



National Eating Disorders Association

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Research Grants Program Policies & Guidelines

General Information

The National Eating Disorders Association sponsors a small grants program to support research in the areas of eating disorders etiology, prevention and treatment. Through the grants, the organization seeks to expand innovative eating disorders research while supporting investigators in the early stages of their careers in the eating disorders field.

Requirements

Any junior investigator worldwide who works in the field of eating disorders and has completed their terminal graduate level degree and training is eligible. Trainees (e.g. students, grad students, residents) are not eligible and investigators must be within seven years following the end of their training. Individuals who previously served or currently serve as a principal investigator on a substantial externally funded grant (e.g. RO1, RO3, or K award in the U.S.) are ineligible.

If selected, grant funds will be paid through reimbursements. Progress reports must accompany quarterly requests for reimbursement. A Final Report must be submitted to the National Eating Disorders Association within three months of the completion of the award year. This report is required to receive final payment. This report must include the following elements and/or answer the following questions:

1. A statement of how funds were used.
2. Did the research/data result in additional funding?
3. Was the research published? If so, where and when?
4. What meaningful items were learned as a result of the research?

Only one grant proposal may be submitted per individual.

Eligibility Criteria

- You must be a junior investigator within seven years of completion of your training (including PhD, end of residency training, or other terminal degree). Post-doctoral and post-residency research fellows are eligible.
- You cannot be a principal investigator on any other grants.
- You do not have major external funding (e.g., RO1, RO3, or K Award in the U.S.).
- You must be the principal investigator for the study.
- The study must provide preliminary data for a larger grant.

Terms of Support

Research grants available for 2008 include: three Laureate Young Investigator grants in the amount of \$10,000, and one NEDA Young Investigator grant in the amount of \$7,500.

Support can be included for:

- Salary for technicians, research assistants and other ancillary personnel
- Laboratory, radiological and pharmaceutical costs in clinical research projects
- Rating instruments and questionnaires
- Equipment and supplies
- Acquisition and maintenance of laboratory animals
- Subject payment
- Advertising

Funds *cannot* be used for the following purposes:

- Salary support for residents, fellows or other trainees
- Faculty or investigator salary
- Secretarial salary and benefits
- Tuition for residents, graduate students or post-doctoral fellows
- Publication costs or purchase of reprints or books
- Room and board for clinical subjects
- Studies that are also sponsored by pharmaceutical firms
- Computers
- Travel

Grant applications should be for direct costs only. The National Eating Disorders Association does not pay indirect costs through grants.

Application Guidelines

Send submissions to: research@nationaleatingdisorders.org by January 2, 2009. Please specify *2008 GRANT PROPOSAL* in the subject line. No phone calls please.

Awards will be announced February 25, 2009. Once the grants have been awarded, NEDA will not respond to individual questions about applications or rationale for the research grant selections.

Each application must include the following (in this order):

- Cover sheet provided by NEDA
- Specific aims and hypotheses (not to exceed 250 words)
- Background and significance of the project, including literature review (not to exceed 250 words)
- Description of preliminary studies (if any), proposed methodology and design, and data analysis (not to exceed 750 words)
- References (limit 20)
- Budget (1 page itemized)

- Description of the research environment and research colleagues that will be involved (limit 1 page)

The following attachments should be included with each application:

- A curriculum vitae for the proposed principal investigator
- A list of all current or proposed grants the principal investigator is receiving, that are under review, or are in submission.
- A statement outlining how the data that will be obtained will be used to inform a subsequent grant submission. Please include a description of the mechanism and the agency to which you will apply.

*** Research involving human or animal subjects or bio-hazardous material must be approved by the proper regulatory bodies at the applicant's home institution. This is not necessary prior to submitting an application. However, verification of such approval must be provided before a grant can be awarded. If the individual is not associated with an institution which provides such review, the proposed investigator should contact research@nationaleatingdisorders.org for further information.

Review Criteria

Grant applications should be characterized by innovation, scholarship, and responsiveness to the priorities and/or changing needs of the field.

Significance: Does the proposed research address scientific/education areas and/or topics important to the field and the mission of NEDA?

Approach: Are the conceptual or clinical framework, design, methods, and analyses adequately developed, well integrated, well reasoned, and appropriate to the aims of the project? Does the applicant acknowledge potential problem areas and consider alternative tactics? Is there evidence that the program is based on sound research concepts and educational principles?

Innovation: Is the project original and innovative? For example: Does the project challenge existing paradigms or clinical practice; address an innovative hypothesis or critical barrier to progress in the field? Does the project develop or employ novel concepts, approaches, methodologies, tools, or technologies for this area? Does this program duplicate, or overlap with, existing research education, training, and/or career development activities currently supported at the applicant institution or available elsewhere?

Investigators: Are the investigators appropriately trained and well suited to carry out this work? Is the work proposed appropriate to the experience level of the principal investigator and other researchers?

Environment: Does the scientific / educational environment in which the work will be done contribute to the probability of success? Do the proposed studies benefit from unique features of the scientific environment, or subject populations, or employ useful collaborative arrangements? Is there evidence of appropriate collaboration among participating programs and departments?