



**INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH GRANT PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT  
FISCAL YEAR 2010 (JULY 2009 – JUNE 2010)**

Also available in PDF format on the Alzheimer's Association Web site at  
[www.alz.org/2010grantprogram](http://www.alz.org/2010grantprogram)

**SPECIFIC GRANT COMPETITIONS**

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## **i. Novel Pharmacological Strategies to Prevent Alzheimer's Disease**

**Competition Objectives:** The Alzheimer's Association is launching a new initiative to stimulate the development of new pharmacological strategies to prevent or treat Alzheimer's disease. The Association's Request for Applications (RFAs) is aimed at the identification and validation of novel drug targets, the screening and development of drugs for such targets, and the evaluation of drug safety and efficacy, mostly at the preclinical level. The RFA is designed to enable preliminary pilot research or proof-of-principle studies that can provide data for further research support by other funding agencies.

**Background:** A number of drug targets have been identified in Alzheimer's, including proteases that cleave the amyloid precursor protein, aggregation of amyloid- $\beta$  ( $A\beta$ ) peptides, kinases that phosphorylate tau, tau aggregation, structural and biological properties of apolipoprotein (apo) E that differentiate it from more protective apoE isoforms, and inflammatory mediators. All of these targets are already being pursued in large, highly competitive drug development programs. Indeed, drugs aimed at some of these targets are in advanced clinical trials. However, the long-term efficacy and safety of these drugs will remain unknown for many years to come. Therefore, the Association aims to keep open the pipeline for new drugs with the potential to significantly improve the treatment and prevention of Alzheimer's, either as monotherapy or in combination with drugs that are or soon will be available.

**Potential themes:** Based on discussions with members of its Medical and Scientific Advisory Council, the Association puts forth several themes that may be particularly worthy of further research. Note that "novel drug target" in the context of this RFA is defined as a drug target that has not yet been published or has not been in the public domain for more than one year and that is clearly different from established drug targets that no longer meet this criterion. Grant proposals could address, but are not limited to, the following areas of study:

- 1. Discovery of novel drug targets for Alzheimer's.** Research projects in this category may focus on hypothesis-driven candidate approaches or use large-scale unbiased systems biology approaches to identify novel drug targets for Alzheimer's disease. Projects may include human subjects, human samples, animal models, samples from such models and/or cell culture models.
- 2. Validation of novel drug targets.** Research projects in this category should aim to validate novel drug targets for Alzheimer's by demonstrating that modulation of the target affects an outcome measure that is clearly relevant to Alzheimer's disease. Projects may include human subjects, human samples, animal models, samples from such models and/or cell culture models.
- 3. Screening for or development of drugs for novel targets.** Research projects in this category may include the development of high-throughput assays, drug screens and medicinal chemistry to synthesize new compounds or modify promising scaffolds.

**4. Evaluation of drugs for novel targets.** Research projects in this category may focus on the evaluation of drugs at the preclinical or clinical level. Projects may consist of drug trials in well-established experimental models of Alzheimer's disease or of small pilot trials in humans with Alzheimer's, individuals with mild cognitive impairment or cognitively normal elderly individuals. Outcome measures may include clinical, radiological, pathological or biochemical alterations that are relevant to Alzheimer's. Studies focusing on cognitively normal individuals should not be preventive trials per se but should target alterations of physiological processes that have relevance to Alzheimer's and can be tracked (e.g., with biomarkers) whether or not there is an accompanying change in cognition.

**5. Evidence-based evaluation of combination therapy.** Research projects in this category may evaluate novel combinations of drugs or of drugs and non-pharmacological interventions at the preclinical or clinical level. Although it is unnecessary for both therapeutic components to be novel, their combination must not have been explored before and should be based on a solid rationale (including pertinent preliminary data). See point 4 for details on experimental design.

**6. Bench-to-bedside models.** Research projects in this category may focus on pioneering translational programs or mechanisms that could facilitate and expedite the path that leads from the identification of novel targets to clinical trials of drugs aimed at the novel targets. Although projects may focus on academic or industrial settings, of particular interest are projects that focus on the academic/industrial interface.

**General considerations:** Any proposal must have a clear focus on Alzheimer's disease and on a novel drug target as defined above. Any study that uses animal models must clearly and explicitly outline potential methods of translating and relating findings to the human condition in the future. Ultimately, the goal is to translate the research into strategies to delay, halt, reverse or prevent Alzheimer's disease.

Because the principle idea is to encourage studies into new technologies and high-risk ventures and translation of this novel technology to human studies, an interdisciplinary approach might be most fruitful. Therefore, the Association strongly encourages submissions from collaborative research teams (e.g., basic scientists and clinical researchers). In addition, while novel and creative ideas are sought, proposals also need to demonstrate feasibility.

The Alzheimer's Association recognizes the need to increase the number of scientists from underrepresented groups in the research enterprise. Researchers from these groups are encouraged to apply.

**Funding and award period:** The Association anticipates funding 2 awards in this category. Each award is limited to \$400,000 (direct and indirect costs) for two to three years. Requests in any given year may not exceed \$200,000 (direct and indirect costs). Indirect costs are capped at 10 percent (rent for laboratory/office space is expected to be covered by indirect costs paid to the institution).

**Funding cap:** The Alzheimer's Association may consider allowing the funding cap to be exceeded for the New Pharmacological Strategies to Prevent Alzheimer's Disease RFAs if the science which the project is based upon calls for increased funds. Applicants requesting a cap increase must submit a written request to the Alzheimer's Association via email to: [grantsapp@alz.org](mailto:grantsapp@alz.org) no later than three weeks before the submission deadline. The request must include a detailed budget and justification for the cap increase. Approval by the Alzheimer's Association will be required for an application to be submitted with a budget that exceeds the specified funding cap.

**Eligibility:** Researchers with full-time staff or faculty appointments are encouraged to apply. Applications from post-doctoral candidates will not be accepted.

**Deadlines and award dates:** Letters of intent must be received by 5:00 PM EASTERN STANDARD TIME, December 1, 2009. Letters of intent will not be accepted after this date. No exceptions will be made.

**Applications must be received by 5:00 PM EASTERN STANDARD TIME, January 7, 2010.** Scientific and technical review will be conducted from February through May 2010. The second-level review by the Medical and Scientific Advisory Council will be conducted during June 2010. Funding will be awarded by July 2010.

**Mechanism of award, reporting requirements and allowable costs:** The mechanism of the award is the individual research grant. The maximum allowable duration is three years. Annual progress and financial reports are required. Continuation of the grant over the awarded duration is contingent upon the timely receipt of scientific and financial reports.

**Budget:** A "budget summary" for the proposed research project is required and must be submitted with the application and within the allowable page limits. However, if the application is to be awarded, a more detailed budget will be required and must be approved before the disbursement of funds. Your budget must not exceed the maximum amount of the award unless written permission has been granted by the Alzheimer's Association.

**Allowable costs under this award:**

It is required that most of the funds awarded under this program be used for direct research support.

**Allowable costs under this award include:**

- Purchase and care of laboratory animals
- Small pieces of laboratory equipment and laboratory supplies
- Computer equipment if used strictly for data collection
- Travel (up to \$1,000 per year)
- Salary for the principal investigator, scientific (including post-doctoral fellows) and technical staff (including laboratory technicians and administrative support staff whose work is directly related to the funded project)

**Costs not allowed under this award include:**

- Tuition
- Computer hardware or software for investigators
- Rent for laboratory/office space
- Construction or renovation costs

***For more information:*** E-mail [grantsapp@alz.org](mailto:grantsapp@alz.org) or call 1.312.335.5747.

## ii. Non-Pharmacological Strategies to Ameliorate Symptoms of Alzheimer's Disease

**Competition objectives:** The Alzheimer's Association is launching a new initiative to stimulate the scholarly investigation and development of non-pharmacological strategies to improve the care of persons with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders (ADRD). The Association's Request for Applications (RFA) is aimed at the identification, validation and investigation of non-pharmacological approaches to improve the care of older adults with ADRD. This includes the investigation of new approaches, extension of existing approaches, and development of methodological strategies to improve the conduct of clinical and translational research of non-pharmacological treatments of ADRD.

The RFA is designed to enable preliminary pilot research or proof-of-principle studies that can provide data for further research support by other funding agencies. This RFA focuses on the science of conducting and evaluating non-pharmacological interventions for the treatment of ADRD, whether independently or in conjunction with pharmacological approaches.

