

## **Alzheimer's Disease Strategic Fund: *Vascular Contributions to Cognitive Impairment and Dementia 2026 - Understanding Mechanisms of Dysfunction (VCID-UMD)***

### **Background and Program Objectives:**

The Alzheimer's Association aims to support innovative, high-risk, collaborative team science opportunities that investigate and focus on outstanding questions related to the biological underpinnings of Alzheimer's disease (AD), including the vascular contributions to cognitive impairment and dementia (VCID). This funding call will be supported through an innovative funding model, the Alzheimer's Disease Strategic Fund (ADSF), established in 2019 to support studies that advance our mechanistic understanding of disease biology. The ADSF expects timely sharing of data and resources generated from funded projects in accordance with the sharing principles detailed herein.

Alzheimer's disease as well as other diseases that cause dementia (related disorders or ADRD) are often associated with significant vascular-related comorbidities, including brain infarct, atherosclerosis and cardiovascular diseases such as arteriosclerosis. Importantly, vascular dysfunction not only contributes to disease onset and progression, but may also be an early indicator of AD-specific brain changes, highlighting a potential link between vascular impairment and AD/ADRD pathogenesis. However, the mechanisms by which vascular dysfunction contributes to AD/ADRD remain unclear.

In its second offering, the ***Vascular Contributions to Cognitive Impairment and Dementia - Understanding Mechanisms of Dysfunction (VCID-UMD)*** grant program aims to fund concerted and collaborative efforts that will explore critical questions to advance our understanding of VCID and its contributions to AD/ADRD pathogenesis by targeting scientific questions on how VCID may intersect with immune, lipid and endolysosomal related functions to contribute to disease. Projects responsive to this opportunity will address some of the key challenges in research today as related to vascular dysfunction biology and contributions to AD/ADRD, including but not limited to:

- Exploring how vascular dysfunctions alter brain metabolism, and how defects in mechanisms such as alterations in the blood brain barrier (BBB), neurovascular coupling, cerebral blood flow or waste clearance contribute to amyloid aggregation and neuronal loss; and how diverse cell types residing in the vasculature including but not limited to endothelial cells, pericytes, smooth muscle cells, perivascular fibroblasts and/or perivascular immune cells contribute to these mechanisms.
- Investigating vascular-immune crosstalk including but not limited to understanding the roles of parenchymal versus peripheral immune signaling or the innate versus adaptive immune system, and how defects on the vasculature contribute to the disruption of brain immune homeostasis. This could also consider questions related to cell type and stage throughout the brain and periphery.
- Understanding how the lymphatic and glymphatic system contributes to vascular-related abnormalities and ultimately AD/ADRD pathogenesis.
- Investigating the intersection between VCID, immune, lipid and endolysosomal function to contribute to AD/ADRD pathogenesis.
- Defining the role of APOE contribution to cerebral amyloid angiopathy (CAA) and ARIA that could contribute to AD/ADRD pathogenesis.

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- Understanding how vascular pathophysiology contributes and intersects with multiple disease-specific pathologies, including but not limited to Lewy Bodies, TDP-43 and others.
- Leverage existing data sets that may support advances in our understanding of above questions. Two examples of data sets include: (1) “The brain neurovascular epigenome and its association with dementia” (PMID: 41173000) - available <https://discover.alzheimersdata.org/catalogue/datasets/7ecbaacb-518c-413a-8c87-d37ff91141c3> and (2) “Human brain vascular multi-omics elucidates disease-risk associations” (PMID: 40730185) - available <https://discover.alzheimersdata.org/catalogue/datasets/307ef4ce-acd2-45e6-ac58-c7067560b123/>
- Developing novel biomarkers related to measuring changes in VCID, with a goal of understanding biological implications at early- phases of AD/ ADRD.
- Developing key tools and/or resources, such as imaging, that will benefit a broader range of scientific questions and/or studies related to neurovascular health. Tools and resources developed through this funding must be made broadly available to the scientific field. This could include the development of Experimental Models of Disease.
  - o \* Note: The expectation is that any tool or resource developed through this program will be shared with the larger scientific community for discovery and investigation.

