

## Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowship for All (AARFA) Program

### Program Objective

The Alzheimer's Association recognizes the importance of supporting the early career development of promising researchers working to advance the understanding, diagnosis, and treatment of Alzheimer's and all other dementias. Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowship for All (AARFA) Program is designed to nurture the next generation of scientists by providing funding to postdoctoral researchers who have completed their doctoral training and are actively working in Alzheimer's or dementia-related research under the mentorship of established investigators. This program aims to facilitate the transition of early career investigators toward becoming independent researchers, equipped to lead their own innovative studies in the field of Alzheimer's and related dementias.

In line with this program, individuals from underrepresented groups are encouraged to apply for grants and / or pursue specific career paths in Alzheimer's and related dementia research. The Association believes that there is clinical and scientific value in having broad representation within relevant fields that reflects society.

Applications are welcome from all areas of Alzheimer's and related dementia research, including but not limited to basic science, translational studies, clinical research, and psychosocial investigations. Projects may span topics such as disease mechanisms, biomarker development, therapeutic targets, epidemiology, neuroimaging, care interventions, or health equity research. The Alzheimer's Association feels strongly that the mentoring and involvement of researchers from diverse backgrounds and perspectives is essential to engaging cutting-edge ideas and thinking in addressing scientific gaps for Alzheimer's and all dementias.

Note: Applications that are deemed meritorious, based at institutions in the United States, with research in areas of computational biology, artificial intelligence applications, technology applications and other similar approaches within diagnostics, treatments and causes may be selected for funding by Race Against Dementia, an organization founded by Sir Jackie Steward OBE in 2016 to apply a "Formula 1 approach"; in order to accelerate breakthroughs in dementia research. This selection would enable the applicant to participate in the Race Against Dementia Training Programme, which provides developmental opportunities for the awardee(s) including connection with a mentor from Formula 1 or industry – high tech, high-growth commercially-focused companies.

Note to Canadian applicants: The Alzheimer's Association and Brain Canada Foundation are pleased to consider partnership for successful Canadian-led applications.

### Applicant Information

This grant is open to U.S. and international researchers.

Applicants are eligible for the AARFA program if they possess a doctoral degree (Ph.D. or equivalent), are within 10 years of receiving their terminal degree at the time of Letter of Intent (LOI) submission, and hold a full-time position at a not-for-profit academic, medical, or research institution. Individuals must not hold an independent faculty position (e.g., Assistant Professor or equivalent) at the time of award. Adjustments to the eligibility period may be considered for documented career interruptions due to family leave, military service, or medical circumstances, with all exemption requests requiring submission and approval prior to the LOI deadline.

Only one primary principal investigator is allowed per proposal. Multiple Principal Investigators (PIs) are not permitted, though collaborators and key personnel may be included.

Applicants are permitted a single application to either this program OR the Alzheimer's



Association Research Grants for All OR the Alzheimer's Association Clinical Scientist Fellowship For All in a given cycle. Even if the proposals cover distinctly different topics, applicants may only submit to one program.

Members of the same team/lab may submit proposals on distinct areas of a larger, overarching line of study provided there is no budgetary or technical overlap within each individual application.

Each application must identify a primary mentor. The mentor should be experienced in conducting Alzheimer's and dementia research and in mentoring junior investigators.

### Funding and award period

The total award will not exceed \$200,000, consisting of a research budget and a separate dissemination stipend, as described below.

- **Research budget** (including direct and indirect costs), determined by award duration:
  - **Three-year award:** up to **\$180,000** total
  - Two years is the minimum award duration. The budget requested in any given year may not exceed \$100,000 (direct and indirect costs).
- Indirect costs are capped at 10 percent of total direct costs and are inclusive of indirect costs for the implementing institution as well as any subcontracts.
- Total travel cost should not exceed \$12,500 for the duration of the award and must include attendance at the annual Alzheimer's Association International Conference (AAIC).
- Details about allowable and unallowable costs are included in the sections below.
- **Dissemination stipend:** Separate from the research budget, a \$20,000 stipend supports dissemination of the research results following successful completion of the project — \$10,000 each to the Principal Investigator and the named mentor will be paid to the institution(s). These funds are not guaranteed and are awarded only upon successful completion of the award, disbursed directly to the Fellow's and mentor's institutions at the time of release, and are not subject to reporting. Successful completion includes, but is not limited to, achieving the project aims and accomplishing all Fellowship benchmarks.

