



Autism Science Foundation

searching. solving. sharing.

Request for Applications: 2022 Suzanne Wright Memorial Research Accelerator Grants

RFA Released: April 12, 2022
Applications Due: June 14, 2022 5:00 PM EST

Introduction

The Autism Science Foundation invites applications for its Suzanne Wright Research Accelerator Grants. These grants are designed to expand the scope, speed the progress, increase the efficiency or improve final product dissemination of active autism research grants. This mechanism is also meant to allow creative use of existing data that has not previously been analyzed to ask a question relevant to autism research. ***The funding is not meant to fully support a project, but to leverage existing resources to accelerate the discovery of research findings.*** Projects that do not fit the goal of the mechanism or that do not adhere to the proposal preparation instructions will be returned without review.

Awards

The Autism Science Foundation will make a number of Awards determined by its available financial resources. The term of the award cannot exceed the IRB approval period on the underlying or primary grant.

Grants of up to \$7,500 US dollars are available to enhance, expand and enrich grants currently funded by other sources (including ASF). Staff salary may be covered by this award. All projects must have prior IRB approval. No portion of these funds shall be used to cover indirect university costs.

Proposal Preparation

Proposals should be written in 12-point Arial font and should have margins of 0.5 inch or greater. The applicant's last name must appear on all pages of the application. The file sent to ASF should be in one PDF.

Be creative in your use of these funds. Check our website for examples of the types of projects we fund with these grants.

Page 1: Cover Page

- Full name and contact information of the proposed PI of the accelerator grant
- Full name and contact information of the PI of the parent grant (if applicable)
- The current grant name, scope, number, and funding source
- In bold, describe in 2-3 sentences how the accelerator funds will enrich and accelerate the current or primary project

- Indicate the exact dollar amount you are applying for and specify exactly how the funds will be spent

Pages 2 - 5: Research Proposal

- Proposals can be up to 4 pages. Please write "Page intentionally left blank" on any pages that are not used. The proposal should clearly state how the proposed study builds upon, expands or enhances a currently funded research project. The name of that project, funding source and PI should also be stated in the application.

Page 6: References

- This cannot exceed one page.

Pages 7-10: Biosketch

- Include the NIH biosketch for the proposed PI of the accelerator grant. Please note, if the PI of the accelerator is not the PI of the parent grant, you are required to include a letter of commitment from the PI of the parent grant acknowledging use of data or resources

Pages 1-10 should be combined into one PDF for submission.

Letter Preparation

In some instances, a letter of commitment or a letter of recommendation is required.

- If the PI of the accelerator is not the PI of the parent grant, you are required to have a letter of commitment from the PI of the parent grant acknowledging use of data or resources
- Postdoctoral fellows applying for an accelerator grant must submit a letter of recommendation.
- Tenured academic appointees and others should NOT submit letters of recommendation.

Letters of support/recommendation should NOT be included in the proposal pdf and should come directly from the recommender or PI.

Submission of Proposals

Proposals should be submitted as one PDF document with the subject line (Last Name/Institution/Accelerator) to grants@autismsciencefoundation.org:

Example: Martin/Tulane/Accelerator

Letters of recommendation and letters of commitment should be sent by email to grants@autismsciencefoundation.org. Please ask your recommender or PI to use the subject line (Applicant last name/Institution/Letter of Recommendation).

Example: Martin/Tulane/Letter of Recommendation

Example: Martin/Tulane/Letter of Commitment

Successful electronic submission will be confirmed by email notification to the sender.

Applications are due June 14, 2022 by 5:00 pm EST. This deadline applies to both the proposals and the letters of recommendation/commitment (if applicable). It is your responsibility to inform the recommender or PI of this deadline. Any proposals or letters received after this deadline will not be reviewed.

It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that the proposal complies with the conditions prescribed in the RFA. Autism Science Foundation reserves the right to return without review any proposal found not to be in compliance with the conditions prescribed on the RFA, or any proposal that is not responsive to its research goals or exceeds its funding limits or available resources, at any time during the application and review process.

The Autism Science Foundation reserves the right to make changes to this RFA at any time. Changes will be posted on the website. We advise applicants to check this link frequently: <https://autismsciencefoundation.org/apply-for-a-research-accelerator-grant/>

Award notifications will be made in August 2022.

Payment of Awards

Upon notification of award, we will require a copy of the underlying project's IRB approval letter. Upon receipt of the IRB letter by ASF, we will issue a contract to the investigator's sponsoring institution and make a single payment of the full amount.

Please note, sponsoring institutions must accept the contract as presented and may not request any changes. The goal of this mechanism is to accelerate existing projects and so that the funds can be disbursed as quickly as possible, ASF will not be engaging in contract negotiations. Those considering an application should send the sample contract to their grants office to ensure the institution will be able to agree to the terms. A sample contract can be found at

<https://autismsciencefoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Sample-ASF-Grant-Contract.pdf>

Awardees must submit a brief written report to the Autism Science Foundation at the conclusion of the award, documenting the status of the research funded and detailing the use of funds. The format for this form will be provided by ASF. All forms can be found at <https://autismsciencefoundation.org/grantee-resources/>

Questions about proposal submission, proposal content and review, or applicant eligibility should be addressed to Casey Gold-Casey, Director of Operations, Autism Science Foundation. (cgold@autismsciencefoundation.org)