



PRIVATE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES: JUN 10, 2016

Please contact Corporate & Foundation Relations in the Office of Development at devcfr@mgh.harvard.edu if you wish to submit a proposal in response to any of these opportunities. Note that proposals are still routed through the standard InfoEd/Research Management process.

1. Novel Research Grants - New Research Grants for Novel Approaches to Lupus, Alliance for Lupus Research (ALR) New

Novel Research Grants provide early stage support for exceptionally creative and innovative approaches to major challenges in lupus research. Successful proposals will advance novel hypotheses and/or technologies that have the potential to stimulate new research directions and propel the field forward. Applications will be judged principally on novelty of the hypotheses, scientific quality, strength of approach, relevance to lupus, likelihood of success, and potential impact for those living with lupus. Rationale for the hypotheses proposed rather than amount of preliminary data will be emphasized. Continuations of long-term research projects are not appropriate for this submission.

The program goals are to stimulate investigation of underexplored pathways and initiate transformative discoveries in lupus that can drive the development of safer and more effective treatments. Investigations into the fundamental mechanisms of lupus and its complications, explorations of novel targets and pathways, and applications involving novel technologies and interdisciplinary approaches are particularly encouraged.

The Lupus Research Institute also encourages projects based on novel explorations of lupus biology, including innovative studies that use human material to address the physiological, cellular, molecular and/or genetic basis of human lupus.

Award Amount: \$300,000 paid over 3 years

Application Deadline: Jul 1, 2016

Website: <http://www.lupusresearch.org/lupus-research/for-researchers.html>

2. Distinguished Innovator Awards in Lupus and Autoimmunity, Alliance for Lupus Research (ALR) New

Advances across many disciplines have led to novel treatments that aim to suppress the manifestations of lupus. Yet few interventions are being developed that seek to reverse or prevent the disease. LRI Distinguished Innovators will address this gap by pioneering research into the fundamental, causative pathways of lupus.

*Do you want to learn more about identifying external funding opportunities?
See [ECOR's website](#) for information on the funding opps database, COS Pivot or
contact Amy Robb arobb@mgh.harvard.edu for a research consultation.*

In pursuit of this goal, the LRI welcomes novel, hypothesis- or discovery-driven proposals in human and/or animal model based lupus research. The research proposal must aim to uncover the fundamental causes of lupus and present a compelling vision of how the discovery would lay the groundwork for a potential cure, prevention, or highly effective therapy.

The expert review panel will judge applications primarily on the novelty and potential of the research proposal, and the strengths and track record of the investigator. Emphasis will be on the rationale for the hypothesis rather than the amount of preliminary data. Continuations of long-term research projects will not be considered.

ALR encourages applications from investigators in diverse disciplines including, but not limited to, immunology, genetics, molecular-, cell- and systems biology.

Award Amount: \$1 million paid over 4 years

Application Deadline: Jul 8, 2016

Website: <http://www.lupusresearch.org/lupus-research/for-researchers.html>

3. Macular Degeneration Research Standard Award, BrightFocus Foundation

The standard award provides significant funding for researchers who have already generated some amount of preliminary data, but are often required to demonstrate additional, significant progress before they can apply to governmental or industrial funding agencies.

Since 1999, the Macular Degeneration Research (MDR) has awarded more than \$21.5 million to support research into the causes and potential prevention strategies and treatments of macular degeneration disease. MDR is currently supporting 40 biomedical researcher projects.

Award Amount: \$160,000 paid over 2 years

LOI Deadline: Jul 19, 2016

Website: <http://www.brightfocus.org/grants/types-grants>

4. Brian D. Novis Senior Research Award, International Myeloma Foundation (IMF)

These awards go to researchers doing work in the field of multiple myeloma and related disorders including smoldering myeloma, MGUS (monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance) as well as immunoglobulin derived amyloidosis.

These awards are designed for projects which represent a different focus, direction, or area of research from those in which they are currently funded. In most cases, these awards will be for pilot projects to obtain sufficient funding for larger applications from NIH or similar larger funding agencies.

Award Amount: \$80,000 for 1 year

Application Deadline: Aug 1, 2016

Website: <http://myeloma.org/ArticlePage.action?tabId=4&menuId=8&articleId=69&aTab=4&gParentType=menuitem&gParentId=8&parentIndexPageId=19>

5. Bridge to Independence Award, Simons Foundation/ Simons Foundation Autism Research Initiative (SFARI)

The Simons Foundation Autism Research Initiative (SFARI) seeks to improve the understanding, diagnosis and treatment of autism spectrum disorders by funding innovative research of the highest quality and relevance.

The autism research community has expanded substantially in recent years and SFARI has contributed to this change by attracting outstanding established scientists to the field of autism. In order to sustain this level of scientific excellence in future years, SFARI is extending support to promising early-career investigators. One of the most salient milestones in a scientific career is the transition from formal mentorship to an independent position. Unfortunately, this transition has become increasingly tenuous in recent years, in part because of the decreasing number of tenure-track faculty positions, compounded by the increasing number of PhD graduates and postgraduate traineeships. SFARI created the Bridge to Independence Award program to address this issue and to encourage continued excellence in the autism research field.

Grants awarded through the Bridge to Independence Award program are intended to invest in the next generation of top autism investigators by identifying talented early-career scientists interested in autism research and facilitating their transition to an independent research career.

This request for applications (RFA) is aimed at senior postdoctoral fellows who intend to seek tenure-track faculty positions during the 2016-17 academic year. Successful applicants will be notified that they are finalists in the Bridge to Independence Award program and will have one year to submit an approval application, which includes confirmation of a tenure-track professorship at a U.S. academic institution, review of the institution's research environment and resources, and institutional signoff. After the Simons Foundation accepts the approval application, the finalist will become a grantee and receive a commitment of \$150,000 per year over three years, awarded through their faculty appointment institution.

Award Amount: \$450,000 paid over 3 years

Letter of Recommendation Deadline: Aug 1, 2016

Stage 1 Application Deadline: Aug 8, 2016

Website: <https://sfari.org/funding/grants/bridge-to-independence-rfa/bridge-to-independence-award-request-for-applications>