The VCID-UMD 2026 Grant Program aims to fund concerted and collaborative efforts that will explore these questions to advance our understanding of disease. Multidisciplinary team approaches to addressing these complex scientific questions are welcome to apply. However, this award is structured as an individual research grant, with funding administered through the recipient’s institution and recipient’s institution will be expected to manage subcontractors with collaborators.

### **Funding and award period:**

Each VCID-UMD 2026 award is limited to a total of \$300,000, with a funding range of \$150,000 - \$300,000 depending on the project scope. Recognizing many of the areas of focus are multidisciplinary in nature, teams are likely to emerge. For projects that require larger teams to address their scientific question, the Alzheimer’s Association will consider an increased budget; pre-approval is required; there will need to be a strong rationale for this consideration. Please email [grantsapp@alz.org](mailto:grantsapp@alz.org) for consideration. **No indirect costs will be allowed.** The maximum project duration is 3 years, and there is no minimum timeframe.

Budget spending should be aligned to proposed milestones within the aims of the project. The Association will evaluate projects on progress toward specific milestones; continued disbursement of funds is dependent on demonstrated and documented progress toward key milestones. Detailed guidelines on allowable and not allowable costs are included below. The Alzheimer’s Association reserves the right to not allow unbudgeted expenses.

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

### **Key Dates:**

Letter Of Intent (LOI) and application submissions must be received by 5:00 pm Eastern time by their respective deadlines. Late submissions will not be accepted - *no exceptions*.

Letter of Intent Launch	By May 1, 2026
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Letter of Intent Deadline*	June 15, 2026, at 5:00 pm ET
Application Deadline	September 14, 2026, at 5:00 pm ET
Application Review	October – November, 2026
Award Notifications	By November 30, 2026

**\* Note: Due to the high number of submissions, specific feedback and reviewer comments are not provided at the 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. This section describes general inclusion and exclusion criteria. 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 to strengthen the research enterprise for Alzheimer’s and related dementia. Scientists from these groups are encouraged to apply.**
  - Applicants must be considered full-time employees based on the organization/ institution’s definition of full-time.
  - Applicants must hold a full-time position at the level of Assistant Professor (similar to Lecturer or other equivalent) or above at the time of LOI submission at an academic institution, or Veterans Administration hospital in the U.S.
  - The Alzheimer’s Association reserves the right to request further documentation to confirm eligibility of an applicant.
  - 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 Letter of Intent (LOI).
  - Only one primary PI per application. Multiple PI projects are not allowed. However, collaborators may be included as key personnel on the project.
  
- Eligibility (Organization/ Institution):
  - In general, public, private, research laboratories, medical centers, hospitals and universities are eligible to apply. State and federal government-appropriated laboratories in the U.S. and abroad, and for-profit organizations are prohibited from serving as the applicant institutions for this program. However, state and federal government scientists can participate as collaborating scientists with research teams from other eligible applicant institutions.
  - For the Letter of Intent (LOI), you will be required to upload proof of your organization’s not-for-profit status. An IRS 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

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- a W-8 or W-8-BEN that is signed and dated within the past five years by the signing official
- The form must include the EIN, TIN or VAT number
- For non-profit organizations (non-academic), additional documentation may be required to confirm your organization has segregation of duties between transaction execution and transaction recording.
- Ineligibility (Applicant):
  - 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.
  - Investigators who are delinquent in reporting to the Alzheimer's Association. The Alzheimer's Association will not accept new grant applications from investigators currently awarded an Association grant who are delinquent in submitting required reports and other deliverables on active grants.
  - 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 with no exceptions.
  - Overlapping funding of more than one Alzheimer's Association grant is not allowed. Investigators with 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. Overlap with research or clinical fellowship programs or this program are not allowed.
  - 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 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. They may serve as key personnel or collaborators, provided there is no financial benefit and/or salary allocated to them.

## Ineligibility (Organization/ Institution):

- State and federal government-appropriated laboratories in the U.S. and abroad and 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 CANNOT submit more than one proposal to any of the programs in the current grant competition—even if the proposals cover distinctly different topics (i.e. only one application is allowed regardless of the distinct areas of focus). It is allowed for members of the same team to submit different aspects of a project to different programs, as long as they are complementary and not the same project.