**Background:** Non-pharmacologic approaches to intervention have promise for ameliorating many symptoms of Alzheimer's disease. Despite this, non-pharmacological trials using state-of-the-science methodologies are few in number. This RFA therefore focuses on both proposals for trials themselves and proposals for research that moves the field forward by improving the conduct and analysis of these trials. These interventions can be formulated either independently or in conjunction with pharmacological approaches.

The Association aims to keep open the pipeline for the development of new non-pharmacological treatments as well as the investigation and translation of existing non-pharmacological treatments that have the potential to significantly improve the care of persons with ADRD.

**Potential themes:** Based on discussions with its Medical and Scientific Advisory Council, the Association puts forth several themes that may be particularly worthy of further research. These themes are each designed to move the science of non-pharmacological treatment forward and include:

- (a) research on non-pharmacological treatments (e.g., behavioral therapies, cognitive-behavioral management, exercise, environmental manipulations, etc.);
- (b) studies engaging different "targets" for treatment delivery and treatment receipt (e.g., family caregivers, staff, health care professionals, etc.);
- (c) studies using diverse methods of investigation (e.g., multimodal/multimethod design, randomized clinical trials (RCTs), efficacy, effectiveness trials, translational studies, etc.);

(d) studies focusing on improving key aspects of methodology relevant to non-pharmacological trials (e.g., study design, outcome measures, methods of analysis, etc.); and

(e) studies focused on translation of promising programs into the field.

Note that “non-pharmacological treatments” is broadly defined and can include any and all methods designed to improve outcomes that are not pharmaceutically based. Grant proposals could address, but are not limited to, the following areas of study:

1. **Non-pharmacological intervention studies that incorporate state-of-the-science methodologies to investigate outcomes.** Research projects in this category may include but are not limited to interventions designed to improve affected individuals’ care, quality of life, functional status or health services utilization and reduce behavioral disturbance or cost. Studies can incorporate persons with ADRD, their family care providers or staff or health care professionals involved in the treatment of individuals with ADRD.
2. **Research on improving methodologies to be employed in non-pharmacological trials.** Research projects in this category may include investigating strategies for implementation, evaluation and standardization of treatment fidelity in community-based or long-term care settings; development and testing of standardized manuals for treatment dissemination; or development or elaboration of scientific methods for investigation of non-pharmacological treatment studies of ADRD.
3. **Evaluation of new non-pharmacological approaches that have a conceptual and/or empirical basis for potential to impact patient outcomes.** Research projects in this category may focus on the development and evaluation of innovative programs that have not yet been subjected to RCTs. Such projects will develop and make available standardized protocols for treatment delivery and evaluation. They will employ outcomes that are psychometrically sound and clinically relevant in domains of value to persons with ADRD and their care providers (e.g., behavioral disturbance, cognitive impairment, health care costs, etc.)
4. **Research that moves promising non-pharmacological interventions for treatment of ADRD into the field (i.e., community or clinical practice) using state-of-the-science translational research methods.** Research projects in this category may be translational in nature, taking existing therapeutic modalities (such as environmental and behavioral) and investigating how to move these programs from research protocols to community application. Projects may include feasibility, efficacy and effectiveness studies, among others. Projects in this category would most likely depend upon partnerships between researchers and the clinical setting of interest.

**General considerations:** Any proposal must have a clear focus on ADRD and on non-pharmacological treatments. All proposals must clearly and explicitly outline the treatment to be investigated, the methods for study, sample, outcomes, etc. The ultimate goal is to move the science of non-pharmacological treatments forward and facilitate the translation of evidence-based programs into practice.

The Alzheimer's Association recognizes the need to increase the number of scientists from underrepresented groups in the research enterprise. Researchers from these groups are encouraged to apply.

**Funding and award period:** The Association anticipates funding 2 non-pharmacological approaches for ADRD awards. Each award is limited to \$400,000 (direct and indirect costs) for two to three years. Requests in any given year may not exceed \$200,000 (direct and indirect costs). Indirect costs are capped at 10 percent (rent for laboratory/office space is expected to be covered by indirect costs paid to the institution).

**Eligibility:** Researchers with full-time staff or faculty appointments are encouraged to apply. Applications from post-doctoral candidates will not be accepted.

**Deadlines and award dates:** Letters of intent must be received by 5:00 PM EASTERN STANDARD TIME, December 1, 2009. Letters of intent will not be accepted after this date. No exceptions will be made.

**Applications must be received by 5:00 PM EASTERN STANDARD TIME, January 7, 2010.** Scientific and technical review will be conducted from February through May 2010.

The second-level review by the Medical and Scientific Advisory Council will be conducted during June 2010. Funding will be awarded by July 2010.

**Mechanism of award, reporting requirements and allowable costs:** The mechanism of the award is the individual research grant. The maximum allowable duration is three years. Annual progress and financial reports are required. Continuation of the grant over the awarded duration is contingent upon the timely receipt of scientific and financial reports.

**Budget:** A "budget summary" for the proposed research project is required and must be submitted with the application and within the allowable page limits. However, if the application is to be awarded, a more detailed budget will be required and must be approved before the disbursement of funds. Your budget must not exceed the maximum amount of the award (\$400,000 for Non-Pharmacological Treatments for ADRD).

**Allowable costs under this award:**

It is required that most of the funds awarded under this program be used for direct research support.

**Allowable costs under this award include:**

- Computer equipment if used strictly for data collection
- Travel (up to \$1,000 per year)
- Salary for the principal investigator, scientific (including post-doctoral fellows) and technical staff (including interviewers, interventionists, data entry staff, technicians, and administrative support staff whose work is directly related to the funded project)
- Manual production/development/website, etc.

**Costs not allowed under this award include:**

- Tuition
- Computer hardware or software for investigators
- Rent for laboratory/office space
- Construction or renovation costs

**For more information:** E-mail [grantsapp@alz.org](mailto:grantsapp@alz.org) or call 312.335.5747.

### iii. Multi-Center Project Grant

**Competition Objectives:** The purpose of this Request for Applications is to promote collaborative science and support research-related activities organized around one or more common themes or areas of interest. For FY2010, the thematic interest areas are: Novel Pharmacological Strategies to Prevent Alzheimer's Disease and Non-Pharmacological Strategies to Ameliorate Symptoms of Alzheimer's Disease, both described in detail elsewhere in the program announcement. The Multi-Center Project Grant (MCPG) is designed to enhance the productivity of Investigator-Initiated Research Grant (IIRG) applications by providing an opportunity to combine resources and expertise as well as use multi-disciplinary approaches to a common theme. Applicants are encouraged to apply for MCPGs that consider combining several potential themes described under each focus area, or to focus on one theme and use multi-disciplinary approaches. The MCPG also encourages applicants to consider multi-institutional and international collaborations for the development of research networks.

MCPG applicants must use the IIRG mechanism (described elsewhere in the program announcement) to apply. The MCPG can comprise up to four IIRG projects and must follow IIRG guidelines and limitations in period and amount of funding. An additional \$100,000 will be awarded to the MCPG principal investigators (PIs) to be used as discretionary funds toward the fulfillment of the MCPG research goals.

The Alzheimer's Association anticipates funding two MCPG grants in FY2010. As part of the initial merit review, all MCPG-IIRG applications will receive independent written critiques through the Association's review process. MCPG-IIRG applications will then undergo a second level review by the Alzheimer's Association Medical and Scientific Advisory Council (MSAC) as MCPGs. The MSAC may award all IIRG applications submitted under a single MCPG, or may fund a subset of MCPG-IIRGs, dependent upon scientific merit of the individual IIRGs.

**Potential Themes:** Any proposal must be in response to the following RFAs (described elsewhere in the program announcement):

- **Non-Pharmacological Strategies to Ameliorate Symptoms of Alzheimer's Disease**
- **Novel Pharmacological Strategies to Prevent Alzheimer's Disease**

The Alzheimer's Association recognizes the need to increase the number of scientists from underrepresented groups in the research enterprise. Researchers from these groups are encouraged to apply.

**Funding and award period:** Each award is limited to **up to four** IIRG projects and must follow IIRG guidelines for cost, duration and eligibility. Requests in any given year for individual IIRGs within the MCPG may not exceed \$100,000 (direct and indirect costs). Indirect costs are capped at 10 percent (rent for laboratory/office space is expected to be covered by indirect costs paid to the institution). An additional \$100,000 will be awarded to the MCPG PIs to be utilized as discretionary funds toward the fulfillment of the MCPG specific aims.

**Eligibility:** Researchers with full-time staff or faculty appointments are encouraged to apply. Applications from post-doctoral candidates will **not** be accepted.