Once selected for funding, awards will begin the period of performance within three months of the award notification. Failure to initiate an award within the stated period may result in cancellation by the Alzheimer's Association. Extensions to this period are only granted if requested prior to application submission, in writing, by contacting [grantsapp@alz.org](mailto:grantsapp@alz.org).

### Key Dates

Letter of intent (LOI) and application submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Eastern time (ET) by their respective deadlines. Late submissions will not be accepted - *no exceptions*.

|                                   |                                        |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| <b>Letter of Intent Launch</b>    | <b>By July 6, 2026</b>                 |
| <b>Letter of Intent Deadline*</b> | <b>August 14, 2026, at 5:00 pm ET</b>  |
| <b>Application Deadline</b>       | <b>October 14, 2026, at 5:00 pm ET</b> |
| <b>Application Review</b>         | <b>October -December, 2026</b>         |
| <b>Award Notifications</b>        | <b>By January 31, 2027</b>             |

*Due to the high number of submissions, specific feedback and reviewer comments are not provided at the letter of intent (LOI) stage.*

## Eligibility and Ineligibility Considerations

To avoid disqualification, investigators are encouraged to carefully consider these eligibility and ineligibility requirements before applying. The Alzheimer's Association reserves the right to find an investigator ineligible to submit for a particular program, based on the guidelines below. Specific requirements and additional exclusions to eligibility are noted in some detailed competition descriptions.

### Eligibility (Applicant):

- **The Alzheimer's Association recognizes the need to increase the number of scientists from underrepresented groups in the research enterprise for Alzheimer's and related dementia. Scientists from these groups are encouraged to apply.**
- Applicants must be postdoctoral fellows (or an equivalent level position) with full-time (but not continuing / tenured) positions at their institution with less than 10 years of research experience after receipt of their doctorate (PhD) or other advanced terminal degrees (MD, MBBS, DO, JD, PharmD, ScD or similar).
- Applicants must be considered full-time employees based on their organization/ institution's definition of full-time.
- Adjustments to this eligibility period may be considered for documented career interruptions such as family leave, military service, or major illness or injury. The approval of any exemptions must be obtained prior to submitting a LOI.
- Only one primary PI per application.
- The Alzheimer's Association reserves the right to request further documentation to confirm eligibility of an applicant.

### Eligibility (Organization/ Institution):

- In general, non-profit public or private research laboratories, medical centers, hospitals and universities are eligible to apply.
- Apart from Veteran's Administration hospitals, state and federal government-appropriated laboratories in the U.S. and abroad are prohibited from applying as the applicant institution.
  - State and federal government scientists can participate as collaborating scientists with research teams from other eligible applicant institutions.
- For-profit organizations are prohibited from serving as the applicant institutions for this program.
- Institutions are required to upload proof of not-for-profit status. A U.S. Internal Revenue Service Letter of Determination is no longer accepted and you must submit either of the following:
  - a W-9 that is signed and dated within the past five years by the signing official for US entities
  - a W-8 or W-8-BEN that is signed and dated within the past five years by the signing official for international entities
  - The form must include the EIN, TIN or VAT number
- For non-profit, non-academic organizations, additional documentation may be required to confirm your organization has segregation of duties between transaction execution and transaction recording.

