

Grants

Apply for a Grant

The VHL Alliance (VHLA) is committed to finding a cure for Von Hippel-Lindau (VHL) disease through research, education, and patient support. As the largest source of funding for VHL research worldwide, the VHLA has awarded over \$3,000,000 in research grants since its founding. VHLA's Competitive Research Grant Program supports groundbreaking research that aims to advance our understanding of VHL disease, improve detection and treatment options, and, ultimately, find a cure.

The VHLA awards three types of grants annually: one (1) Pilot Grant, one (1) Research Grant, and two (2) Postdoctoral Fellowship Grants.

International applicants are welcome to apply.

Grant Mechanisms

Pilot Grant \$25k

Who Can Apply: New and existing VHL researchers, including those exploring innovative ideas and approaches to VHL diagnosis, treatment, or prevention.
Purpose: This grant encourages researchers to explore important issues in VHL and pursue paradigm-shifting ideas. The goal is to foster new research directions that could significantly impact VHL care.

Funding: \$25,000 for one year.
Deadlines: November 2, 2025 (Letter of Intent); January 18, 2026 (Full application, by invitation only).

Research Grant \$100k over two years

Who Can Apply: Researchers aiming to contribute new insights into the basic biology of VHL disease, improve early detection, or develop new treatments.
Purpose: To support studies that will offer meaningful contributions to VHL research, focusing on understanding the disease at a fundamental level and developing new diagnostic and therapeutic strategies.
Funding: \$100,000 over two years.
Deadlines: November 2, 2025 (Letter of Intent); January 18, 2026 (Full application, by invitation only).

Postdoctoral Fellowship Grant \$100k over two years

Who Can Apply: Promising postdoctoral scientists with ≤ 3 years of experience who are committed to careers focused on VHL research.

Purpose: This grant is designed to attract and support postdoctoral researchers dedicated to the study of VHL and to build a pipeline of future leaders in the field of VHL research.

Funding: \$100,000 over two years.

Deadlines: November 2, 2025 (Letter of Intent); January 18, 2026 (Full application, by invitation only).

Application & Peer Review Process

The VHLA grant application process follows a structured pathway to ensure that only the highest-quality proposals are considered for funding. Below is a detailed overview of the process:

Letter of Intent (LOI):

All interested applicants must submit an LOI by November 2, 2025. The LOI should not exceed one page and must include:

Name of the principal investigator (PI).

- Brief description of the PI's qualifications to undertake the proposed project.
- The type of award being sought (Pilot, Research, or Postdoctoral Fellowship).
- A brief project description that emphasizes relevance to VHL, including background, hypothesis, specific aims, and impact on VHL patient care.
- For Postdoctoral Fellowship applicants: Please also include the name and qualifications of the mentor under whose guidance the research will be conducted.

LOIs should be submitted via email to research@vhl.org.

Full Application Submission:

LOIs will undergo peer review, and applicants will be notified of their status (either rejected or advanced) by November 17, 2025. Full applications will be accepted by invitation only and must be submitted by January 18, 2026.

Peer Review Process:

Full applications will be reviewed in a session on March 9, 2026, by a panel of experts in VHL research. The review will assess scientific merit, relevance to VHLA's mission, and potential for significant impact on VHL patient care.

Grantee Announcement:

Successful applicants will be notified of their award by April 13, 2026.

Project Start Date:

The earliest project start date for awarded grants is May 1, 2026.

2024 Research Grant Dates and Deadlines:

August 29, 2025: Grant Invitation Emailed

November 2, 2025: Letter of Intent Deadline

November 17, 2025: LOI Applicants Notified of Status

January 18, 2026: Application Deadline

Week of March 9, 2026: Grant Application Review Session

April 13, 2026: Grantee Announcement

May 1, 2026: Earliest Project Start Date

Additional Funding Opportunities