**Deadlines and award dates:** Letters of intent (LOIs) must be received by **5:00 p.m. EASTERN STANDARD TIME, December 1, 2009**. LOIs will not be accepted after this date. No exceptions will be made.

Once the LOI is approved by the Alzheimer's Association, **applications must be received by 5:00 p.m. EASTERN STANDARD TIME, January 7, 2010**. Scientific and technical review will be conducted from February through May 2010. The second-level review by the Medical and Scientific Advisory Council will be conducted during June 2010. Funding will be awarded by July 2010.

**Mechanism of award, reporting requirements and allowable costs:** The mechanism of the award is the MCPG comprised of **up to four** individual research grants with a common theme/goal in response to the described focus areas. The maximum allowable duration is three years for each project. Annual scientific progress and financial reports are required of individual IIRGs. Additionally, a yearly summary scientific report of combined MCPG progress is required, to be submitted on behalf of the MCPG investigators.

**Budget:** A "budget summary" for each proposed research project (IIRG) is required and must be submitted with the application and within the allowable page limits. However, if the application is to be awarded, a more detailed budget will be required and must be approved before the disbursement of funds. A detailed budget for the discretionary funds is not required. Disbursement of discretionary funds will require a written request with a budget justification to be submitted by all MCPG PIs with up to \$50,000 per year allowable.

**Allowable costs under this award:**

It is required that most of the funds awarded under this program be used for direct research support.

**Allowable costs under this award are the same as for the IIRG and include:**

- Computer equipment if used strictly for data collection
- Travel (up to \$1,000 per year per IIRG submitted as part of the MCPG)
- Salary for the principal investigator, scientific (including post-doctoral fellows) and technical staff (including interviewers, interventionists, data entry, technicians, and administrative support related directly to the funded project)
- Manual production/development/website/etc.

**Costs not allowed under this award include:**

- Tuition
- Computer hardware or software for investigators
- Rent for laboratory/office space
- Construction or renovation costs

**For more information:** E-mail [grantsapp@alz.org](mailto:grantsapp@alz.org) or call 1.312.335.5747

#### **iv. U.S.-U.K. Young Investigator Exchange Fellowship**

(Jointly sponsored by the Alzheimer's Association and Alzheimer's Research Trust)

**Competition objectives:** The U.S.-U.K. Young Investigator Exchange Fellowship provides a three-year grant to fund quality scientific research into the causes, diagnosis and treatment of Alzheimer's disease. The fellowship aims to address important research questions as well as to help and encourage promising scientists as they establish their careers within Alzheimer's research internationally. It is also hoped that by supporting meaningful scientific collaboration between scientists in the United Kingdom and the United States, there will be mutual benefit to the research output of both countries. In addition to an exchange of ideas, an important aim is to promote the learning of new experimental techniques and methodologies.

The purpose of this fellowship is to provide new investigators with funding that will allow them to develop preliminary or pilot data, to test procedures and to develop hypotheses on an international level. The intent is to support international early-career development that will lay the groundwork for future research grant applications to other international funding agencies and groups. Applications submitted to the U.S.-U.K. Young Investigator Exchange Fellowship must target defined areas of focus in the Alzheimer's Association 2010 program announcement to be considered responsive to the program announcement. The research aims and priorities of the Alzheimer's Research Trust (ART) are available on the ART website.

The U.S.-U.K. Young Investigator Exchange Fellowship requires the proposed project to be aligned with a main supervisor and institution that will commit to allow the applicant to fulfil the exchange component of the fellowship if awarded. Central to the proposed arrangement is a co-supervisor from the second country who is able to guarantee provision for the agreed duration of the visit, which can be from one to twelve months. The co-supervisor's institution must agree to confer visiting fellow status to the awardee to ensure the fellow is allowed access to resources and services at the visiting institution.

**Supervisor statement required:** The Fellowship requires supervisors experienced in conducting Alzheimer's and related dementia research. The application must include two statements from the selected institutions, one from each country, with information on the supervisor's research qualifications and a commitment to accept the fellow in their institution for the proposed duration of the fellowship exchange. The statement must also include information describing how the supervisor's research is relevant to the applicant's research plan and the nature and extent of supervision that he/she will provide during the period of the award. The supervisors must agree to provide end-of-term evaluations of the applicant's progress for the duration of the award, as required for the yearly progress report.

*The supervisor's statement is limited to one page from each country supervisor.*

**Application procedures:** APPLICANTS BASED IN THE U.S. MUST APPLY TO THE ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION, AND THOSE BASED IN THE U.K. MUST APPLY TO THE ALZHEIMER'S RESEARCH TRUST. THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA, APPLICATION AND REVIEW PROCEDURES ARE BROADLY SIMILAR BETWEEN THE TWO ORGANIZATIONS BUT ARE KEPT SEPARATE FOR EASE OF ADMINISTRATION AND TO KEEP IN LINE WITH CURRENT PRACTICES.

**For Alzheimer's Research Trust application procedures please go to:**  
<http://www.alzheimers-research.org.uk/research/howtoapply/>

#### **U.S. APPLICANTS TO THE ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION:**

##### ***Submitting a letter of intent (LOI) on-line via proposalCENTRAL***

The first step in applying is to submit a Letter of Intent (LOI) through the proposalCENTRAL on-line application system at <http://proposalcentral.altum.com>. First-time users **must** register and fill out a professional profile in proposalCENTRAL to begin the application process.

**The LOI and completed application must be submitted by the Young Exchange Fellow (PI). In the LOI, the PI must name and describe the relationship with the faculty members who will perform the supervisory duties.** The purpose of the LOI is to ensure that all applicants are eligible for the competition to which they are applying and to assist in planning for peer reviews. **LOIs will not be accepted after the deadline date. No exceptions will be made.**

##### ***The LOI must include:***

- Name of the principle investigator and description of relationship to supervisors
- Contact information for the principal investigator (**complete** mailing address, telephone number, fax number and e-mail address)
- Institution/organization(s) involved in the research proposal in both countries
- Title of the fellowship project proposed
- Area of focus of the submission, such as diverse populations, social and behavioral, or biological, as outlined in Section II of the complete program announcement
- Brief rationale for the proposed fellowship

### ***On-line application via proposalCENTRAL***

Once the on-line LOI is approved, an e-mail notification will be sent granting access to the on-line application at proposalCENTRAL. **The online system must be used to submit the application**—hardcopies of the application will not be accepted.

### **The PI who submits the LOI must be the same PI who submits the application.**

LOIs submitted on behalf of other applicants will result in a rejected application. Once the applicant enters the application system, on-screen instructions will be provided to complete the application process. The application does not need to be completed in one session; a partially completed application can be saved and completed at any time before the deadline.

### **It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure and verify that:**

- (1) The application is received by the receipt date/time deadline
- (2) The application is complete and correct before submission. Only a single copy of an application will be accepted. **Signatures are not required at the time of submission.**
- (3) Revisions, additional materials, letters of collaboration and/or reference, manuscripts, appendices, etc., are not allowed and if attached, will be removed from your application.

***Funding and award period:*** The Alzheimer's Association and ART anticipate funding up to four awards (two originating from each country) under this competition.

**For U.S. applications to the Alzheimer's Association:** Each total award is limited to \$300,000 USD. A total of \$260,000 USD will be awarded for costs related to the proposed research for up to **three** years (direct and indirect costs). Requests in any given year may not exceed \$90,000 USD (direct and indirect). Indirect costs are capped at 10 percent (rent for laboratory/office space is expected to be covered by indirect costs paid to the institution). The PI must commit to a 75 percent effort toward the proposed project over the funding period.

The remaining funds, \$40,000 USD, will be awarded to the supervisors; \$20,000 USD will be awarded to each supervisor upon the successful completion of the duration of the fellowship in the respective country. These additional funds are to be applied to sustaining ongoing research in the Alzheimer's field and will be awarded through the supervisory host institutions.

**For U.K. applications to the Alzheimer's Research Trust:** Each total award is limited to £160,000. This will comprise a salary for the Fellow, separate research consumables for the U.K. supervisor's laboratory and the U.S. laboratory, as well as transatlantic travel costs. A full breakdown of these individual costs, with justifications, is required.

**Eligibility:** This grant competition is restricted to investigators based in the U.S. or U.K. who have less than 10 years of research experience after receipt of their terminal degree. Postdoctoral fellows are eligible to apply. The 10-year period applies to the date of submission of the grant application. Adjustments for career interruptions can be made. These would include, but are not limited to, family leave, military service and major illness or injury. It is the responsibility of the applicant to point out and document such interruptions.

