and a letter briefly describing the trainee's



As FARA Fellows, trainees will be invited to attend round table discussions with other Fellows, present at the FARA Forum and at the FARA Flash Talks, and contribute their FA knowledge and results of their research to the FA CollaMap (<https://www.collamap.org/>).

Nomination must be submitted by June 1 via email to grants@curefa.org. For more information, please email grants@curefa.org

Grant program updates and announcements

The FARA forum webinars

The FARA Forum is a monthly webinar featuring investigators who have been awarded FARA grants. The webinar is open to FARA grant awardees and it is held on the second Tuesday of every month. For more information contact liz.soragni@curefa.org

September 12, 2023 12 PM ET

David Lynch (Children's Hospital of Philadelphia)

October 10, 2023 12 PM ET

Hélène Puccio (Institute NeuroMyoGène, Lyon) and Marek Napierala (UT Southwestern) – FA mouse models

November 14, 2023 12 PM ET

Clementina Mesaros, (University of Pennsylvania)

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Grant program updates and announcements

View special interest RFPs and other grant program updates and announcements [here](#).

Newly awarded grants

Gene & Stem Cell Therapy

Joseph Nabhan, PhD - Vesigen Therapeutics, Cambridge (MA)

Evaluation of ARMMs-mediated delivery of Cas9 protein complexed with gRNAs as a non-viral disease-modifying strategy for Friedreich's ataxia

Mechanism or Pathway of Disease

Lisa Romano, PhD - University of Florida

Repeat associated non-AUG (RAN) proteins in FA: contribution to disease and therapeutic opportunities

Massimo Pandolfo, MD and Stefano Stifani, PhD - McGill University, Canada

An induced pluripotent stem cell model to investigate microglia in Friedreich ataxia

Andre Nussenzweig, PhD - National Cancer Institute, NIH

Mechanism of repeat expansion in Friedreich's ataxia

Pei-Yu Chen, PhD - Yale University

TGFβ signaling activity as disease biomarkers and therapeutic targets in Friedreich's Ataxia

Outcome Measures & Biomarkers

Thiago Rezende, PhD & Ian Harding, PhD - University of Campinas, Brazil & Monash University, Australia

An optimized deep learning-based method for cerebellum segmentation

Drug Discovery

Benoit D'Autreaux, PhD - CNRS-CEA-Université Paris-Saclay, France

Discovery of frataxin substitute drug candidates for the treatment of Friedreich's ataxia

Cardiac Research

Laura Kropp, PhD, MPH - Stealth BioTherapeutics

Advancing novel mitochondrial therapies for FA cardiomyopathy: a pragmatic collaboration to move new therapies forward

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