

**RESEARCH GRANTS PROGRAM
POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

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

**NEW JERSEY HEALTH FOUNDATION
155 Village Blvd
Suite 130
Princeton, NJ 08540
(908) 731-6610**

I. **THE GRANT REQUEST**

A. **Applicants**

Eligible applicants 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 \$50,000 for the annual Research program.

C. **Eligibility**

- Full-time faculty members, staff and other personnel of eligible organizations.
- Part-time faculty members, staff and other personnel are not eligible to apply as PIs.
- **Eligible organizations: Cooper University Health Care, Hackensack Meridian Health, Kessler Foundation, New Jersey Institute of Technology, Princeton University, Rowan University, Rutgers University, Stevens Institute of Technology and University Hospital.**
- ***Only applicants who have followed all their organization's policies and procedures prior to submission to NJHF will be considered.***

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**

The New Jersey Health Foundation Review Committee will consider the following criteria:

- 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

Applications will only be accepted electronically through the New Jersey Health Foundation grant submission portal. The link to the portal can be found at www.njhealthfoundation.org once the cycle starts. Deadline dates for submission of grant applications will be posted for each award cycle. **Applications will not be accepted after the deadline.**

All applications are to be submitted online only **after the applicant has followed all standard approval protocols and procedures at his/her organization.**

A previously submitted proposal may not be resubmitted, but a non-funded proposal that has been modified (due to new research data, etc.) may be resubmitted. Details on the modification must be provided on the application.

Applicants will be asked to electronically provide:

- a lay abstract limited to one (1) page, double spaced, no less than **12 point type**, 1" margins
- a proposal limited to four (4) pages, double spaced, no less than **12 point type**, 1" margins
- a CV/bio sketch for the principal investigator not to exceed five (5) pages (NIH format is acceptable)
- a letter from the PI's research dean or designated official verifying support of the submission of the grant application
- literature references (optional)
- a budget

Applications not in compliance with these layout guidelines will be disqualified.

The 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

II. **NOTICE OF AWARD**

Grant recipients and organization designees will be notified of acceptance or rejection of grants and reporting deadlines 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.njhealthfoundation.org.

III. **SUBMISSION DEADLINES**

Applications will not be accepted after the deadline date but may be submitted for the next award cycle if the deadline is missed. Deadline dates are posted at www.njhealthfoundation.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 and titles, recipient names and organizations.

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 grant submission 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, 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 must be based on time spent on the grant. Only direct fringe benefits required by law related to requested salary (i.e., taxes and insurance) are an allowable cost.

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**

Budgeted equipment over \$1,000 must include justification. All budgeted equipment must have a useful life of greater than one (1) year.

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. Please contact New Jersey Health Foundation for instruction on how to submit your budget change request through the grant submission portal for final consideration and approval.

B. Grant Period Changes

1. Effective Date

The start date of the grant will be set forth in the letter of agreement. No changes in start date will be considered.

2. End 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 end date.**

Extension requests must be submitted electronically through the grant submission portal and must include the following:

- An approval of the extension request from the Research Dean or other designated organization official
- A narrative that includes a progress report and the reason for the delay
- An official interim financial report indicating funds spent to date and funds remaining

Please contact New Jersey Health Foundation for instruction on how to submit your extension request through the grant submission portal.

The number of grant extensions that can be requested 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 application or changes to the scope of the project may not be made without the approval of New Jersey Health Foundation. Please contact New Jersey Health Foundation for instruction on how to submit your request for a change through the grant submission portal for final consideration and approval.

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 within 30 days of receipt of the final financial report.

XII. FUNDING CLOSEOUT

Grant recipients will receive 80% of their approved funding as an initial payment.

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.

The remaining 20% will be provided following the electronic submission and approval of the final narrative and financial reports by New Jersey Health Foundation.

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, detail on any additional funding that has been secured because of this grant, any publications, presentations, etc., generated as a result of this grant, and future steps, if any. 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 the 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:

- Payment of remaining 20% of grant funds will not be awarded
- Future funding to the PI or Co-PI will be jeopardized