



MYASTHENIA GRAVIS
FOUNDATION OF AMERICA, INC.®

New Research Funding Announcement

Transformative Research Awards for Myasthenia Gravis and Related Neuromuscular Junction Disorders

The Myasthenia Gravis Foundation of America requests submission of proposals to support investigations that are focused, innovative, and highly likely to produce fundamental alterations in the understanding of myasthenia gravis and related disorders. 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. Investigators must have a track record of success. 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 \$250,000 and a maximum 10% indirect cost rate. Funds may be used over a two year period. Preference will be given to projects that document existence of matching support from federal, industry, non-profit organizations, or academic partners for the project.

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 an eight 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, as future plans section is critical in the review process.

Proposals will be reviewed by the MGFA research committee as well as ad hoc reviewers when required. Project(s) considered appropriate for funding will then be reviewed by the MGFA Board to assure the work is in line with organization priorities. Because of the extremely high expectations for these awards, it is expected that scientifically sound projects may not receive support. 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 April 1, 2015. A preliminary review to assure compliance with guidelines will be performed, followed by scientific review. Funding notification is expected by September 1, 2015 and funds provided no later than January 1, 2016. Prior to receipt of funds the PI must provide their institutions conflict of interest declaration for review. Two grants are expected to be awarded.