

National Academy of Neuropsychology
Clinical Research Grants Program
Request for Applications

The National Academy of Neuropsychology is committed to the professional and scientific development of clinical neuropsychology. The mission of the *Clinical Research Grants Program* is to support meritorious small grants, pilot projects, or seed grants that address the value, worth, or efficacy of clinical neuropsychological assessment or interventions. These projects might be overlooked by traditional granting agencies because of their applied clinical nature or stage of development. Pilot or seed proposals should demonstrate how they will lead to future funding.

Characteristics of Projects

The National Academy of Neuropsychology grants program currently seeks projects broadly related to the concept of population health. Population health research, though lacking a unanimously agreed upon definition, may be thought of as being concerned in part with the pattern or interaction of determinants (*e.g., cognitive, genetic, social*) of health outcomes (*e.g., quality of life, resource utilization, course of illness*). Such research may include topics such as:

- ❖ Identification of differences in determinants of an outcome across populations (*e.g., what combination of cognitive and social support factors predict quality of life in patients with schizophrenia versus those with bipolar disorder*).
- ❖ Identification of determinants of disparate outcomes between subgroups (*e.g., gender, race/ethnicity, SES, geography*) within the population (*e.g., are there racial differences in the neuropsychological predictors of stroke and any associated mediators or moderators*).
- ❖ Influence of different determinants over the life cycle or across time (*e.g., demographic, cognitive, and neuroimaging predictors of short- and long-term healthcare utilization in survivors of childhood cancer*).
- ❖ Risk stratification, the identification of high-risk or complex patients based on a combination of factors such as cognitive impairment and medical and/or behavioral comorbidities to inform treatment planning and management (*e.g., identification of the characteristics of patients less likely to be compliant with an evidence-based treatment*).
- ❖ Development of more effective screening tools in healthy and/or clinical populations (*e.g., cognitive screening in emergency room or primary care settings to identify older adults at high risk for poor outcome or in need of specialist intervention*).

Within this context, projects that focus on novel analyses of existing national or large-scale datasets (an example list of databases can be found on the NAN Grants Program page), address issues of diversity, and have the potential to lead to future funding or significant innovations for the field of neuropsychology are especially encouraged. Projects do not need to have all these characteristics to be successful.

Preference will be given to projects that closely fit this specific RFA, but projects that do not fit well but are nonetheless relevant to the mission of the NAN Grants Program (as noted above) will also be considered.

Applicants are encouraged to review the list of past funded grants on the NAN website (www.nanonline.org). Direct any questions about the appropriateness of the topic or project to the committee chair (contact information is below).

Budget and Related Issues

All selected grants will be funded for one year. No-cost extensions are possible pending review and approval by the Clinical Research Grants Committee.

Maximum awards are \$15,000 and applicants should carefully justify their budgeted expenses. Any scientific overlap with other projects should be described in the budget justification section of the application. Indirect or institutional costs and conference travel are not allowed.

Awardees are required to present the results of their work as part of a NAN sponsored webinar that will be free to members within six months of project completion. Awardees are also required to submit their first manuscript of research supported by their NAN grant for possible publication in the *Archives of Clinical Neuropsychology*.

Grant Evaluation Criteria

Grant proposals will be evaluated on the following criteria:

1. **Significance of Research Idea** [originality]
2. **Relevance to Mission of Grants Program** [study responds to the specific interest of the RFA, and if not, otherwise aligns with the stated mission]
3. **Research Methodology** [soundness of study design and proposed data analyses, feasibility, availability of participants]
4. **Ability to Complete Project** [background of the principal investigator in the application area (and appropriateness of mentorship if postdoctoral fellow), environment/resources to complete research, and timeline for completing project]
5. **Significant Innovation for Neuropsychology or Likelihood to Lead to Future Funding** [results will make contribution to neuropsychology, pilot or seed grant will lead to future funding]
6. **Appropriateness of Budget** [return to the profession for the number of dollars expended, PI has time allotted for the project via NAN grant budget or otherwise]
7. **Diversity** [inclusive of race/ethnicity, language, sexual orientation, sensory/motor impairment, etc.] Applicants should describe the ways in which diversity is/is not relevant

to the outcomes of the proposed research and the degree to which the proposal responds to this need. It is recognized that many proposals will not directly address diversity. However, the NAN review committee expects applicants to carefully consider the relevance of diversity to the application of their research findings. For example, the application should describe how diversity is represented in the population under study, address the limitations of generalizability of study findings to particular diverse groups (e.g., ethnic minorities, socioeconomically disadvantaged persons), discuss how the study will approach potential confounds related to issues of diversity.

Each grant will receive peer review by 2-3 individuals who will rate the application according to these criteria. General grant proposal writing resources can be found on the NAN Grants Program page.

Eligibility Requirements

Grants are awarded to any NAN member (Professional, Postdoctoral/Early Career, Associate levels) who is employed in private practice, institutional, and/or academic settings. The committee will only consider one proposal per applicant.

NAN board members, NAN committee chairs, and members of the NAN Clinical Research Grants committee may not apply.

Application Deadlines

The deadline for filing an application is June 1, 2018. Funding is expected to begin September 1, 2018.

Additional Information

Resubmissions. Applicants may resubmit an application reviewed during a previous grant cycle. The application should include a one page response to reviewers' critiques and marked changes or additions to the application (bold, italic, or other indication).

Setting. The applicant must be in a setting that will facilitate the proposed research. Past awardees have worked in a variety of settings, including universities, community hospitals, academic medical centers, rehabilitation centers, and private practices.

Postdoctoral Fellows. If the applicant is a postdoctoral fellow, the application must include a letter of support from the primary mentor.

IRB Approval. Prior to disbursement of funds, the project must receive IRB approval. Individuals who do not have access to an institutional IRB should consider identifying a collaborator at an institution with an IRB or making arrangements for review of the project by a commercial/private IRB. Costs for a private IRB should be included in the proposed budget.

Progress Reports. Grantees are required to submit quarterly progress reports using the NAN Clinical Research Grants quarterly report template.

Information and application materials are available at www.nanonline.org or contact:

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