**Young investigators currently funded through other fellowship awards (i.e., federal or other) are ineligible to apply for this award.**

### ***Receipt of application deadlines***

#### ***U.S. APPLICANTS TO THE ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION:***

**Deadlines and award dates:** LOIs must be received by **5:00 PM EASTERN STANDARD TIME, December 1, 2009**. LOIs will not be accepted after this date. No exceptions will be made.

**Applications must be received by 5:00 PM EASTERN STANDARD TIME, January 7, 2010.** Scientific and technical review will be conducted from February through May 2010. The second-level review by the Alzheimer's Association and Alzheimer's Research Trust will be conducted in June 2010. For both U.S. and U.K. applicants, candidate interviews will take place in June 2010. We anticipate funding up to four awards by July 2010.

***Mechanism of Award, Reporting Requirements and Allowable Costs:*** The mechanism of the award is the individual research grant. The maximum allowable duration is three years. Annual progress and financial reports are required.

**Continuation of the grant over the awarded duration is contingent upon the timely receipt of scientific and financial reports as well as supervisors' reports outlining progress.**

***Budget:*** A "budget summary" for the proposed research project is required and must be submitted with the application and within the allowable page limits. For U.S. applicants to the Alzheimer's Association, however, if the application is to be awarded, a more detailed budget will be required and must be approved before the disbursement of funds.

**Allowable costs under this award include:** Purchase and care of laboratory animals, small pieces of laboratory equipment and laboratory supplies, computer equipment if used strictly for data collection and salary for the PI, scientific (including post-doctoral fellows) and technical staff (including laboratory technicians and administrative support staff members whose work directly relates to the funded project). It is required that most (Alzheimer's Association)/ all (Alzheimer's Research Trust) of the funds awarded under this program be used for direct research support.

Travel and housing costs for the duration of the country exchange are allowed. Travel for scientific conferences (up to \$1,000 USD per year) is also allowed. Total travel costs allowed for the duration of the fellowship is \$5,000 USD. Additionally, a budget detailing these costs must be included with the application.

**Costs not allowed under this award include:**

- Tuition
- Computer hardware or software for investigators
- Rent for laboratory/office space
- Construction or renovation costs

**Review procedures:** All proposals are subject to a two-staged peer-review process carried out with an on-line system. In the first stage, applications are reviewed and rated by a minimum of three, maximum of four, peer scientists with expertise in the proposed area of research. The second stage includes further review and discussion of the scores and comments resulting from the initial review process. This second review is carried out by the Medical and Scientific Advisory Council of the Alzheimer's Association and the Scientific Advisory Board of the Alzheimer's Research Trust to ensure fairness and equity in the initial review procedures and to make final funding recommendations. This two-stage process is central to award decisions and is designed to ensure both scientific rigor and fairness to all applicants. In line with other ART-funded fellowships, an interview will be required for U.K. applicants shortlisted from the second review stage.

**Animal and human subject assurances:** Animal welfare and human subject certifications are not required at the time of application submission; investigators have up to 90 days after receipt of their award notification to submit these documents.

**However, the Alzheimer's Association and the Alzheimer's Research Trust encourage investigators to initiate their certification applications on a schedule that recognizes the fact that approval of IRB/IACUC (U.S.) or Home Office or Ethics Committee approval at many institutions can take more than 90 days.** The Association accepts only certifications that apply specifically to the funded project. An award letter will not be issued unless the appropriate certifications are in place within the 90-day window.

**Contact information**

This program announcement is posted in full-text and PDF formats on the following websites:

<http://www.alz.org/2010grantprogram/>

<http://www.alzheimers-research.org.uk/>

For additional information, you may contact

The Alzheimer's Association: [grantsapp@alz.org](mailto:grantsapp@alz.org) or call (312) 335-5747 or

The Alzheimer's Research Trust: [Research@alzheimers-research.org.uk](mailto:Research@alzheimers-research.org.uk) or phone (+44)01223-843899.

## v. New Investigator Research Grant (NIRG)

**Competition objectives:** The competition, formerly known as the Pilot Research Grant Program, has become the New Investigator Research Grant Program. This change is designed to reinforce the historical emphasis of this competition—to fund investigators who are less than 10 years past their doctoral degree. The purpose of this program is to provide new investigators with funding that will allow them to develop preliminary or pilot data, to test procedures and to develop hypotheses. The intent is to support early-career development that will lay the groundwork for future research grant applications to the National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation and other funding agencies and groups, including future proposals to the Alzheimer's Association. All NIRG applications must target defined areas of focus for fiscal year 2010 to be considered responsive to the program announcement (see Section II, Areas of Focus, of the complete program announcement).

The Alzheimer's Association recognizes the need to increase the number of scientists from underrepresented groups in the research enterprise. Young scientists from these groups are encouraged to apply.

**Funding and award period:** The Association anticipates funding 45 awards under this competition. Each total award is limited to \$100,000 (direct and indirect costs) for up to two years. Requests in any given year may not exceed \$60,000 (direct and indirect costs). Indirect costs are capped at 10 percent (rent for laboratory/office space is expected to be covered by indirect costs paid to the institution).

**Eligibility:** Eligibility to apply for this grant competition is restricted to investigators who have less than 10 years of research experience after receipt of their terminal degree. The 10-year period applies to the date of submission of the grant application. Adjustments for career interruptions can be made. These would include, but are not limited to, family leave, military service, and major illness or injury. It is the responsibility of the applicant to point out and document such interruptions.

In general, **postdoctoral fellows are not eligible to apply for any Alzheimer's Association grant** (except for applications to the NIRG, NIRGD and MNIRGD and the U.S.–U.K. YIEF). Applications to the NIRG will be accepted from postdoctoral fellows who can provide a letter indicating they will have a full-time faculty position, such as an assistant professorship, by the application deadline. A letter of employment must accompany the Letter of Intent, must be printed on the hiring institution's letterhead and must indicate that the position will be activated by the grant award date. If the anticipated position is not activated by the award date for any reason, any offer of funding will be withdrawn.

**Deadlines and award dates:** Letters of intent must be received by 5:00 PM EASTERN STANDARD TIME, December 1, 2009. Letters of intent will not be accepted after this date. No exceptions will be made.

**Applications must be received by 5:00 PM EASTERN STANDARD TIME, January 7, 2010.** Scientific and technical review will be conducted from February through May 2010. The second-level review by the Medical and Scientific Advisory Council will be conducted during June 2010. Funding will be awarded by July 2010.

**Mechanism of Award, Reporting Requirements and Allowable Costs:** The mechanism of the award is the individual research grant. The maximum allowable duration is two years. Annual progress and financial reports are required. **Continuation of the grant over the awarded duration is contingent upon the timely receipt of scientific and financial reports.**

**Budget:** A “budget summary” for the proposed research project is required and must be submitted with the application and within the allowable page limits. However, if the application is to be awarded, a more detailed budget will be required and must be approved before the disbursement of funds. **Your budget must not exceed the maximum amount of the award (\$100,000 for NIRG).**

**Allowable costs under this award:**

- It is required that most of the funds awarded under this program be used for direct research support.

**Other allowable costs include:**

- Purchase and care of laboratory animals
- Small pieces of laboratory equipment and laboratory supplies
- Computer software if used strictly for data collection
- Salary for the principal investigator, scientific (including postdoctoral fellows) and technical staff (including laboratory technicians and modest secretarial support)
- Support for travel to scientific and professional meetings not to exceed \$1,000 per year

**Costs not allowed under this award include:**

- Computer hardware or standard software (e.g. Microsoft Office)
- Construction or renovation costs
- Tuition
- Rent for laboratory/office space

**For more information:** Contact [grantsapp@alz.org](mailto:grantsapp@alz.org) or call (312) 335-5747.

## vi. Investigator-Initiated Research Grant (IIRG)

**Competition objectives:** The Investigator-Initiated Research Grant forms the backbone of the Alzheimer's Association International Research Grant Program. To be considered responsive, the research grant application must address a question or questions relevant to the 2010 areas of focus (see Section II of the complete program announcement) or a compelling issue in Alzheimer research pertinent to the applicant's special interest or expertise.

The Alzheimer's Association recognizes the need to increase the number of scientists from underrepresented groups in the research enterprise. Researchers from these groups are encouraged to apply.

**Funding and award period:** The Association anticipates funding 30 awards under the IIRG program. Each total award is limited to \$240,000 (direct and indirect costs) for up to three years. Requests in any given year may not exceed \$100,000 (direct and indirect). Indirect costs are capped at 10 percent (rent for laboratory/office space is expected to be covered by indirect costs paid to the institution).