**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- Additional Details:**

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.

LOIs must be completed online at <https://proposalcentral.com>. First-time users must register and complete a Professional Profile to begin the LOI process. No hard copies will be accepted. The LOI is completed through the online interactive system; you will need to complete the required sections and upload any required documents.

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:

- **Principal Investigator**
  - Name & contact information
- **Lead Institution** (Institution/organization name must be in English)
- **Current academic rank/position**
  - Must be current at the time of submission; pending promotions are not allowed.
  - Applicant must be considered a full-time employee at time of submission.
- **Proposal title**
- **Area of focus**
  - Specific options will be available from a dropdown menu.
- **Brief project description (10,000 character limit, *including spaces*).**
  - Brief project description, including methodology.
  - Specific aims of the project.
  - Innovation/novelty of the project.
  - Project team.
  - Plan for data management and data sharing.
- **Employer Identification Number (EIN) or TIN**
  - This number must match the non-profit documentation.
  - ***NOTE: THIS IS INFORMATION SPECIFIC TO THE INSTITUTION NOT THE APPLICANT.***
- **ORCID ID**
- **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.
  - ***NOTE: THIS DOCUMENT SHOULD NOT CONTAIN THE APPLICANT'S INFORMATION.***
- **Biosketch**
  - For Principal Investigator 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. Each LOI is evaluated with attention to:
  - Demonstrable innovation/novelty of the proposed project (especially in the context of the applicant/team's recent work).
  - Priority will be given to projects that address an important knowledge gap in a way it is not being addressed through other funding mechanisms.
  - Alignment with the research priorities of the RFA.
  - Impact of the project on AD/ ADRD research.
  - Evidence of methodological rigor that addresses the research question(s) being proposed.
  - Priority will be given to studies that leverage and/or identify new opportunities for team science, collaborations and working across disciplines that otherwise could or would not happen.
  - Robustness of the data management and sharing plan.
  - LOIs will be reviewed by 2 or 3 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.
  - A fraction of LOIs will be invited for full application.

## **Applications - Additional Details:**

Following the LOI review, some of these projects are invited to submit full applications. By submitting an application, it is expected that the institution and/or applying organization accepts the Alzheimer's Association's award [Conditions of Award](#). The PI who submits the application must be the same PI who submitted the approved LOI. 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.

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. It is the applicant's responsibility to make sure that the application is complete and accurate before submission. Only a single copy of an application will be accepted.

*Signatures are not required at the time of submission by the Association, however, the signature page provided is for use should your institution/organization require signatures; the Association does not override any institutional policies and/or procedures. Please do not submit the signature page with your application.*

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:**

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.

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.

Applicants must complete the required sections and upload required documents as listed.

Some fields are identical to the LOI. Some of the required fields are described below

- **Executive Summary** (*maximum 1 page*): Include a high-level abstract describing the project, main questions being addressed, and potential impact.
- **Background/Rationale** (*maximum 1 page*): Include sufficient background and rationale addressing why the proposed strategy is expected to be fruitful. Clearly define the hypothesis/es and note the specific aims.
- **Work Plan** (*maximum 5 pages*): Include goals/specific aims, methods and project plan. This should be organized in alignment with the milestones as outlined in the application.
  - Project Milestones: The workplan should be separated into one-year intervals with specific milestones to be accomplished within that timeframe. Milestones should align with the overall project goals and be designed for easy progress evaluation and for clear determination on whether milestones have been met. For each milestone, indicate the relevant Project Aim.
- Principal Investigator(s) and Key Personnel Curriculum Vitae or Biosketch (no more than 5 pages per person); there is no limit on the number of CVs to be included.
- Project team (*maximum 1 page, provided*): Include a list of team members, their institutions/ departments and expertise.
- **Data Management and Sharing Plan** (maximum 3 pages): ***Data sharing is a key component of the application and will be considered in the review and evaluation.*** The amended NIH template (provided) is recommended. It is expected that data generated through this funding mechanism will include a robust plan for sharing data and include an appropriate budget to accommodate this plan. Information on timelines, feasibility, and the platform(s) and/or mechanisms of sharing should be included. Failure to share data appropriately may prevent investigators from being eligible for future funding. When data sharing may be limited, applicants must explain such limitations at the time of application.
- **Recruitment Plan** (*maximum 1 page*): As applicable for projects using human volunteers.
- **Citations/References** (*maximum 1 page*): Use a reference style that is most common in major journal(s).
- Up to 3 letters of support (*no more than 2 pages each*) are allowed.
- W9/W8 Documentation.
- Available Resources and Budget Justification (*maximum two-page limit*):
  - If awarded, a full budget of planned expenses will be required. No indirect costs will be allowed. Budget should be broken down in 1-year increments and should align with project milestones. See below for allowable costs.
  - Include a list of tools/models available (if appropriate, list critical tools and models to be used or needed in the course of the research).