## Ineligibility (Applicant):

- Individuals who have a position at or above Assistant Professor (or the equivalent, including Research Assistant Professor) are not eligible.
- Individuals currently enrolled as a student in an undergraduate, master or doctoral program are not eligible, regardless of prior degree status.
- Temporary, part-time, or acting faculty are not eligible.
- Multiple PI projects are not allowed. However, collaborators may be included as key personnel on the project.
- Investigators/organizations who are delinquent in required reporting to the Alzheimer's Association are not eligible to apply.
- Investigators that have previous Alzheimer's Association awards closed as "Incomplete" are not eligible to apply without exception. This policy will be strictly adhered to.
- Applicants are not allowed to submit to more than one of the following programs in any given cycle: Alzheimer's Association Research Grants for All, Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowship for All, or Alzheimer's Association Clinician Scientist Fellowship for All. Duplicative submissions will be withdrawn administratively. *This stipulation holds regardless of whether the topics are distinct areas or projects.*
- Overlapping funding of more than one Alzheimer's Association grant is not allowed.
  - Investigators with Alzheimer's Association awards in programs from specific program announcements may still apply to a program listed in this call, but the project must be distinct from their current award.
  - Applications that represent the same aspects of a project should not be submitted to different programs of the Alzheimer's Association. There are some exceptions so please contact [grantsapp@alz.org](mailto:grantsapp@alz.org) if you have questions
  - Overlap with Alzheimer's Association Clinician Scientist Fellowship for All or the Alzheimer's Association Research Grant for All programs are not allowed.
  - There are some exceptions so please contact [grantsapp@alz.org](mailto:grantsapp@alz.org) if you have questions.
- Current Medical and Scientific Advisory Group (MSAG) and International Research Grant Programs (IRGP) Council members of the Alzheimer's Association cannot serve as principal investigators in any award. Members may serve as key personnel or collaborators, provided there is no financial benefit and/or salary allocated to them. Members are permitted to serve as a mentor for AARFA awardee but must forfeit their mentor stipend.

## Ineligibility (Organization/ Institution):

- State and federal government-appropriated laboratories in the U.S. and abroad.
- For-profit organizations are prohibited from serving as the applicant institutions for this program.
- Applications will not be accepted if the institutional official responsible for fiscal oversight of the award also serves as the Principal Investigator (PI) on the project. Additionally, no familial relationship may exist between the PI and the institutional official with fiscal authority.

Applicants may revise and resubmit an application that was previously submitted for an earlier grant cycle; however, a new LOI is required each cycle. A current LOI corresponding to the

application year must accompany each application. Revisions of previous submissions will be treated as new applications. Efforts will be made to provide some continuity in reviews. The resubmission of an approved LOI does not guarantee that you will be invited to resubmit a full application in a future cycle. Resubmissions may be submitted to a different program in this call and still be a resubmission. Resubmissions are reviewed holistically again, and merely responding to reviewer critiques is not enough to be funded on resubmission.

Note: Alzheimer's Association grants are generally open to scientists and researchers across the globe; however, as a U.S.-based charity, the Alzheimer's Association is subject to, and complies with, U.S. law. As a result, the Alzheimer's Association cannot award, and will not award, grants in violation of applicable U.S. statutes and regulations. This means, among other things, that the Alzheimer's Association cannot, and will not, fund any individual or entity (i) that is subject to U.S. comprehensive or targeted sanctions or if awarding funding would result in a violation of such sanctions, (ii) that is on the U.S. List of Specially Designated Nationals or entities owned or controlled by such persons, or (iii) when doing so is otherwise prohibited by U.S. laws related to combating terrorism.

### Letters of Intent

**By submitting a LOI or application to this program, the applicant organization acknowledges that it has reviewed the program's terms and [conditions of award](#) and agrees to accept them as written. All applications will be required to check off this condition in order to submit the application. The conditions of award are non-negotiable, and submission constitutes the organization's confirmation that it is prepared to comply with them in full should an award be made.**

LOIs are a required component of the application process. No application will be considered without an approved LOI, including resubmitted applications. Additional details about the LOI components, review criteria, and process are included below.

To ensure a fair and unbiased review process, the Letter of Intent (LOI) will undergo blinded review. Applicants must not include any personally identifiable information (e.g., names, institutions, locations, or other identifiers) within the body of the LOI. Any submission containing such information may be disqualified or returned for revision. Please adhere strictly to this guideline to maintain the integrity of the review process.

**LOI Components:** Applicants must complete the required sections and upload any required documents. Some of these required fields are described below:

### Applicant and Institution Components

- **Principal Investigator name & contact information**
- **Current academic rank/position**
  - Must be current at the time of submission; *pending promotions are not allowed*
- **ORCID ID**
- **Lead Institution** (in English)
  - Applicant must be a full-time employee at time of submission
- **Employer Identification Number (EIN) or TIN**
  - This number must match the non-profit documentation
  - This information is specific to the institution, not the applicant.
- **Non-profit verification**
  - W-9 (US entities) signed and dated within the past five years by an authorized institutional signing official and must include the EIN number
  - W-8-BEN (non-US entities) signed and dated within the past five years by an authorized institutional signing official and must include the EIN/TIN or VAT number
  - This information is specific to the institution, not the applicant.