**Eligibility:** Researchers with full-time staff or faculty appointments are encouraged to apply. **IIRG applications from post-doctoral candidates will not be accepted.**

**Deadlines and award dates:** Letters of intent must be received by **5:00 PM EASTERN STANDARD TIME, December 1, 2009**. Letters of intent will not be accepted after this date. No exceptions will be made.

**Applications must be received by 5:00 PM EASTERN STANDARD TIME, January 7, 2010.** Scientific and technical review will be conducted from February through May 2010.

The second-level review by the Medical and Scientific Advisory Council will be conducted during June 2010. Funding will be awarded by July 2010.

**Mechanism of award and reporting requirements:** The mechanism of award is the individual research grant. The maximum duration of the award is three years. Annual progress and financial reports are required. Continuation of the grant over the awarded duration is contingent upon the timely submission of interim scientific and financial reports.

**Budget:** A "budget summary" for the proposed research project is required and must be submitted with the application and within the allowable page limits. However, if the application is to be awarded, a more detailed budget will be required and must be approved before the disbursement of funds. **Your budget must not exceed the maximum amount of the award (\$240,000 for IIRG).**

**Allowable costs under this award:**

- It is required that most of the funds awarded under this program be used for direct research support.

**Allowable costs under this award include:**

- Purchase and care of laboratory animals
- Small pieces of laboratory equipment and laboratory supplies
- Computer software if used strictly for data collection
- Salary for the principal investigator, scientific (including post-doctoral fellows) and technical staff (including laboratory technicians and administrative support related directly to the funded project)
- Travel to scientific and professional meetings, not to exceed \$1,000 per year

**Costs not allowed under this award include:**

- Tuition
- Computer hardware or standard software (e.g., Microsoft Office) for investigators
- Rent for laboratory/office space
- Construction or renovation costs

**For more information:** Contact [grantsapp@alz.org](mailto:grantsapp@alz.org) or call (312) 335-5747.

## **vii. The Senator Mark Hatfield Award for Clinical Research in Alzheimer's Disease**

**Competition objectives:** When Senator Mark Hatfield announced his retirement from the United States Senate in 1996, the Alzheimer's Association established the Hatfield Award for Clinical Research to honor his long commitment to Alzheimer's disease research, especially clinical investigations. In 1996 and 1997, the Association selected a recipient of the Hatfield Award from among those investigators who had submitted an application in response to another Association program announcement. In 1998, it was decided to announce the program and seek applications specifically for the Hatfield Award. To be considered responsive to the program announcement, the research grant application must focus on a clinical question or questions in interventions for Alzheimer's disease.

The Alzheimer's Association recognizes the need to increase the number of scientists from underrepresented groups in the research enterprise. Researchers from these groups are encouraged to apply.

**Funding and award period:** We anticipate funding one award under this program. The total award is limited to \$225,000 (direct and indirect costs) for up to three years. Requests in any given year may not exceed \$112,500 (direct and indirect costs). Indirect costs are capped at 10 percent (rent for laboratory/office space is expected to be covered by indirect costs paid to the institution).

**Eligibility:** The Hatfield Award is aimed at those investigators whose goal is to establish research careers focused on clinical issues in Alzheimer's disease.

**Deadlines and award dates:** Letters of intent must be received by 5:00 PM EASTERN STANDARD TIME, December 1, 2009. Letters of intent will not be accepted after this date. No exceptions will be made.

**Applications must be received by 5:00 PM EASTERN STANDARD TIME, January 7, 2010.** Scientific and technical review will be conducted from February through May 2010.

The second-level review by the Medical and Scientific Advisory Council will be conducted during June 2010. Funding will be awarded by July 2010.

**Mechanism of award, reporting requirements and allowable costs:** The mechanism of award is the individual research grant. The maximum duration of the award is three years. Annual progress and financial reports are required. Continuation of the grant over the awarded duration is contingent upon the timely receipt of scientific progress and financial reports.

**Budget:** A “budget summary” for the proposed research project is required and must be submitted with the application and within the allowable page limits. However, if the application is to be awarded, a more detailed budget will be required and must be approved before the disbursement of funds. **Your budget must not exceed the maximum amount of the award (\$225,000 for Hatfield).**

**Allowable costs under this award:**

- It is required that most of the funds awarded under this program be used for direct research support.

**Other allowable costs include:**

- Purchase and care of laboratory animals
- Small pieces of laboratory equipment and laboratory supplies
- Computer software if used strictly for data collection
- Salary for the principal investigator, scientific (including postdoctoral fellows) and technical staff (including laboratory technicians and modest secretarial support)
- Support for travel to scientific and professional meetings, not to exceed \$1,000 per year

**Costs not allowed under this award include:**

- Computer hardware or standard software (e.g. Microsoft Office)
- Construction or renovation costs
- Rent for laboratory/office space
- Tuition

**For more information:** Contact [grantsapp@alz.org](mailto:grantsapp@alz.org) or call (312) 335-5747.

### **viii. The Zenith Fellows Award Program**

**Competition objectives:** The Zenith Fellows award was initiated in 1991 to provide a vehicle for research support for donors with a substantial personal commitment to the advancement of Alzheimer's disease research. The awards are made possible by the generosity of a group of individuals and organizations (Zenith Fellows) that have each committed \$1 million to the Alzheimer's Association for support of the program.

The objective of the 2010 Zenith Fellows Awards competition is to provide major support for investigators who have:

- 1) contributed significantly to the field of Alzheimer's disease research or
- 2) made significant contributions to other areas of science and are now beginning to focus more directly on problems related to Alzheimer's disease and
- 3) are likely to make substantial contributions in the future.

The proposed research must be "on the cutting edge" of basic science or biomedical research and thus may not conform to current conventional scientific wisdom or may challenge the prevailing orthodoxy. The proposed research should address fundamental problems related to early detection, etiology, pathogenesis, treatment and/or prevention of Alzheimer's disease.

The Alzheimer's Association recognizes the need to increase the number of scientists from underrepresented groups in the research enterprise. Researchers from these groups are encouraged to apply.

**Funding and award period:** We anticipate funding four awards under this competition. Each award is limited to \$450,000 (direct and indirect costs) for three years. Requests in any given year may not exceed \$250,000 (direct and indirect costs). Indirect costs are capped at 10 percent (rent for laboratory/office space is expected to be covered by indirect costs paid to the institution).

**Eligibility:** Only established independent investigators are eligible as evidenced by:

- 1) academic appointment;
- 2) major, peer-reviewed, external multi-year grant support on which the applicant is the principal investigator (PI);
- 3) independent laboratory operation; and
- 4) quality and independence of publication record.

Only applicants who have already contributed significantly to the field of Alzheimer's disease research or have the clear likelihood of making significant contributions will be seriously considered. **Previous recipients of Zenith Awards, Medical and Scientific Advisory Council members and members of the National Board of the Alzheimer's Association are ineligible to apply.**

***Deadlines and award dates:*** Letters of intent must be received by **5:00 PM EASTERN STANDARD TIME, December 1, 2009**. Letters of intent will not be accepted after the receipt date. No exceptions will be made.

**Applications must be received by 5:00 PM EASTERN STANDARD TIME, January 7, 2010.** Scientific and technical review will be conducted from February through May 2010. The second-level review by the Medical and Scientific Advisory Council will be conducted in June 2010. Funding will be awarded by July 2010.

***Mechanism of award, reporting requirements and allowable costs:*** The mechanism of award is the individual research grant. The maximum duration of award is three years—there is no program for competing continuation applications (3-year) funding as was the case in the early years of the Zenith program. Annual progress and financial reports are required. Continuation of the grant over the awarded duration is contingent upon receipt of scientific progress and financial status reports.

***Budget:*** A “budget summary” for the proposed research project is required and must be submitted with the application and within the allowable page limits. However, if the application is to be awarded, a more detailed budget will be required and must be approved before the disbursement of funds. **Your budget must not exceed the maximum amount of the award (\$450,000 for Zenith).**

**Allowable costs under this award:**

- It is required that most of the funds awarded under this program be used for direct research support.