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

- **Direct Costs Allowed:**
  - 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.
  - 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.
  - Note, for Canadian awardees cofunded by the Alzheimer's Association and Brain Canada, there are additional stipulations on costs that can be applied to Brain Canada.
  
- **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 machine, 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).

Indirect costs are not allowed with this funding program. 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 the Alzheimer's Association's 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 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 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 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:

- Alignment with the research priorities of the RFA.
- Demonstrable innovation/novelty of the proposed project (especially in the context of the PI/PIs' and team's recent work); innovation could include scientific areas not well-understood, leveraging unique technologies or model systems to approach vascular-related mechanisms, bridging disciplines to understand the intersectionality of the biological underpinnings.
- Priority will be given to projects that address an important knowledge gap in a way it is not being addressed through other funding mechanisms; applications should provide context for what is and is not known in the area of research being proposed.
- Evidence of methodological rigor that addresses the research question(s) being proposed, including the power necessary to sufficiently address the question proposed.
- Priority will be given to studies that leverage and/or identify new opportunities for team science, collaborations and working across disciplines that otherwise would not happen.
- Robustness of the data management and sharing plan.
- Quality and Adequacy of Resources and Budget.
- Potential impact of the project on AD/ ADRD research.

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 Alzheimer's disease Strategic Fund Committee to ensure fairness and balance in the initial review procedures and to make funding recommendations. These recommendations are shared with the Medical and Scientific Advisory Group (MSAG) and with the Alzheimer's Association for final approval.

## **Data Sharing:**

The Alzheimer's Association requires the timely release and the sharing of final research data and other research resources generated from Alzheimer's Association funded research studies be shared and administered in accordance with this policy. Examples included in the "final research data" are the data, samples, physical conditions and other supporting materials created or gathered during the course of the work. The following principles should be followed:

- Make useful datasets and supporting information available to the broader research community every 12 months, at minimum, through an appropriate data-sharing

platform and other repositories, noting that not all experimental datasets are useful at early or intermediate stages of generation, exceptions may be made on a case-by-case basis if the ADSF agrees that the data are not yet ready to be shared.

- Use a streamlined data access process for the data sharing platform to allow high throughput management of data access request approvals; make novel tools and research reagents (including, but not limited to research models, cell lines, plasmids, viral vectors, antibodies, code/analysis methods, etc.) available as quickly as possible to academic and industry researchers either directly, or preferably through an appropriate and accessible distribution platform (e.g. Jackson Laboratory, Addgene, and GitHub) with minimal costs and restrictions.
- Whenever possible, avoid use of reagents, tools, samples, or data that cannot be easily shared; pre-approval for use of animal models that cannot be freely shared is required.
- Rapidly bring research findings and results to the research community through presentations at meetings and open-access publication (e.g. preprint servers, open access journals, or making papers available on the investigator's website).

All project reports should include activities related to the sharing of their findings.

### **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 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 Associations grant 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 may send a two-page, double-spaced formal letter of appeal (Word document) to [grantsappeals@alz.org](mailto:grantsappeals@alz.org). Any supporting documents included must be submitted as a PDF. Appeals must be submitted within two weeks 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.

### **Reporting Requirements, if funded:**

For funded awards through this program, there will be required scientific and financial reporting. Interim Scientific & Financial Reports must be submitted at the end of each reporting period as long as the grant remains active. Final Scientific & 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 & 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.

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 6 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.

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).