## Scientific Project Information

- **Proposal title**
- **Area of focus**
  - Specific options will be available from a dropdown menu
- **Brief project description** - EACH SECTION IS LIMITED TO 1,000 CHARACTERS, INCLUDING SPACES
  - Brief project summary, including methodology
  - Specific aims of the proposed project
  - Innovation/novelty of the proposed project
  - Overall Impact on the field of Alzheimer's disease and related dementia
- **Biosketch**
  - For Principal Investigator and primary mentor only. Applicants will be able to provide biosketches for other members of the project team at the full application stage.
  - The Alzheimer's Association highly recommends using the latest NIH biosketch format (excluding Section D. Scholastic Performance), but any format will be accepted. Hyperlinks are allowed in biosketch only for individual research projects.

## LOI Review Criteria and Process:

LOIs will be evaluated in a **blinded review**, where the reviewer has no information about the applicant and their environment for conducting the research. Applicants are discouraged from including identifying information, although this is not inclusionary in the review. Each LOI is evaluated with attention to:

- Demonstrable innovation / novelty of the proposed project
- Alignment with the research priorities of the Alzheimer's Association
- Impact of project on Alzheimer's and all related dementia research
- Evidence of methodological rigor that addresses the research question(s) being proposed

LOIs will be reviewed by two or three reviewers with expertise in the area of the application. Due to the number of LOIs received, individual feedback or comments from reviewers will not be shared. Please note, only a fraction of LOIs will be invited for full application.

## **Applications**

Following the LOI review, a fraction of projects are invited to submit full applications. The PI who submits the application must be the same PI who submitted the approved LOI. Full applications will not be accepted without an approved LOI from the current cycle

- If you did not receive an email from an Alzheimer's Association staff member about your approval to submit a full application for the current cycle you should not submit an application, even if one is available in your proposalCentral Account.

If you are invited to submit a full application, the required materials, including the application format, templates, and instructions, will be available online at proposalCENTRAL after your LOI has been approved in the system. 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 imperative that you proofread your application before submission; you will not be allowed to make any changes to the application after the deadline or once applications are under review. **It is the applicant's responsibility to make sure that the application is complete and accurate before submission.**

The application must be submitted by the receipt date / time deadline. Once submitted, you will receive a confirmation e-mail from proposalCENTRAL that your application was successfully submitted. If you do not receive a confirmation, click the Proposals tab and under the "Status"

column make sure it says “Submitted” and not “In Progress,” which indicates you have not yet submitted your application. Only a single copy of an application will be accepted.

Institutional signatures are not required at the time of submission by the Association. Should your institution/organization require it, a signature page is provided for use. The Alzheimer's Association does not override any institutional policies and/or procedures. Please do not submit the signature page with your application.

The AARFA is a mentored award. Each applicant must identify a primary mentor. The mentor should be experienced in conducting Alzheimer's and dementia research and in mentoring junior investigators. The application must include a two-three-page statement from the selected mentor that includes information on his/her research qualifications, experience as a research supervisor, and commitment to the applicant. This statement will be a significant part of the application review. 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. Only one primary mentor is allowed; however, additional team members who might function as mentors can be listed as key personnel.

Mentors can be early-career researchers and/or mid-career scientists who choose to shift into Alzheimer's and all dementia research. The applicant and proposed mentor must specify a mechanism for ensuring effective mentoring. The application should contain a plan for an evaluation strategy of the mentoring process for enhancing diversity in the professional research workforce. A successful plan will include specific details on the mentoring goals designed towards achievements both related to research and other professional development.

Applicants may use LLMs and other generative AI tools in the preparation of their LOIs and full applications. Applicants are fully responsible for the content of their proposal, even those parts produced by an AI tool. Using one of these tools will not affect the review of your application.

Additional details for the application process are described below.

#### Application Components:

Application components include: both the research plan and training plan, which includes a statement of commitment from the applicant and from the mentor. Further detail on content is provided in the application instructions on proposalCENTRAL.