**Other allowable costs include:**

- Purchase and care of laboratory animals
- Small pieces of laboratory equipment and laboratory supplies
- Computer software if used strictly for data collection
- Salary for the principal investigator, scientific (including postdoctoral fellows) and technical staff (including laboratory technicians and modest administrative support)
- Support for travel to scientific and professional meetings, not to exceed \$1,000 per year

**Costs not allowed under this award include:**

- Computer hardware or standard software (e.g., Microsoft Office)
- Construction or renovation costs
- Tuition
- Rent for laboratory/office space

***For more information:*** Contact [grantsapp@alz.org](mailto:grantsapp@alz.org) or call (312) 335-5747.

## ix. Everyday Technologies for Alzheimer Care (ETAC) Grants

Everyday Technologies for Alzheimer Care is a cooperative research funding initiative sponsored by the Alzheimer's Association and Intel Corporation. ETAC seeks proposals on personalized diagnostics, preventive tools and interventions for adults coping with the spectrum of cognitive aging and neurodegenerative disease, particularly Alzheimer's disease. We are interested in groundbreaking studies on emerging information and communication technologies (ICTs) as well as their clinical and social implications. Strongest consideration will be given to novel innovative ideas rather than more evolutionary incremental research. Originality of the study is more important than extensive evidence for why it is a logical next step in a research program. ETAC is designed to support exploratory multidisciplinary research that would not typically be funded by national health and science granting foundations. Minor iterations in testing plans or populations will not be considered for funding. Collaboration between social science/medical/public health and computer science/engineering researchers is valued. Mobile computing, high bandwidth sensing, robotics, imaging, face recognition, natural language processing, statistical modeling and a host of other technology advances allow unprecedented opportunities to study disease progression and therapeutic strategies in the context of everyday life. ETAC supports research that integrates such emerging technology capabilities with leading directions in behavioral science and biomedical research. *Grants that merely create Internet-based versions of existing services or paper tools will not be considered. Submissions must be original ideas, not continuations of previously funded ETAC projects.* Please see the links below for examples of studies that have been funded by ETAC.

The following list of research topics is not exhaustive; we invite researcher-initiated proposals in any of these or other topic areas.

1. Behavioral assessment for early detection: What kinds of behavioral data can be captured through everyday devices for the early detection of Alzheimer's? Are there key speech/conversational features that today's or tomorrow's cell phones could help to analyze for early detection? Are there gait and other movement patterns that home camera systems could capture to provide early warnings of potential cognitive conditions? How might various forms of dementia be differentiated by the analysis of such video and audio data? How can data from sensors, imaging and traditional clinical measures be triangulated to enhance assessment?
2. Prevention: How can technologies foster the cognitive resilience and reserve that may protect against dementia? How can innovative systems provide the cognitive, social and physical engagement (throughout the lifespan) that may prevent or delay Alzheimer's disease and related disorders? How can such systems motivate lifestyle changes and help people manage health conditions to limit vulnerability to dementia?

3. Safety monitoring and support for caregivers: How can new technologies augment and improve upon existing safety monitoring systems? What acoustic and visual cues can be relied upon to help identify and triage patients' needs? For example, how can advances in high bandwidth sensing and statistical inferencing help detect and prevent falls?
4. Supporting independent function in daily life: Early-stage products based on wireless sensor networks have been developed to support activities of daily living—how can additional processing capabilities improve upon these systems? What analytic tools could identify changes in individuals' typical patterns and provide customized assistance?
5. Social support through face or audio recognition: How might speech, face and voice recognition technologies provide diagnosed individuals with real-time, just-in-time feedback reminders and support for social interactions? Can these technologies help someone with memory loss to keep track of past conversations, topics and social encounters in a way that does not require great effort or technological expertise? How can mobile technologies (for example, phones, hearing aids and watches) serve as social assistants?
6. Detecting moments and patterns of lucidity: Given the sometimes weekly, daily or even hourly variability of function of many people with Alzheimer's, how can we identify the optimal times for a patient to conduct complex household tasks like bill paying or self-medication? How can technologies help to find opportune moments for interacting with someone with Alzheimer's?
7. Privacy and security concerns of Alzheimer's families: What privacy and security concerns do families and patients with Alzheimer's have regarding home monitoring? How do these concerns differ according to generational, regional, cultural, gender and other differences? How can technology help people negotiate the sharing of health-related information?

ETAC applicants are strongly encouraged to consider partnerships with chapters of the Alzheimer's Association when it is advantageous to the goals of the project.

### **Past Awarded ETAC Proposals:**

#### **2009 Awards:**

[http://www.alz.org/professionals\\_and\\_researchers\\_2009\\_research\\_grants.asp](http://www.alz.org/professionals_and_researchers_2009_research_grants.asp)

#### 2008 Awards:

[http://www.alz.org/professionals\\_and\\_researchers\\_2008\\_research\\_grants.asp](http://www.alz.org/professionals_and_researchers_2008_research_grants.asp)

#### 2007 Awards:

[http://www.alz.org/professionals\\_and\\_researchers\\_2007\\_research\\_grants.asp](http://www.alz.org/professionals_and_researchers_2007_research_grants.asp)

#### 2006 Awards:

[http://www.alz.org/professionals\\_and\\_researchers\\_2006\\_research\\_grants.asp](http://www.alz.org/professionals_and_researchers_2006_research_grants.asp)

#### 2005 Awards:

[http://www.alz.org/professionals\\_and\\_researchers\\_2005\\_research\\_grants.asp](http://www.alz.org/professionals_and_researchers_2005_research_grants.asp)

#### 2004 Awards:

[http://www.alz.org/professionals\\_and\\_researchers\\_2004\\_research\\_grants.asp](http://www.alz.org/professionals_and_researchers_2004_research_grants.asp)

The Alzheimer's Association recognizes the need to increase the number of scientists from underrepresented groups in the research enterprise. Researchers from these groups are encouraged to apply.

### **Background research from Intel Corporation**

The following paper from Intel Corporation presents preliminary findings of Intel's Proactive Health research. The authors report on identified needs of cognitively impaired individuals and their caregivers that may be addressed through home computing technologies.

#### **Ubiquitous Computing for Cognitive Decline: Findings from Intel's Proactive Health Research**

[http://www.alz.org/national/documents/Intel\\_UbiquitousComputing.pdf](http://www.alz.org/national/documents/Intel_UbiquitousComputing.pdf)

**Funding and award period:** The Association anticipates funding 4 awards under this program. Each total award is limited to \$200,000 (direct and indirect costs) for up to three years. Requests in any given year may not exceed \$90,000 (direct and indirect costs). Indirect costs are capped at 10 percent (rent for laboratory/office space is expected to be covered by indirect costs paid to the institution).

**Eligibility:** Researchers with full-time staff or faculty appointments are encouraged to apply. **ETAC applications from post-doctoral candidates will not be accepted.**

**Ineligibility:** The Alzheimer's Association will not accept new research grant applications from currently funded Alzheimer's disease investigators who are delinquent in submitting interim/final scientific or interim/final financial reports on active grants. **This policy will be strictly adhered to with no exceptions.**

**Deadlines and award dates:** Letters of intent (LOIs) must be received by 5:00 PM EASTERN STANDARD TIME, December 1, 2009. LOIs will not be accepted after this date. No exceptions will be made.

**Applications must be received by 5:00 PM EASTERN STANDARD TIME, January 7, 2010.** Scientific and technical review will be conducted from February through May 2010.

The second-level review by the ETAC Review Board and Medical and Scientific Advisory Council will be conducted during June 2010. Funding will be awarded by July 2010.

**Mechanism of award, reporting requirements and allowable costs:** The mechanism of the award is the individual research grant. The maximum allowable duration is three years. Annual progress and financial reports are required. **Continuation of the grant over the awarded duration is contingent upon the timely receipt of scientific and financial reports.**

**Budget:** A “budget summary” for the proposed research project is required and must be submitted with the application and within the allowable page limits. However, if the application is to be awarded, a more detailed budget will be required and must be approved before the disbursement of funds. **Your budget must not exceed the maximum amount of the award (\$200,000 for ETAC).**

**Allowable costs under this award:**

- It is required that most of the funds awarded under this program be used for direct research support.

**Other allowable costs include:**

- Small pieces of laboratory equipment and laboratory supplies
- Salary for the principal investigator, scientific (including postdoctoral fellows) and technical staff (including laboratory technicians and administrative support related directly to the funded project)
- Purchase and care of laboratory animals
- Purchase of a computer
- Support for travel to scientific and professional meetings, not to exceed \$1,000 per year

**Costs not allowed under this award include:**

- Tuition
- Rent for laboratory/office space
- Construction or renovation costs

**Multiple and Overlapping Submissions:** If separate proposals are submitted to different grant competitions, each proposal submitted must be distinctly different. Only one proposal will be funded if scores for multiple submissions fall within funding range of different grant categories.

Applicants **cannot** submit two proposals in the ETAC grant competition—even if the proposals are distinctly different.

