

Small Project Grants - advice to applicants

Purpose

These grants are intended to encourage clinicians and scientists to undertake small-scale or pilot studies that may lead to a larger project

Scope

- Projects that answer a stand-alone research question
- Projects that leverage a larger project by answering a separate and complementary question
- Equipment that can be used across several projects
- Projects and equipment must be in New Zealand

Who can apply?

- PhD students
- Post-doctoral research fellows
- Clinicians
- Academics

What can be funded?

- Working expenses
- Equipment
- Salaries for post-doctoral fellows, research assistants and technicians

What will not be funded?

- Completion of existing projects
- Salaries for clinicians or scientists with permanent positions
- Institutional overheads
- Travel

Maximum value

- \$15,000

Closing dates

- 2 September 2024

Process

- Download an application form at <https://neurological.org.nz/research/funding-opportunities>
- Complete the application form, including signatures from your host institution. The Neurological Foundation will only accept applications sent by the host institution's research office
- The budget requested should be in NZD. The Neurological Foundation will not award more than is requested in the budget and does not fund institutional overheads. Only actual costs for ACC and superannuation should be included in salary associated costs
- Supporting documentation:
 - NZ Standard CVs for all named investigators, including research assistants and subcontractors, using the template available at <https://neurological.org.nz/apply-for-funding/>
 - Quotes for any items of equipment or subcontracts, and letters of support for collaborations, should be attached at the end of the research proposal
 - Partial funding and ethics approval letters, as required
- Applicants will be advised of the outcome early in December
- Successful applicants will be informed of the conditions of the grant and asked for their formal acceptance of the research contract

General Advice

Purpose

The Neurological Foundation's purpose is to "be a catalyst to improve the future quality of life for New Zealanders impacted by neurological conditions".

This includes diseases and disorders of the central and peripheral nervous systems. The Foundation will accept applications for research that contributes to our understanding of, prevention, diagnosis, prognosis, treatment, or management of neurological conditions. The research proposal should have a clear outcome, which will add to knowledge about neurological disorders. The Foundation will accept applications designed to enhance knowledge about the pathogenesis of neuropsychiatric and neuropsychological disorders, but applications that deal only with the management of mental health disorders will not be considered.

Resubmission

The Foundation's Scientific Advisory Committee provides constructive feedback to applicants after each grant round. If unsuccessful, applicants can resubmit their proposal in a subsequent grant round. However, the Scientific Advisory Committee believes that a third submission of an unsuccessful project is not appropriate. Therefore, only one resubmission of a Small Project grant application will be accepted. A researcher who has been unsuccessful twice with a particular application is welcome to submit further proposals in their chosen field of research, but these proposals will need to be based on new or substantially revised hypotheses.

Research contracts

Successful applicants will be offered research contracts that outline the conditions of the grant, including the following:

- If required, ethics approval must be obtained prior to commencing the project
- The host institution will administer the grant
- The grant will have a specific start date and end date
- The institution's research programme may be rapidly evolving and the details of the research project may change after the application is made. If the contractual details of the project change a variation request will need to be submitted to the Foundation
- Annual progress reports are required on the anniversary of the start date. A final report will be required within 12 months of the grant's end date
- Any presentations or publications resulting from the project will acknowledge the Foundation's support

Questions?

If you have any queries please contact the Foundation at research@neurological.org.nz