RETT SYNDROME INNOVATION AWARDS

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS - LETTERS OF INTENT

OPPORTUNITY

Rett syndrome is a rare neurodevelopmental disorder caused by mutations in MECP2 and leads to severe impairments in nearly all aspects of life. The International Rett Syndrome Foundation (IRSF), a nonprofit organization dedicated to finding treatments for Rett syndrome and supporting families living with Rett syndrome, continues to accelerate research by supporting fundamental, translational, and clinical studies to achieve the goal of finding disease modifying or curative treatments for Rett syndrome. The Rett Syndrome Innovation Awards seek to advance research aimed at investigating the underlying pathology of the disorder and identifying novel therapeutic approaches to treat and cure Rett syndrome.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVE

This program seeks to (1) provide seed money for innovative research that leads to the identification of therapeutic targets or approaches to treat Rett syndrome, (2) assist investigators to establish careers in the field of Rett syndrome research, and (3) lead to follow-on funding from other agencies.

FUNDING LEVEL

The Rett Syndrome Innovation Awards fund projects up to $300,000 total for two years (up to $150,000 per year).

TIMELINE

A letter of intent (LOI) is a required step in the application process and should be submitted by 5:00pm ET on May 15, 2024. Subsequently, selected applicants will be invited to submit a full proposal. Full proposals will be due on July 7, 2024. Award notifications are expected to be made in December 2024.

LOI SUBMISSION

LOIs must be completed online at https://proposalcentral.com. First-time users must register and complete a Professional Profile to begin the application process. In the "Grant Opportunities" tab, filter by grant maker to find "International Rett Syndrome Foundation" or search for "International Rett Syndrome Foundation" in the search box. Select "apply now" to begin the LOI.

AREAS OF INTEREST

Although we have identified the following areas of interest, the list is not meant to be exclusive.

- Molecular, cellular and circuit level characterization of MeCP2 function to generate novel therapeutic targets/approaches
- Integrated multi-level characterization of Rett Syndrome disease states including pre- and post-regression phases in disease models encompassing both the loss of and the restoration of MeCP2 function
- Identify and engage modulators of MeCP2 function for the development of novel therapeutic targets

Submission of research ideas that are supported by pilot data relevant to Rett syndrome are encouraged.

This RFP does not support clinical research projects.

ELIGIBILITY

- US and non-US independent investigators with an appointment at an academic, government, non-profit research institution or biotechnology/pharmaceutical company
- History of independent publication record
- History of grant support in which the applicant is the principal investigator (PI)

Scientists from underrepresented groups are encouraged to apply.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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