



December 10, 2014

Research Funding Announcement

High Impact Pilot Projects on Myasthenia Gravis and Related Neuromuscular Junction Disorders

The Myasthenia Gravis Foundation of America requests submission of proposals to support pilot studies that are highly focused and innovative. A clear plan of how success will be assessed is mandatory, for example funding leads to new grant support, patent application, or alteration in clinical or research practices. with a clear plan that will lead to new federal, pharmaceutical, or private foundation supported investigations. The proposal should be within the scope of the research agenda of the Myasthenia Gravis Foundation, which may be found at www.myasthenia.org. The MGFA will fund highly meritorious projects with a maximum direct cost of \$50,000 per year and a maximum 10% indirect cost rate. Funds may be expended over 2 years.

The applicant must provide a detailed budget in the format used for NIH budgets. There are no specific budget restrictions but all aspects of the budget must be clearly justified. If Principal Investigator salary support is requested, then a letter from a department chair or equivalent must accompany the application to assure that the PI is afforded protected research time for the project.

The application consists of a five page research section, which should include specific aims, background/preliminary data, innovation, and approach sections. There is no limit to the reference section. A separate single page section should describe how the funds will be used to develop future support. This section should be as specific as possible, and this future plans section is critical in the review process. A copy of a funding agency review, which supports the need to obtain preliminary data, would be evidence of specific plan for future support. Such material may be included in an appendix.

Proposals will be reviewed by the MGFA research committee as well as ad hoc reviewers when required. The RFA is open to established and new investigators. The funding is restricted to principal investigators in academic institutions in the United States and Canada , although collaborators may reside outside North America.

Proposals should be submitted by email to Tor Holtan, (THoltan@kellencompany.com) no later than February 27, 2015. A preliminary review to assure compliance with guidelines will be performed, followed by scientific review. Funding notification is expected by May 15, 2015 and funds provided by July 1, 2015. Two grants are expected to be awarded.