



2025-2026 Brain Health Research Grant Application Form

*Note: this request for proposals is part of a special grant series and is separate from our General Spring announcement

Deadline April 1, 2025

Please send upload your PDF through

<https://proposalcentral.com/GrantOpportunities.asp?GMID=256> on or before April 1, 2025 at 11:59 PM ET.

We need an electronic copy only. Please do not send paper copies.

GENERAL INFORMATION

As part of a special research series, The Peanut Institute Foundation is requesting proposals on the effect of consumption of peanuts, peanut butter, peanut oil, peanut powder, and other peanut products in the diet on brain health in humans. Specifically, we are seeking well-designed large scale and/or long-term human studies. Areas of interest include brain (cognition and mental) health across diverse groups, including:

- Cognitive outcomes in children, young adults, or older adults
- Neurodevelopment, neuroplasticity, and/or brain repair in children or adults
- Cognitive decline and/or neurodegenerative diseases in adults with or without other chronic disease
- Variability in cognitive outcomes across diverse age, sex, and ethnic groups
- Neurogenetics, neuroinflammation, and/or cerebrovascular health
- Mental health outcomes (eg. mood, anxiety, depression) and/or sleep quality

Priority will be given to studies that incorporate at least two of the following:

- Interconnection of brain health with other health outcomes (eg. gut-brain axis, gut-sleep quality connection, systemic inflammation or immune function, chrononutrition, cardiometabolic health, appetite/weight management, etc.)
- Objective approaches in measuring brain health and/or sleep quality outcomes
- Robust designs that elucidate the specific impact of peanuts/peanut products on health outcomes
- Heterogeneity in design by utilizing multi-disciplinary teams to explore the interrelationship of at least one area on responses to peanut interventions: genetics, social determinants of health, overall diet quality, and health behaviors

If applicable, we are also interested in understanding the economic impact for public health of the proposed study.

FUNDING

Award floor: \$350,000

Award ceiling: \$650,000

Multi-year projects are appropriate; however, the total proposed budget for the project's entirety must not exceed the award ceiling and the study design must justify the proposed cost.



ELIGIBILITY

Any scientist/researcher affiliated with a research institution or organization (public or private) that has the facilities to deliver results and that demonstrates the expertise to perform peanut nutrition research described above is eligible to apply. The main PI should be based in the US.

PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

Font: Times New Roman

Font size: 12, single-spaced

Margin: 1" top, bottom, left, right

Proposals may address multiple areas but must not exceed **10** pages, including a brief vitae and references.

Your proposal should be organized in the following format:

Proposal Title

1. Project Summary/Abstract

A brief summary of the proposed research, anticipated products, and potential outcomes.

Please be sure to also include:

- a. Principal investigator(s), Institution or Organization address
- b. Contact Person, full mailing address, phone, and email
- c. Collaborators

2. Research Objectives

3. Annual Budget

Indirect costs will not be funded but will be considered as an institutional investment in the project. In most cases, major capital items of equipment will not be funded.

- Summary (separate line items for salary & benefits, supplies, outside services, travel)
- Budget Explanation and Justification (for each budgetary line item)
- Other funding that supports the proposed research (Source & nature of support)
- TPI funds must not be used to pay overhead costs. "Overhead costs" are defined as ongoing operating expenses that include, but are not limited to, insurance, telephone bills, the purchase of facilities and utility costs. In the event of any disagreement regarding whether a particular cost or expense is an "overhead cost," the determination by TPI shall be final.

4. Technical Review

Review of previous research relevant to objectives and pertinent technical items.

5. Research Methods & Approach

Provide sufficient information on plans and methods to be used in obtaining project objectives and a rationale for how it will contribute to the solution of the project objectives. Also, briefly include the facilities you have to conduct the research in the context of the methods you are describing (eg. "we will be measuring vascular function using duplex ultrasound").



6. Implementation Statement

A statement that demonstrates the potential public health impact of the project. Applications should elaborate on the relevance of the work for improving public health outcomes, including any economic benefits.

7. Schedule of Events

A schedule of the major steps outlined in the proposal, and a proposed length of the project. **Multi-year projects may be submitted; however, the total funding amount that is proposed must not exceed the \$650,000 limit.**

8. List Facilities & Equipment Available

Please provide an in-depth description of the facilities/equipment available to you. Describe the capabilities of your lab to perform the proposed project.

9. Investigator Qualifications

TPI recommends that each project be led by at least (2) qualified investigators. For this grant, the main PI must be based in the United States. Include a brief vitae for each investigator, including citations for publications and grants received within the past five years.

Evaluation criteria include: scientific merit, public health impact, estimated timeline, availability of equipment and facilities, probability of success, and appropriateness of the budget. Any documents that the proposer expects TPIF to sign should be submitted with the proposal. The Board of Directors of The Peanut Institute Foundation will approve the projects to be funded and the amount allocated for each project.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What is the start date of funding? We aim to communicate our decision for funding by **June 30**. The actual start date is contingent on IRB approval.

2. Does the 10-page limit of the proposal include references and CVs? The 10-page limit of the proposal should include a brief vitae, grants, and references. Overall, the proposal should be as clear and succinct as possible.

3. Can the proposed budget include salary, benefits, and/or tuition costs? Grant funds can be used to support salary/benefits but typically cannot be applied towards tuition costs. Funds also cannot be used for equipment such as laptops. **If a budgetary exception is needed for any of these items, please include a detailed justification in your application.**

4. Would The Peanut Institute Foundation be able to assist in getting peanuts and/or peanut products for the study? We recommend that you include the cost of the peanuts and/or necessary products in your grant. It is best if the acquisition of peanuts is done by the investigators.

5. Does The Peanut Institute Foundation fund animal research? Yes, however, animal studies are not appropriate for this grant. If you would like to conduct an animal study, please refer to the General Spring 2025 announcement for instructions on how to apply for that grant.