**Active ETAC or Consortium Funding Recipients:** Overlapping funding of more than one Alzheimer’s Association grant is not allowed. Investigators who have an active Alzheimer’s Association or Intel grant may apply for another award that is clearly new work rather than an extension of their current grant. The new research proposal can be proposed in the last year of their grant if that last year concludes by the time the new funding year begins on July 1.

Current holders of awards for support of research related to the project described in the ETAC LOI (whether these awards arise from federal or private sources, but especially if awards arise from other Alzheimer’s Association or Intel program resources) are obliged to provide sufficient detail (e.g., budgetary detail, specific aims) so that it is clear that the LOI represents novel research. An LOI for work that might be viewed as an extension of an existing line of (funded) research should clearly but briefly distinguish goals and

progress for the current funding period from goals proposed in the LOI for the next period. The responsibility lies with the applicant to include rationale to dispel any notion of "double dipping" or "re-dipping." As with most grantmaking programs, ETAC recognizes that scientific overlap may occur across funded grants; as is also usually the case, budgetary overlap is not permitted. Coincidentally awarded grants must be negotiated in good faith according to this principle. ETAC program staff are available to assist PIs at the LOI stage to avoid the possibility of administrative disqualification at the full proposal review stage.

***For more information:*** Contact [grantsapp@alz.org](mailto:grantsapp@alz.org) or call (312) 335-5747.

## x. New Investigator Research Grant to Promote Diversity (NIRGD)

**Competition objectives:** The New Investigator Research Grant to Promote Diversity in Alzheimer's research is a two-year award to investigators who are currently underrepresented at academic institutions in Alzheimer's or related dementias research.

The objective of this award is to increase the number of highly trained investigators from diverse backgrounds whose basic, clinical and social/behavioral research interests are grounded in the advanced methods and experimental approaches needed to solve problems related to Alzheimer's and related dementias in general and in health disparities populations. The Alzheimer's Association recognizes the need to increase the number of underrepresented scientists participating in biomedical and behavioral research. The Association anticipates that by providing these research opportunities, the number of underrepresented scientists entering and remaining in biomedical research careers in Alzheimer's disease will increase.

The purpose of this program is to provide underrepresented new investigators with funding that will allow them to develop preliminary or pilot data, to test procedures, and to develop hypotheses. The intent is to support early-career development that will lay the groundwork for future research grant applications to the National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation and other funding agencies and groups, including future proposals to the Alzheimer's Association. All NIRGD applications must target defined areas of focus outlined in the 2010 Program Announcement (see Section II).

**Funding and award period:** The Association anticipates funding up to five NIRGD/MNIRGD awards total under this competition. Each NIRGD award is limited to \$100,000 (direct and indirect costs) for up to two years. Requests in any given year may not exceed \$60,000 (direct and indirect costs). Indirect costs are capped at 10 percent (rent for laboratory/office space is expected to be covered by indirect costs paid to the institution).

**Eligibility:** Eligibility to apply for this grant competition is restricted to investigators who have less than 10 years of research experience after receipt of their terminal degree. **For the purpose of this announcement, eligible applicants are faculty members who have been determined by the grantee institution to be underrepresented on faculty in biomedical and behavioral research on a national or institutional basis, such as individuals from racial and ethnic minority groups and individuals with disabilities. As such, you must submit a letter from your department chair that states you have been determined by your institution to be underrepresented in the above areas. Nationally underrepresented groups in biomedical research careers include but are not limited to African Americans, Hispanic Americans, American Indians/Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders.**

**Young investigators currently funded through other mentored awards (federal or other) are ineligible to apply for this award.**

The 10-year period applies to the date of submission of the grant application. Adjustments for career interruptions can be made. These would include, but are not limited to, family leave, military service and major illness or injury. It is the responsibility of the applicant to point out and document such interruptions. In general, **postdoctoral fellows are not eligible to apply for an NIRGD grant**. The only exception is the special case in which an applicant can provide a letter indicating they will have a full-time faculty position, such as an assistant professorship, by the application deadline. The letter of employment must be on hiring institution letterhead and must indicate that the position will be activated by the grant award date. If the anticipated position is not activated by the award date for any reason, any offer of funding will be withdrawn.

***Deadlines and award dates:*** Letters of intent must be received by 5:00 PM EASTERN STANDARD TIME, December 1, 2009. Letters of intent will not be accepted after this date. No exceptions will be made.

**Applications must be received by 5:00 PM EASTERN STANDARD TIME, January 7, 2010.** Scientific and technical review will be conducted from February through May 2010.

The second-level review by the Medical and Scientific Advisory Council will be conducted during June 2010. Funding will be awarded by July 2010.

***Mechanism of award, reporting requirements and allowable costs:*** The mechanism of the award is the individual research grant. The maximum allowable duration is two years. Annual progress and financial reports are required. **Continuation of the grant over the awarded duration is contingent upon the timely receipt of scientific and financial reports.**

***Budget:*** A “budget summary” for the proposed research project is required and must be submitted with the application and within the allowable page limits. However, if the application is to be awarded, a more detailed budget will be required and must be approved before the disbursement of funds. **Your budget must not exceed the maximum amount of the award (\$100,000 for NIRGD).**

**Allowable costs under this award:**

- It is required that most of the funds awarded under this program be used for direct research support.

**Allowable costs under this award include:**

- Purchase and care of laboratory animals
- Small pieces of laboratory equipment and laboratory supplies
- Computer equipment if used strictly for data collection
- Travel (up to \$1,000 per year)
- Salary for the principal investigator, scientific (including post-doctoral fellows) and technical staff (including laboratory technicians and administrative support related directly to the funded project)

**Costs not allowed under this award include:**

- Tuition
- Computer hardware or software for investigators
- Rent for laboratory/office space
- Construction or renovation costs

**For more information:** Contact [grantsapp@alz.org](mailto:grantsapp@alz.org) or call (312) 335-5747.

## **xi. Mentored New Investigator Research Grant to Promote Diversity (MNIRGD)**

**Competition objectives:** The Mentored New Investigator Research Grant to Promote Diversity is a three-year award intended to be a research-based and mentoring investment to help close disparities between diverse and non-diverse investigator populations. The Alzheimer's Association feels strongly that the mentoring and involvement of diverse researchers in independently funded Alzheimer's research is a pressing need. The MNIRGD is intended to enhance the capacity of diverse and non-diverse scientists to conduct basic, clinical and social/behavioral research.

***The MNIRGD competition has the following general requirements:***

- foster mentoring relationships between experienced researchers and those not previously funded or considered new investigators (under 10 years post degree);
- increase the presence of scientists from diverse backgrounds who are conducting research on Alzheimer's and related dementias;
- enhance the research skills and scientific visibility of junior faculty members from diverse backgrounds;
- support mentoring relationships that will establish enduring research careers of diverse scientists.

The purpose of this competition is to provide underrepresented new investigators with mentored funding that will allow them to develop preliminary or pilot data, to test procedures and to develop hypotheses. The intent is to support early-career development through mentorship that will lay the groundwork for future research grant applications to the National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation and other funding agencies and groups, including future proposals to the Alzheimer's Association. All MNIRGD applications must target defined areas of focus for fiscal year 2010 (see Section II of the complete program announcement) to be considered responsive to the program announcement.

***Mentor's statement required for MNIRGD:*** The mentor should be experienced in conducting Alzheimer's and related dementia research and in mentoring investigators. The application must include a statement from the selected mentor that includes information on his/her research qualifications and experience as a research supervisor. The application must also include information to describe the mentor's research support relevant to the applicant's research plan and the nature and extent of supervision and training that he/she will provide during the period of the award. The primary mentor must agree to provide annual evaluations of the applicant's progress for the duration of the award, as required for the yearly progress report.

Mentoring relationships may include early-career researchers and/or fostering the recruitment of mid-career scientists into Alzheimer's and related dementia research. The applicant and proposed mentor must specify a mechanism for assuring effective mentoring. The application should contain a plan for and an evaluation strategy of the mentoring process for enhancing diversity in the professional research workforce. Specific benchmarks are outlined below and considered by the Alzheimer's Association

as critical for the development of early-career investigators. A successful mentorship plan should include some of these benchmarks but should not be limited to these alone.