- Statement of Mentorship (2 to 3 pages): written by the mentor to describe the mentor's commitment, background, and plan to support the applicant's training and development
- Statement of Commitment (3 pages): written by the applicant highlighting their interest in Alzheimer's and all other dementia research. Include a timeline, how the training outlined by the mentor will be accomplished and is applicable and relevant to the applicant's research project and career development.
- Area of Research (3 pages) - description of the background, scientific rationale, research strategy, alternative approach, and impact
- Data Analysis plan (1 page) - description of the analysis plans, including appropriate statistical and power analyses
- References/Citations (1 page)
- Recruitment Plan (1 page) - *only applicable for studies with human volunteers*
- Plan for Data Sharing (2 pages)
- Letters of Support/Reference (1 page) - up to 3 letters are permitted
- Biosketch(es) (5 pages each)
  - PI Biosketch
  - Mentor Biosketch
  - Key Personnel Biosketch- as applicable
- Non-profit W9 to W8

- Environmental Context (1 page): Context on the environment that they will conduct the work. This can include things such as describing strong community relationships or partnership, unique and/or specialized aspects of the institution where the research will be taking place and/or where the team is based, rural or urban environment, limited infrastructure, or some personal context that would be informative of the proposed work.
- Resubmission Statement (1 page, optional): Resubmissions are granted a one-page summary addressing comments raised by reviewers in a prior review cycle(s). It is up to the investigator whether they wish to declare their application a resubmission, even if it is a similar application to a prior submission.
- Available Resources and Budget Justification (2 pages):
  - A budget justification for the proposed research project is required and must be submitted with the application and within the allowable two-page limit. If the application is to be awarded a more detailed budget will be required and must be approved before the disbursement of funds.
  - Principal Investigator, Co-Principal Investigator, and Key Personnel % Effort: **The Alzheimer's Association uses research effort in its application materials to capture time spent directing and performing research.**
    - All personnel on the grant must have the amount of their effort on the project list.
    - Effort should be listed as a percentage of their overall total commitment to research, not as the percentage of salary covered by the grant's budget.
    - The Principal Investigator must commit to maintaining at least 50% of their full-time effort to research during the funding period. This requirement INCLUDES research efforts beyond the AARFA-funded project.
    - Note that it is not required that Co-PI's and Key Personnel accept salary from an AARFA but must have corresponding effort detailed.

**Direct Costs Allowed: It is required that most of the funds awarded under this program be used for direct research support. No more than 10% of the total direct costs may be included as indirect costs; this is inclusive of indirect costs for the implementing institution as well as any subcontracts. Allowable costs include:**

- Purchase and care of laboratory animals
- Small pieces of laboratory equipment and laboratory supplies
- Purchases over \$10,000 require prior approval, even if included in the project proposal budget
- Core time and/or support, such as neuropathology, microscopy, husbandry, etc.
- Computer software if used strictly for data collection (requires prior approval)
- Salary for the principal investigator, scientific (including postdoctoral fellows) and technical staff (including laboratory technicians and administrative support directly related to the funded grant); there is no salary cap
- Membership to scientific association
- Professional development / communication training
- Support for travel to scientific and professional meetings and additional support for travel expenses necessary to carry out research planned – this may include site visits. A total of \$12,500 over a three-year period may be requested for travel purposes and is not to exceed \$7,000 in any given year. If you request the full \$12,500 towards just two years of travel and are requesting a three-year award you will not be able to

request travel funds for one of those years.

- Training costs to visit and perform research related to the awarded project on another laboratory/facility (this is not to be included in the travel costs)
- Travel expenses for projects involving human volunteers are allowable expenses not included in the travel above. This can be captured under other expenses (itemized) in the budget.
- As part of Alzheimer's Association ongoing efforts to develop programs that support family-friendly research environments, Alzheimer's Association awardees can request up to \$2,500 per budget period for childcare costs provided by a licensed childcare provider.
- Direct Costs not allowed:
  - Computer hardware or standard software (e.g. Microsoft Office, mouse monitor, computer parts, AppleCare)
  - Laboratory equipment such as freezers, ultracentrifuges, RT-PCR machines, microscopy/imaging equipment
  - Service contract fees of equipment
  - Construction or renovation costs
  - Tuition
  - Rent for laboratory/office space
  - Visa costs and fees
  - Expenses such as Data Network Recharges and Computing and communication device support services. However, data sharing and/or data storage for imaging, sequencing and other study data is allowed.
  - General liability insurances, such as GAEL
  - Wire and currency exchange fees; it is important to note that the Association does not adjust total funded amount in relation to fluctuations in exchange rates. All grants are paid in U.S. dollars.
  - Institutional overheads associated with staff time
  - The Alzheimer's Association Medical and Scientific Advisory Group (MSAG), the International Research Grant Program (IRGP) Council members and current employees of the Alzheimer's Association are allowed to be key personnel or collaborators on projects, however they are NOT ALLOWED to receive any salary or compensation. A complete list of MSAG and IRGP Council members can be found on our website [alz.org/grants](http://alz.org/grants)
  - The Alzheimer's Association reserves the right to decline any charge that is an institutional fee and/or service charge.

