

RESEARCH GRANTS PROGRAM POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

New Jersey Health Foundation's Research Grants Program funds early healthcare-related projects that demonstrate exciting potential and help researchers qualify for larger grants from other organizations to advance their projects

**NEW JERSEY HEALTH FOUNDATION
120 ALBANY STREET, TOWER II, SUITE 850
NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ 08901
(908) 731-6610**

I. THE GRANT REQUEST

A. Applicants

Full-time faculty members and employees of eligible organizations who meet the eligibility requirements may request funds to initiate a research project with the objective of securing external funds to continue the research.

B. Amount of Grant

New Jersey Health Foundation will consider grant applications up to \$35,000. Grants in excess of these amounts will be considered only with full justification and individual support by the appropriate organization official or similarly designated position.

C. Eligibility

- Full-time faculty and employees of eligible organizations. Part-time and adjunct faculty or staff are not eligible.
- **Eligible organizations: Kessler Foundation, New Jersey Institute of Technology, Princeton University, Rowan University, Rutgers University and Stevens Institute of Technology.**
- ***Only applicants who have followed all of their organizations' policies and procedures prior to submission to NJHF will be considered.***
- Additional consideration will be given to applications that have received matching funds. To verify a match, a letter of confirmation of matching grant support is required to be submitted electronically with application.

D. Review Process

Applications will be reviewed by a New Jersey Health Foundation Review Committee composed of members of the NJHF Board of Directors plus members of the medical, pharmaceutical and business communities.

Submission to New Jersey Health Foundation does not guarantee grant funding.

E. **Review Criteria**

New Jersey Health Foundation reviewers

- i. Have the guidelines been followed and application correctly completed?
- ii. Does the area of research address an important problem today?
- iii. Does the proposal communicate the importance of the work and the enthusiasm of the applicant?
- iv. Does the application indicate that this grant will be used as leverage to obtain further funding to advance the research?
- v. Are the objectives clearly defined and is the basic question to be answered clearly identified? Is the methodology well thought out and reasonable to achieve the objectives?
- vi. Is the amount requested reasonable and consistent with the budget submitted?

- F. **Application Forms, Submission and Deadlines.** Application forms can be found once the cycle starts at www.njhf.org. Applications will be accepted electronically only. Deadline dates for submission of grant applications will be posted for each award cycle. All applications are to be submitted directly to **New Jersey Health Foundation after the applicant has followed all standard approval protocols and procedures at his/her organization.**

Applicants will be asked to electronically provide:

- a one (1) page lay abstract
- a four (4) page proposal
- a CV for the principal investigator
- a letter verifying organizational support of the application
- a letter confirming matching funds (if applicable)
- a budget
- literature references (optional)

The 4 page proposal should include:

- A. Clearly presented hypothesis and goals
- B. Background
- C. Research design & methods
- D. Description of the resources and facilities available to carry out the proposed research
- E. Evaluation methodology, including statistical approach if appropriate
- F. Possible outcomes and implications for future research
- G. Previous or existing funding for this project
- H. Patent status or potential

II. **NOTICE OF AWARD**

Grant recipients and organization designees will be notified of acceptance or rejection of grants with reporting deadlines provided for accepted applications. **New Jersey Health** Foundation does not release final scores or comments.

Upon receipt of notification, awardees will also receive a Letter of Agreement to sign prior to release of funds. A sample agreement is posted at www.njhf.org.

III. **SUBMISSION DEADLINES**

Applications will not be accepted after the deadline date but may be resubmitted for the next award cycle. Deadline dates are posted at www.njhf.org.

IV. **GRANT PERIOD and PAYMENTS**

The funding period for each grant is one year. Grant awards will be made to the recipient's organization and not to the applicant directly.

V. **PUBLICITY**

New Jersey Health Foundation reserves the right to publicize its grant awards, recipient names, organizations and research titles.

VI. **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF SUPPORT**

All print, video, web site and audio materials related to the grant project or program (publications, conference presentations or patents filed) must identify and credit **New Jersey Health** Foundation for its support indicating **"This research has been funded (or funded in part) by a grant from New Jersey Health**

Foundation.” Copies or descriptions of all materials (publications, conference presentations or patents filed) arising from **New Jersey Health** Foundation grants must be supplied to **New Jersey Health** Foundation electronically through the application portal by the grantee in accordance with the recipient’s school or institute’s internal procedures. Please notify NJHF by e-mailing researchgrant@njhf.org when posting material.

VII. GRANT ADMINISTRATION

The responsibility for the financial administration of grants is delegated to the appropriate organization department or unit.

VIII. EXPENDITURES

Grants must be used to fund only direct program costs. They cannot be used to fund overhead, tuition, indirect or investment management fees.

A. Salary

Salary may not be requested for the principal investigator or the Co-PI. Salary for full-time faculty or staff members will not be considered except in unusual circumstances in which case a specific request and justification must be made to NJHF as part of the submitted budget.

