



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

2022 AFTD Pathways for Hope Pilot Grant Funding Basic and Translational FTD Research

New for 2022 – Changes to award amount, indirect policy, and application deadline

Deadline for Applications: November 11, 2022

AFTD Pilot Grants provide seed funding to advance the careers of early-stage investigators focused on the full spectrum of FTLT disorders (behavioral variant FTD, primary progressive aphasia, progressive supranuclear palsy, corticobasal syndrome, and FTD-ALS). Pilot Grants support recipients in developing an independent research program and generating data that will be the basis for follow-on funding applications to other funders.

Suitable research topics may focus on sporadic or familial FTD. Examples include *but are not limited to*:

- Cellular and molecular mechanisms disrupted in FTD
- Development and characterization of novel animal (vertebrate or invertebrate), cellular, and computational models
- Network approaches to understanding neural circuits relevant to FTD-related deficits in social cognition, emotional regulation, language, or movement
- Cognitive or behavioral neuroscience of FTD symptoms
- Biomarker discovery or development
- Therapeutic target identification and validation
- Bioinformatics, machine learning, and other computational biology approaches applied to existing FTD clinical, imaging, or -omics datasets
- Development of novel diagnostics or clinical outcome measures, including digital tools for passive or active data collection.

Projects to develop and test quality-of-life interventions for persons with FTD, families or caregivers, as well as research to improve access to equitable, high-quality diagnosis, care, support, and research participation are more appropriate for the **Well-Being in FTD Pilot Grant**. View the 2022 RFP for this Pilot Grant category on the [AFTD website](#) and note that the scope of the Well-Being in FTD Pilot Grant has been expanded for the 2022 funding cycle. If you are unsure which Pilot Grant category is best suited to your project, please contact the AFTD Director of Research and Grants.

Grant Specifics – note changes for 2022

- The deadline for applications is **Friday, November 11, 2022, 8:00 pm ET**.
- One Pathways for Hope Pilot Grant will be awarded in 2022, with notifications in January 2023 and an award start date in spring 2023.

- Award amount \$110,000 (USD). Up to \$10,000 of this amount may be applied to indirect costs.
- The combined allocation for PI salary and benefits should not exceed 10% of the total budget (\$6,000 maximum).
- 1-year grant duration.

Eligibility

- The Principal Investigator (PI) submitting the proposal must have a faculty appointment or an equivalent position at a nonprofit/academic research institution.
- The PI should be a new or early-stage researcher. AFTD follows the NIH definitions of new and early-stage investigators, see: https://grants.nih.gov/policy/new_investigators/index.htm). Senior researchers can serve as co-PIs on an application submitted in collaboration with a PI who is a new/early-stage investigator; please contact AFTD's Director of research and Grants to discuss.
- Postdoctoral researchers are not eligible to apply unless they can provide a letter of employment verifying they will begin a faculty position at, or equivalent to, the assistant professor level by the beginning of the funding period in spring 2023. Fellows are instead encouraged to review AFTD's annual [Holloway Scholars programs](#), including the Holloway Postdoctoral Fellowships and the Clinical Research Training Scholarship in FTD.
- US and international researchers are eligible to apply.

AFTD is committed to increasing the diversity of the scientific workforce and encourages applications by researchers from underrepresented or historically excluded populations.

Application Procedure

- Detailed instructions for completing the Pilot Grant application can be found on the [AFTD website](#). These instructions include AFTD's policies on resource sharing, data sharing, and the publication of funded research.
- AFTD utilizes an online submission portal, also accessed on the AFTD website. If you are using the portal for the first time, follow the instructions on the portal homepage to create an account and begin the application process. **All Pilot Grant applications must be submitted through the portal by the indicated deadline to be considered for funding.**
- Applications will be reviewed confidentially by AFTD and an external Scientific Review Panel which includes members of the AFTD Medical Advisory Council and other experts across the breadth of eligible research fields. The Research Committee of the AFTD Board of Directors will make final award determinations upon recommendation from the Scientific Review Panel.

For questions on the application process and logistics, contact:

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For questions on scientific scope or the review process, contact:

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