### **Application Review Criteria and Process:**

All applications are subject to a multiple stage peer-review process carried out with an online system. This multi-stage process is central to our award decisions and is designed to ensure both scientific rigor and fairness in the review of all submitted applications.

In the first stage, applications are reviewed and rated by peer scientists with expertise in the proposed area of research. Applicants may include recommended reviewers and also have the option to exclude specific reviewers from evaluating their application if a conflict of interest exists. Conflicts of interest include (but are not limited to):

- The Applicant trained with/ by the reviewer.
- The reviewer published with the Applicant in the last four (4) years. This excludes workshop or large consortia (i.e. ADNI, IGAP, etc.)
- The reviewer has been a co-investigator on a grant application or award with the Applicant in the last four (4) years.
- The reviewer has a conceptual difference of opinion with the Applicant that will prevent a fair review.
- The reviewer will receive financial benefit from the Applicant receiving an award.

In stage one of review, each application will be evaluated with the following criteria:

- Applicant's ability and promise as a scientist based on prior record of achievement and career plan, letters of support, and CV (30%); reviewers should consider the environmental context provided.
- Quality and emphasis of applicant and originality of the research plan (40%), with context of the environmental context provided as part of the training plan
- Significance of the question being studied, quality of the work plan and the impact-risk of the proposal, impact on advancement of the AD/ADRD science ecosystem (30%)
- Resubmissions will have the opportunity to provide a response to prior reviews.

The second stage includes further review and discussion of the scores and comments resulting from the initial review process to normalize across reviews and programs. The second review is carried out by the International Research Grant Program (IRGP) Council members and invited review committee members to ensure fairness and balance in the initial review procedures and to make funding recommendations to the Association.

Recommendations from the IRGP Council are shared with the Medical and Scientific Advisory Group (MSAG). The MSAG and IRGP evaluate and discuss the final recommendations to ensure alignment with the Alzheimer's Association's program and mission across the full scope of its objectives to best serve the broader goals and needs. Final recommendations are then shared with the Alzheimer's Association for funding. Members of the IRGP Council and MSAG are internationally recognized experts with distinguished careers in Alzheimer's and related dementia.

### **Financial Responsibility:**

Funding is awarded to the institution and/or organization, not to the individual principal investigator. The principal investigator or a first-degree relative cannot be listed as the signing official or financial officer, or have checks sent to their attention if awarded.

### **Appeals of Scientific Peer Review:**

To maintain a fair and rigorous review system, the Alzheimer's Association has a process for appeal of funding decisions. **Appeals must be submitted within 10 business days from the date your application outcome notification is sent.** Notification of action on the appeal will be made via email, usually within 90 days of the appeal deadline. Appeals will not be considered for the letter of intent stage. Regarding applications, an appeal is intended to address extraordinary circumstances.

Appropriate reasons for initiating an appeal might include:

- Evidence that a reviewer has an undeclared conflict of interest.
- An egregious error or misunderstanding in the review process.
- Active malfeasance or demonstrable lack of due diligence.

The appeal process is not intended to provide a mechanism for routine protest of failure to receive a grant. It is anticipated that funding through the Alzheimer's Association grants programs will be extremely competitive and is limited by availability of funds.

If an applicant believes an extraordinary circumstance has contributed to failure to receive funding,

the principal investigator must send a two-page, double-spaced formal letter of appeal (Word document) to [grantsappeals@alz.org](mailto:grantsappeals@alz.org), *within the appropriate time period of 10 business days following outcome notification*. Any supporting documents included must be submitted as a PDF.

### **Reporting Requirements, if Funded:**

For funded awards through this program, there will be required scientific, mentor and financial reporting. Interim scientific, mentor and financial reports must be submitted at the end of each reporting period as long as the grant remains active. Final scientific, mentor and financial reports must be filed within 90 days of the grant's end date. All reports must be submitted electronically via proposalCENTRAL. The financial report must be approved and signed by someone with financial authority in the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs or Grants and Contracts Office at the recipient's institution. Unobligated funds remaining at the end of the award must be returned to the Alzheimer's Association.