*The mentor's statement is limited to one page.*

**REQUIRED MNIRGD benchmarks:**

- Attendance at an Association-sponsored luncheon for mentors and new investigators at the Association's International Conference on Alzheimer's Disease (ICAD)
- Acceptance of an abstract at ICAD
- Mandatory documentation of hours spent on face-to-face mentoring
- Citation of specific exercises of mentorship such as supervision of manuscript writing and submission or grant writing and submission
- Specific instances of the facilitation of networking, introductions to colleagues and/or inclusion in discussions at scientific meetings
- Submission of a proposal to an Alzheimer's Association grant program or submission of a grant proposal to the National Institutes of Health or National Science Foundation

**SUGGESTED MNIRGD benchmark (not required)**

- Submission of an application to the National Institute on Aging's Summer Institute

**Funding and award period:** The Alzheimer's Association anticipates funding up to five NIRGD/MNIRGD awards total under this competition. Each MNIRGD award is limited to \$170,000. A total of \$150,000 will be awarded for costs related to the proposed research for up to three years (direct and indirect costs). Requests in any given year may not exceed \$60,000 (direct and indirect costs). Indirect costs are capped at 10 percent (rent for laboratory/office space is expected to be covered by indirect costs paid to the institution). The Principal Investigator must commit to a 50 percent effort toward the proposed project over the funding period.

The remaining funds, \$10,000 to the applicant and \$10,000 to the primary mentor, will be awarded upon successful completion of the three-year program. These additional funds are to be applied to sustaining ongoing research in the Alzheimer's field and will be awarded through the applicant's and mentor's institutions. Successful completion of the program includes, but is not limited to, reaching all of demonstrable benchmarks listed above.

**Eligibility:** Eligibility for this grant competition is restricted to investigators who have less than 10 years of research experience after receipt of their terminal degree. **Eligible applicants are faculty members who have been determined by the grantee institution to be underrepresented on faculty in biomedical and behavioral research on a national or institutional basis, such as individuals from racial and ethnic groups and individuals with disabilities. As such, you must submit a letter from your department chair that states you have been determined by your institution to be underrepresented in the above areas. Nationally**

**underrepresented groups in biomedical research careers include but are not limited to African Americans, Hispanic Americans, American Indians/Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders.**

**Young investigators currently funded through other mentored awards (federal or other) are ineligible to apply for this award.**

The 10-year period applies to the date of submission of the grant application. Adjustments for career interruptions can be made. These would include, but are not limited to, family leave, military service and major illness or injury. It is the responsibility of the applicant to point out and document such interruptions. In general, **postdoctoral fellows are not eligible to apply for an MNIRGD grant.** The only exception is the special case in which an applicant can provide a letter indicating they will have a full-time faculty position, such as an assistant professorship, by the application deadline. The letter of employment must be on hiring institution letterhead and must indicate that the position will be activated by the grant award date. If the anticipated position is not activated by the award date for any reason, any offer of funding will be withdrawn.

***Deadlines and award dates:* Letters of intent must be received by 5:00 PM EASTERN STANDARD TIME, December 1, 2009.** Letters of intent will not be accepted after this date. No exceptions will be made.

**Applications must be received by 5:00 PM EASTERN STANDARD TIME, January 7, 2010.** Scientific and technical review will be conducted from February through May 2010.

The second-level review by the Medical and Scientific Advisory Council will be conducted during June 2010. Funding will be awarded by July 2010.

***Mechanism of award, reporting requirements and allowable costs:*** The mechanism of the award is the individual research grant. The maximum allowable duration is three years. Annual progress and financial reports are required. **Continuation of the grant over the awarded duration is contingent upon the timely receipt of scientific and financial reports as well as a mentor's report outlining progress toward meeting MNIRGD benchmarks.**

***Budget:*** A "budget summary" for the proposed research project is required and must be submitted with the application and within the allowable page limits. However, if the application is to be awarded, a more detailed budget will be required and must be approved before the disbursement of funds. **Your budget must not exceed the maximum amount of the award (\$150,000 for MNIRGD).**

**Allowable costs under this award:**

- It is required that most of the funds awarded under this program be used for direct research support.

**Allowable costs under this award include:**

- Purchase and care of laboratory animals
- Small pieces of laboratory equipment and laboratory supplies
- Computer equipment if used strictly for data collection
- Travel (up to 1,000 per year)
- Salary for the principal investigator, scientific (including post-doctoral fellows) and technical staff (including laboratory technicians and administrative support related directly to the funded project)

**Costs not allowed under this award include:**

- Tuition
- Computer hardware or software for investigators
- Rent for laboratory/office space
- Construction or renovation costs

**For more information:** Contact [grantsapp@alz.org](mailto:grantsapp@alz.org) or call (312) 335-5747.

## xii. Conference Grants Program

**Mission and Background:** The Alzheimer's Association has a long history of supporting scientific conferences that advance research on Alzheimer's disease. One of the principal goals of the Association from its inception has been to increase public awareness and to facilitate the exchange of information through the scientific and clinical communities. The support of conferences, workshops and meetings has been a key vehicle in achieving this goal.

The range of acceptable topics is as broad as the entire arena of Alzheimer's disease research and includes, but is not limited to:

- Patient care and outcomes
- Family and social support
- Care settings
- Etiology and pathophysiology
- Risk factors and epidemiology
- Diagnosis
- Management, treatment and clinical trials of new therapies
- Prevention

Population and patient diversity must be key considerations in the development of all conference proposals. Conferences, workshops and meetings that break new scientific ground, bring together investigators around not-yet-explored questions or assemble scientists from disciplines/specialties/perspectives who do not usually interact are of particular funding interest.

**Objectives:** The objectives for conference support are to

- Facilitate and speed the exchange of information relevant to Alzheimer's disease
- Convene experts to address emerging issues in Alzheimer's disease research
- Offer opportunities for new investigators and graduate students to participate in scientific meetings
- Facilitate the creation of networks among investigators in related areas
- Increase visibility of the research interests and programs of the Alzheimer's Association.

The Alzheimer's Association places a high priority on requests for conference support that (1) provide support for trainees, post-doctoral fellows, junior investigators or scientists, especially those from less developed countries, who could not attend otherwise, (2) provide an opportunity, where possible, for the conference organizer to work through a local chapter of the Alzheimer's Association and (3) address the issues of population and patient diversity in relationship to the other scientific foci of the conference.

Requests for support for other aspects of a conference or other participants will be considered.

***Application Procedures:***

***The Alzheimer's Association will not accept applications from commercial conference entities.***

***Submission dates:*** Requests for conference support may be submitted at any time. It is recommended that requests be submitted at least three months before the conference.

***Budget and allowable costs:*** Awards are based on available funds. At this time, support requests must be limited to no more than \$10,000 per conference. Most awarded conference support requests have been in the range of \$2000 to \$5000.

***Application format:*** The request for conference support is to be submitted in a letter format over the signature of the senior organizer and the relevant business official. The letter is not to exceed four pages and should include:

- Title, location and date of the conference.
- List of the scientific organizers and their affiliations.
- 200-word abstract.
- List of the major participants (who are committed as of the date of submission) and titles of their sessions or presentations.
- Funding requested: total and purpose.
- Benefit: In three to four sentences, clearly state how funding this conference would advance the research mission of the Alzheimer's Association.
- Other sponsors: List other fiscal sponsors (corporate, foundation, government, other voluntary health organizations, academic institutions, private donors, etc.).
- Advertising plans: How is the conference being advertised? What are the target audiences?
- Include brochures, programs, or pamphlets describing the conference.

***Review of conference support request:*** All conference support requests are reviewed and evaluated by the Medical and Scientific Advisory Council (MSAC), either during a regularly scheduled telephone conference call or during a face-to-face meeting. The MSAC will receive all materials on the conference support request before the conference call or meeting during which the review of the request is scheduled.

***Notifications of applicants:*** Applicants will be notified of the acceptance of their request for funding or of the inability to provide support for the meeting. No information will be provided to the applicant regarding the discussions or deliberations of the MSAC on the support request.

***Reporting requirements:*** For funded conference requests, final scientific and fiscal reports are required within 90 days of the completion of the conference. Copies of final brochures, pamphlets, and programs describing the meeting must be submitted, as well as the budget detailing the use of the awarded funds. Final scientific and fiscal reports must be submitted over the signature of the scientific organizer and the relevant business official.

**Acknowledgement of contribution of the Alzheimer's Association:** All conference materials must acknowledge the support of the Alzheimer's Association.

**Submission procedures:** Conference support requests and final reports of funded projects may be submitted by e-mail to [Rachel.Souris@alz.org](mailto:Rachel.Souris@alz.org) or mailed to:

Rachel Souris  
Alzheimer's Association  
225 North Michigan Avenue, Fl. 1700  
Chicago, Illinois 60601-7633

**For more information:** Contact [Rachel.Souris@alz.org](mailto:Rachel.Souris@alz.org) or call (312) 335-5807.