

NEUROSURGICAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION INC.

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GUIDELINES TO APPLICANTS FOR RESEARCH GRANTS

The NeuroSurgical Research Foundation (NRF) calls for applications for research grants consumables and research equipment for 2024.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- No retrospective funding will be considered.
- All projects must be directly related to clinical neurosurgery. (If in doubt contact NRF office with a short summary for initial review by 1st June)

General or Paediatric neurosurgical research up to the value of \$50,000.

Neurosurgical research equipment grants up to the value of \$50,000.

Section 1: Project Outline

1. **Project Title**
2. **Simplified Title of the Project**
3. **Keywords**
Provide up to 6 keywords to describe the project
4. **Lay Summary – maximum 100 words**
Provide a lay summary of the project outlined in the application.
5. **Project Category – Please indicate which category you wish to apply for**
 - General neurosurgical research applications must be from a collaborative group in Adelaide.

OR

 - Paediatric neurosurgical research applications must involve collaboration with an interstate or overseas group.
6. **Total funding amount requested**
7. **Chief Investigators (CIs)**
 - Name, title, qualifications, current department, address, contact details and position of the CIs.
 - At least one CI must be from a collaborative group in Adelaide.
 - Indicate the number of days per month each applicant expects to devote to the project, and any anticipated absences.
 - For Paediatric neurosurgical research applications only: the second CI must be from interstate or overseas.
 - Applications from junior researchers are encouraged.

- Capability statement should describe the skills and expertise relevant to the project and explicitly state the CI's contribution to the project.

8. Associate Investigators (AIs)

- Name, title, qualifications, current department, address, contact details and position of the CIs.
- Indicate the number of days per month each applicant expects to devote to the project, and any anticipated absences.
- Capability statement should describe the skills and expertise relevant to the project, and explicitly state the AI's involvement in the project.

9. Previous NeuroSurgical Research Foundation Research Gifts

- 10. Ethical review** – indicate where ethical review (human and /or animal) is required for the project and if approval has already been granted or ethics approval is still pending. Please note that ethical clearance is not a requirement of grant award but must be obtained before the project start date.

Section 2: Research Support

11. Research Support

11.1 Current and pending research support – itemise for all listed CIs, giving value of support for each year that support has been granted. Funds from all sources must be included. If no applications for support are pending, please indicate why application is only being made to the NRF.

11.2 Relationship between the support requested and other applications – indicate any overlap between this application and any other current or pending support, specifically addressing why existing support cannot be utilized to support the research proposed in the current application.

Section 3: Project Details

12. Project

The project outline must be phrased in language that is comprehensible to someone unqualified in your discipline. It should explain what is proposed and how it is to be done within the four A4 pages stipulated. *Note: The information provided must be sufficient to allow the application to be assessed scientifically. The amount of information required for a research donation may vary, but sufficient detail must be provided. For projects expected to take more than one year to complete, the proposal should clearly state the aims, expected results and budget requirements only for the first year of the project, as research donations are awarded for one year only.*

There is a maximum **LIMIT of 4 PAGES (excludes references)**.

Please adhere to the formatting guidelines. Applications that do not meet these requirements will not be considered.

- 2cm margins
- single paragraph spacing
- minimum text size: Arial font, size 12.
- The inclusion of figures is encouraged.

12.1 Background

Describe the:

- *Scope of the problem, key statistics*
- *Relevant background information in order to understand the project rationale*
- *Significance of the project – why this project, why now?*
- *Key objectives of the project*
- *Any other relevant information*
- *Figures are encouraged.*

12.2 Aims and Hypotheses

- *Clearly describe the overarching aims of your project.*
- *Include individual aims and hypotheses.*

12.3 Research Plan

Outline the research plan in detail, including as appropriate:

- *Detailed description of the experimental design, including experimental groups, sample sizes. The use of a figure is encouraged to clearly communicate this information.*
- *Animal studies need to include the experimental model to be used, including animal species (age/sex/weight).*
- *Methodology to be used, including justification of technique selection.*
- *Statistical analysis plan.*

12.4 Outcomes and Significance

Briefly describe the:

- *importance of the problem to be researched*
- *expected outcome of the research plan; and*
- *potential significance of the research.*
- *For pre-clinical projects, also describe how this project will add to the body of knowledge in the field.*

13. **References** - 1 page maximum.
Author, date format.

14. Budget

14.1 Itemised Budget – itemise under the headings of Equipment, Maintenance and Salaries. Indicate the priority of the request (A, B or C).

For Salary requests, please provide a justification as to why this level of support and FTE is required for the research activity.

14.2 Financial Summary – summary of support requested.

Section 4: Certification

15. Certification

All applications must carry certification by the Head of the Division/ Department/School “that appropriate general facilities will be available to the applicant if successful and that the project will be carried out strictly in accordance with NHMRC Ethical and Scientific Guidelines”.

Application Submission

- Please save the completed application form as a PDF document using the following file naming convention: CIA Name_NRF 2024.pdf
- **Please submit one original by 5pm 1st July 2024**
- To NeuroSurgical Research Foundation
 - email: ginta.orchard@nrf.com.au
- **Please note that late applications will not be accepted**

Report

The NeuroSurgical Research Foundation requests a one-page report on the outcome of the research project funded by this research donation, at the completion of the project for one-year projects and annually for multi-year projects. This is to assist the Foundation in publicising the benefits of research in neurosurgical injuries and diseases, and to assess the quality of the research which has been funded and guide in future research donations.