**Note:** The continuation of the grant over the awarded duration is contingent upon the timely receipt of all required reports. Delinquent reports submission may limit the applicant's ability to receive future funding from the Alzheimer's Association.

### Mentoring plans and Fellowship Reporting and Benchmark Requirements

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.

Additionally, successful mentorship plans should include the following Fellowship Benchmarks, which are required to receive the research stipends, but should not be limited to only these.

Annual mentor reports must include progress measurements to all **REQUIRED** Fellowship benchmarks, which are as follows:

- Attend at least one Association-sponsored networking event at the Alzheimer's Association's International Conference (AAIC). Acceptance of an abstract at AAIC.
- 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.
- Reviewing grant applications. This is not limited to the Alzheimer's Association review process, as reviewing for other funding organizations, but supervised reviews are encouraged for those with little to no review experience. The Alzheimer's Association staff will provide additional resources for those new to reviewing for the Association.
- Documentation of specific instances of the facilitation of networking, including introductions to colleagues, inclusion in discussions at scientific meetings, etc.
- Submission of funding proposal(s) to other funding agencies, including Alzheimer's Association, National Institutes of Health or National Science Foundation, Medical Research Council (UK), Canadian Institutes of Health Research, etc.

### **Ethical Research Oversight**

In addition, while animal welfare and human volunteer ethical assurances are not required at the time of application, investigators have until their chosen start date (within 3 months or less of award notification) to submit these approved documents. The Alzheimer's Association encourages investigators to initiate their certification applications on a schedule that recognizes that rDNA certification, IRB/IACUC approval at many institutions can take more than 90 days.

The Association accepts only certifications that apply specifically to the funded project and must include the name of the awardee. For Fellowship programs, if the ethical certification is on the mentor's name, the Fellow must include the ethical approval and a signed letter stating that the ethical approval (rDNA certification, IRB/IACUC approval) covers the awarded project with the Fellow's name and award

number included.

Projects involving human volunteers must address the appropriate inclusion or exclusion of individuals in the proposed research project and describe recruitment efforts to represent the community in which the study is planned or being conducted. Prior to distribution of funding, the researcher must provide a description of their recruitment plan, including an outline describing how their recruitment efforts will ensure representative diversity in their volunteers.

Recruitment efforts should focus on diversity within key target groups, including a diverse representation of (but not limited to): sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, race, and ethnicity. This will be tracked throughout the duration of the grant.

Electronic copies of publications, presentations and abstracts that report research supported by funds from the Alzheimer's Association must be submitted electronically at the time of publication. These copies will become part of the official file of the grant and will be provided to the Communications Division of the Alzheimer's Association to assist in the efforts to further inform the public about the International Research Grant Program of the Association. Any intellectual property disclosures resulting from the award must be submitted electronically at the time of publication. The Alzheimer's Association may request any of the research outputs listed here from any awardee up to 7 years following the end of the award.

### **U.S. Sanctions:**

Alzheimer's Association grants are generally open to scientists and researchers across the globe; however, as a U.S.-based charity, the Alzheimer's Association is subject to, and complies with, U.S. law. As a result, the Alzheimer's Association cannot award, and will not award, grants in violation of applicable U.S. statutes and regulations. This means, among other things, that the Alzheimer's Association cannot, and will not, fund any individual or entity (i) that is subject to U.S. comprehensive or targeted sanctions or if awarding funding would result in a violation of such sanctions, (ii) that is on the U.S. List of Specially Designated Nationals or entities owned or controlled by such persons, or (iii) when doing so is otherwise prohibited by U.S. laws related to combating terrorism.

### **Nondiscrimination and Harassment Statement:**

The Alzheimer's Association is committed to providing an environment free from harassment and discrimination. The Alzheimer's Association strictly prohibits harassment and discrimination based on race; creed; color; religion; sex; sexual orientation; national origin; ancestry; age; Veteran status; citizenship status; marital status; physical or mental disabilities; pregnancy, gender identity or expression (including transgender status); genetic information; and any other characteristic protected by federal, state, or local law.

### **Contact Information:**

For any inquiries or additional information, please contact a member of the Alzheimer's Association Grants staff at [grantsapp@alz.org](mailto:grantsapp@alz.org)