

BREAKING NEWS! Transformative Research Award recipients announced!

(LA-2023)

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HDF TRANSFORMATIVE RESEARCH AWARD

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Description of the Funding Opportunity

The HDF Transformative Research Award program developed by the Hereditary Disease Foundation will make funds available to advance transformational collaborative projects that will provide new insights into disease mechanisms or create or implement tools and technologies not previously applied to Huntington's disease (HD) research for the advancement of therapeutics.

Description of this request for proposals

The program seeks to fund collaborative research teams to create innovative ways to study new pathogenic disease mechanisms and treatment modalities in Huntington's disease. Funded projects will "significantly move the needle" and provide transformational new insights to the HD field. General areas include but are not limited to: whether modulation of somatic repeat instability is disease modifying, whether and how cellular, biochemical or molecular insights in HD systems are predictive of disease, or how to apply unexplored therapeutics for clinical application (inclusive of biomarkers). Projects that discover disease modifying targets and incorporate novel tools or technologies are encouraged. Projects must justify how results could ultimately connect to therapies.

Objectives: Stimulating Revolutionary Advances

The HDF Transformative Research Award program is intended to stimulate revolutionary advances in discovering fundamental new disease mechanisms or conceptually novel therapeutic approaches. Exceptional novelty with a credible research path toward the envisioned outcome that will impact HD research or HD therapies will be the most important factor in funding decisions. Incremental advances on research already described in the literature are excluded. This funding opportunity is exclusively to develop and test new ideas.

Proposers are expected to establish their own metrics and milestones to measure success and to provide justification for their choice of metrics. Progress metrics must be delineated.

Eligibility: Partnerships Strongly Encouraged

Investigators from academic institutions, companies, national laboratories, nonprofit institutes, and multi-institutional teams are welcome to apply. Partnerships between academia and industry and those bringing scientific expertise from outside the HD field are strongly encouraged.

Funding Level: \$300,000-500,000

Annual funding can range from \$300,000-500,000 per award per year with appropriate justification for up to a two-year period. Funding can be used for principal investigator, co-investigator, staff scientists, postdoctoral researchers and, where applicable, graduate students' salaries. Also allowed are costs for relevant laboratory supplies, open access publication fees, small laboratory equipment, and vivarium expenses. Institutional indirect support will be capped at 15% of direct costs.

Development of collaborative teams from the same or multiple institutions is encouraged as it is anticipated that responsive applications will require integration of expertise from diverse disciplines. Funding will be contracted, managed and reviewed as a team; nonetheless, teams with PIs from multiple institutions should select one individual to serve as lead PI.

Intellectual Property

The awardees will retain ownership of intellectual property created during performance of the program.

Proposal Submissions

A Letter of Intent describing the project and team is required (*Max 500 words/3500 characters. Text only. No special characters or formatting*). Submission of full proposals is by invitation only following review of the LOIs and a template for preparation and submission of a full proposal will be made available upon selection.

The HDF Transformative Research Award program is a new initiative.

Success criteria for funding

Exceptional novelty of the concept and quality of the experimental design will be the primary factors considered in scoring proposals in addition to metrics of investigator and team qualifications, relevant experience, research settings and milestones.

Key dates


Letters of Intent open:	January 15, 2024
Letters of Intent due:	March 15, 2024
Invitation for Full Proposals:	April 17, 2024

Full Proposals due: June 14, 2024
Award Announcements: Early-Fall, 2024
Project start date: Awardees should plan to start their projects by mid-November, 2024

LOIs must be submitted through ProposalCentral between on January 15 and March 15, 2024.

**BEGINNING JANUARY 15, 2024, CLICK HERE TO BEGIN YOUR LOI
([HTTPS://PROPOSALCENTRAL.COM/GRANTOPPORTUNITIES.ASP?GMID=262](https://proposalcentral.com/grantopportunities.asp?gmid=262))**

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