B. Budget Categories

Emphasis should be given to items that specifically support project goals (as opposed to general items such as furniture, office supplies, personal computers, etc.). **Travel fund requests will not be considered except in unusual circumstances in which case a specific request and justification must be made to NJHF as part of the submitted budget.**

C. Adherence to Budget

Expenditures of grant funds must adhere to the specific categories and items in the approved grant budget. See requirement for budget changes below.

D. Equipment

Equipment provided through **New Jersey Health** Foundation funding, although designated for primary use by the grantee, must be made available to faculty, students and others throughout the recipient’s organization. All equipment purchased through **New Jersey Health** Foundation grants becomes the property of the recipient’s organization.

IX. **GRANT CHANGES**

A. **Budget Changes**

Funds may not be re-budgeted without the written approval of **New Jersey Health** Foundation. Requests must have the prior approval of the appropriate organization official. The request and organization approval of the request must then be forwarded to **New Jersey Health** Foundation for final consideration.

B. **Grant Period Changes**

1. **Effective Date**

The start date of the grant will be March 1, 2017. No changes in start date will be considered.

2. **Expiration Date.** The grant period is one year. If additional time is required, a request for an extension must be submitted to **New Jersey Health** Foundation **at least 30 days prior to the expiration date.**

Extension requests must be submitted electronically and must include an approval of the extension request by the organization official or similarly designated individual; a progress report to date; an explanation for the delay, plans to complete the project; and an interim financial report. **The number of grant extensions a principal investigator may request is limited to one (1) one-year extension.**

C. **Senior Personnel or Scope of Project Changes**

Changes in principal or co-principal investigators identified in the original grant request or changes to the scope of the project may not be made without the approval of **New Jersey Health** Foundation. Forward a written approval of the organization official or similarly designated individual along with an explanation for the requested change to NJHF consideration.

X. **RECEIPT OF ADDITIONAL FUNDING FROM OTHER SOURCES**

The principal investigator or author will notify **New Jersey Health** Foundation when funding that provides support for the project or for any budget item funded by the **New Jersey Health** Foundation grant is received from another source during the grant period. This additional funding will not affect **New Jersey Health** Foundation's commitment to the project.

XI. REPAYMENT OF UNUSED FUNDS

Any portion of grant funds unexpended and not committed at the completion of the project or at the end of the grant period, including any authorized extension thereof, must be returned to **New Jersey Health** Foundation upon submission of the final financial report.

XII. FUNDING CLOSEOUT

Grant recipients will receive 80% of their approved funding as an initial payment. **The remaining 20% will be provided upon submission and NJHF acceptance of final narrative and financial reports.**

If the final 20% is needed to complete the project, interim reports can be submitted electronically to New Jersey Health Foundation at any time prior to completion of the project. Please submit the following in order to request this funding:

1. A narrative update on the progress of the project
2. An official financial report indicating amount of funds spent to date

Following completion of the project, final reports will be due to **New Jersey Health** Foundation by the date specified in the notification letter or the extension approval notification.

Final reports to be submitted:

Final Narrative Report

The written report will give details of activities, conclusions drawn, estimation of the degree to which project goals were achieved, and a statement as to whether the grant has helped to secure additional support funds. A copy of any publication resulting from the **New Jersey Health** Foundation grant should be submitted with the final narrative report or when available.

Final Financial Report

This report must be submitted with the signature of the organization or academic institution's financial controller or his/her designee. It is understood that grant reports are made available to the **New Jersey Health** Foundation staff. All other interested persons requesting such reports will need permission from the grantee and **New Jersey Health** Foundation.

It is the responsibility of the PI to see that final narrative and financial reports are submitted on or before the due date specified in the notification letter or in the extension approval. If final narrative and financial reports are not received within 30 days of the due date, the grant will expire and all unspent funds will need to be returned to NJHF. In addition, future funding to the PI or Co-PI may be jeopardized.

XIII. **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

All research funded by **New Jersey Health** Foundation must be conducted in full compliance with the policies regarding patents, copyrights and materials transfer of both New Jersey Health Foundation AND the grantee's organization. Therefore, any research grant is awarded on the conditions that:

- The grant will only be used for performing original research as long as the grantee remains an employee or appointee of the organization; and
- Grantee agrees to comply fully with all the policies of his/her organization and with the conditions of his/her employment or appointment that are in force at the time the grant is made.
- NJHF wishes to evaluate the intellectual property to determine its interest in investing in any start-up company which would require a license for the aforementioned intellectual property. NJHF has the right of first refusal for a period of 120 days after acceptance of the final narrative and financial reports, to license the above-referenced intellectual property into a start-up company in which NJHF's affiliate, Foundation Venture Capital Group, may invest or sub-license it through a technology holding company to a third party.