



111 W. Washington St.
Suite 1460
Chicago Illinois 60602

T 312 759 5150
www.theBRF.org

Request for Proposals on Opioid Relapse Reduction Therapeutics

Issued by: Brain Research Foundation (BRF)

Letter of Intent Due Date: Wednesday, February 28, 2018 (by 4:00 p.m. CST)

Application Due Date: Wednesday, May 16, 2018 (by 4:00 p.m. CST)

Funding Opportunity Purpose:

The purpose of this request for proposals is to support the development of novel, translational research that will help accelerate the understanding of the mechanisms associated with opioid use disorders and addiction, targeted to medication development for new relapse reduction therapeutics.

The pre-clinical research areas of focus may include (but are not limited to):

- Neurobiology of relapse to drug taking
- Identifying new chemicals for high potential for relapse reduction
- Repurposing of FDA-approved therapies for relapse reduction
- Alternative therapies
- Vulnerability to relapse factors (e.g., genetics, epigenetics, environmental stresses)

Funding and award period: Based on the quality of applications, Brain Research Foundation will fund up to 2 grants on opioid relapse reduction research. Each total award is limited to \$50,000 (direct costs) for a one year grant period **from the specified dates only**. Dates will be provided by BRF upon application approval.

Funds **must be utilized within the grant period**. **Final financial and progress reports**, including a lay summary, will be required **within 30 days from the end date of the grant period**.

Allowable costs under this award:

100% of these funds must be utilized for **direct costs**.

These costs may include:

- Purchase and care of laboratory animals
- Small pieces of laboratory equipment, totaling \$5,000 or less
- Laboratory supplies
- Salary for scientific (including postdoctoral fellows) and technical staff (including laboratory technicians)

Costs not permitted:

- Facilities and administrative costs
- Salary recovery for the PI
- Domestic and foreign travel
- Conference or seminar fees
- Personal computers, computer hardware or software
- Large laboratory equipment
- Tuition reimbursement
- Indirect costs, including university fees associated with salary, equipment, etc.

This is a collaboration between Brain Research Foundation and Blue Cross Blue Shield Association. Publications resulting in projects funded in whole or part by BRF's Grant will acknowledge the **Brain Research Foundation** and **Blue Cross Blue Shield Association** as funding sources.

I. Guidelines

Eligibility

To be eligible, PI must be a **full-time tenure-track or tenured faculty from an institution within the U.S.**, working in the area of study of opioid addiction. The grant proposal must detail a new research project that is not funded by other sources.

Ineligibility

- 1.) PI is ineligible if they are **not a full-time faculty member at the institution in which they are applying under.**
- 2.) PI is ineligible to **submit more than one** proposal.
- 3.) PI is ineligible if they have BRF funding that will **overlap this grant period.**
- 4.) PI is ineligible if they have been awarded prior BRF funding, but have **failed to submit scientific and financial reports** at the end of their grant period.
- 5.) PI is ineligible if they are a **member of the BRF Scientific Review Committee (SRC).**
- 6.) PI is ineligible if they are a **relative of BRF a representative.**

Nondiscrimination statement

Brain Research Foundation does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, sexual orientation, religion, color, ethnic origin and age.

II. Application Procedures

Applications must be submitted electronically via the [BRF grants website](#) as a single, combined electronic document (PDF) using the BRF LOI and Application forms (provided on the website upon registration). Documents must be combined into a single document using Adobe Acrobat.

The application process will be conducted in two phases:

PHASE I: Letter of Intent (LOI)

The first step in applying for the grant is to submit a Letter of Intent. The purpose of the LOI is to determine worthy projects that will then be invited to submit a complete application for further review. The LOI and application must be submitted by a single investigator.

The LOI should [be submitted by the PI online](#). A lay summary and keywords will be requested upon registration.

The LOI submission includes:

- BRF LOI form, including the following information:
 - Name and academic title of PI
 - Contact information, including mailing address, telephone number, fax number, and email address
 - Title of program project
 - PI Signature
- Brief summary of program project (*2 page maximum, 10 pt. font minimum*)
- Biographical sketch (using current NIH format) **with other support page** (*5 page maximum*)

[Submit completed LOI electronically](#). Faxed, emailed, or mailed applications will NOT be accepted. Consideration will be given only to those Letters of Intent completed according to instructions and with no missing information.

**An automatic email is generated upon submission of the electronic application. If PI does not receive a confirmation, please contact info@theBRF.org.

Deadline for the LOI is Wednesday , February 28, 2018 at 4:00 p.m. CST. LOIs will NOT be accepted after the deadline. No exceptions will be made.

PHASE II: Application

If the LOI receives a favorable review, the PI will be invited to submit a grant application. [Submit completed application](#) electronically. The 5 page grant proposal **deadline is Wednesday, May 16, 2018 at 4:00 p.m. CST. Applications will NOT be accepted after the deadline. No exceptions will be made.**

III. Review Procedures

LOI submissions are reviewed and rated by the BRF Advisory Committee. So there is not a conflict of interest, the proposals will not be reviewed by committee members from the same institution as the applicant. (Note: Review procedures and guidelines will be followed according to NIH Conflict of Interest, Confidentiality and Non-Disclosure Rules.) If the LOI receives a favorable review, the PI will be invited to submit a grant application.

Grant applications are also carried out by the BRF Advisory Committee in the same manner as described above.

In order to keep administrative costs of review minimal for the Foundation, no feedback can be provided to applicants.

IV. Animal and Human Subject Assurances

Brain Research Foundation requires animal welfare certifications that apply to your specific project. The certifications are not required for the LOI, but are required when submitting a completed grant application.

V. Contact Information

BRF program announcement and guidelines can be found on the website of Brain Research Foundation at <http://www.theBRF.org>. For additional information, you may contact the BRF at grants@theBRF.org or call (312) 759-5150.

About BRF:

Brain Research Foundation supports neuroscience research that leads to advanced understanding of brain function in children and adults. The Foundation is committed to advancing discoveries that will lead to novel treatments and prevention of all neurological diseases. We deliver this commitment through both research grant programs, which provide initial funding for innovative research projects, as well as educational programs for researchers and the general public.