



International Essential
Tremor Foundation

Your Voice for Essential Tremor

MARCH
is National Essential
Tremor Awareness
MONTH
EssentialTremor.org

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IETF Request for Applications for Funding in 2026

Award Amount: \$150,000 first year, potential of \$100,000 each year after for a maximum of 2 additional years totaling \$350,000 for full award.

Due dates:

LOI/Pre-Proposals due	November 1, 2025
Full proposal invitations	January 1, 2026
Full proposals due	March 1, 2026
Anticipated Award Announcement	June 1, 2026
First payment distributed	July 1, 2026

History: Development of effective treatments for essential tremor (ET) have been hampered by the lack of understanding of underlying pathogenesis of ET. Many patients with ET often report a family history of tremor, yet family studies and large scale GWAS have yet to produce strong candidate genes. Drugs used to treat ET are approved for other indications and have modest efficacy in ET, yet how this response to treatment ties into underlying pathology is poorly understood. Brain pathology in ET has had limited study and there is a lack of independent validation for many of these studies. Taken together, there is a need for further additional research in ET.

Founded in 1988 as a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization, the International Essential Tremor Foundation (IETF) is guided by an executive board of directors, a medical advisory board, and an executive director with a staff of two. The organization consists of patients, physicians, educators, health care workers, parents, relatives, friends, and volunteers. Each year researchers with an interest in studying the various aspects of essential tremor are encouraged to submit proposals for grant funding from the IETF.

Objective: The IETF is requesting proposals for grants addressing the etiology and pathogenesis of essential tremor. Concise, clearly written proposals that are hypothesis-driven have the best chance of being funded.



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Applications should focus on studies achieving one or more of the following goals:

1. A better understanding of the underlying pathophysiology of ET, including independent validation of previous findings.
2. A better understanding of the etiology of ET
3. Development or further validation of animal models of ET

This program is not appropriate for therapeutic studies.

Who may apply: Researchers, clinicians and post-doctoral students in the U.S. and non-U.S. academic or private setting. Post-doctoral fellows may apply with the designation of an appropriate administrative principal investigator who directs the laboratory where the fellow will conduct the research.

Application process:

Step 1

Letter of Intent (one page maximum):

1. Specific aims of the proposal
2. Timelines
3. Research team
4. Biographic sketch of principal investigator (not included in one page maximum)

Step 2 (invitation only)

Full proposal (10-page max-limit not including budget, biographical sketches references and relevant abstracts and/or articles)

Review and scoring of full proposals will be based on NIH style review and scoring system.

Letter of Intent should be sent by November 1, 2025 to:

Patrick McCartney, Executive Director
IETF
PO Box 14005, Lenexa KS 66285-4005
pmccartney@essentialtremor.org

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