



NAN CLINICAL RESEARCH GRANTS

2026 Request for Applications (RFA)

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 TO BE SUPPORTED

The *National Academy of Neuropsychology (NAN) Clinical Research Grants* program seeks innovative projects that investigate the role of neuropsychology in women's brain health. Women make up the overwhelming majority of people affected by neurodegenerative disorders, and NAN plans to address this gap in the research. Advances in brain health create new avenues for assessing and monitoring neuropsychological functioning in relation to cognitive well-being.

Preference will be given to projects that address at least one of the following:

- Use neuropsychological tools to study the mid-life period, when women experience changes associated with declines in ovarian hormone production
- Examine brain function (e.g., through neuroimaging, assessment methods, etc.) in women
- Utilizing neuropsychological assessment to evaluate reduction of risk of neurological disorders in women
- Assessment of lifestyle factors (e.g., cognitive activities, physical activities, nutrition, etc.) that enhance brain health in women

Both cross-sectional and longitudinal research projects will be considered, but completion of the project must be feasible within the maximum 2-year period of funding. Preference will be given to projects that closely fit this RFA. Projects that do not fit closely, but are nonetheless relevant to the mission of the NAN Grants Program (as noted above) may also be considered. Projects that have strong potential to lead to future funding are especially valued.

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

- Proposals may request funding to be distributed over 1 or 2 years. No-cost extensions are possible pending review and approval by the Clinical Research Grants Committee.

- The maximum award budget is \$15,000 in total regardless of whether the proposed project is to be conducted over 1 or 2 years. Up to 10% of the total award budget can be allocated to cover indirect costs (i.e., *direct costs + indirect costs = maximum of \$15,000*). For example, \$13,500 direct costs + \$1,500 indirect costs = \$15,000 total budget.
- Applicants should carefully justify their budgeted expenses. Conference travel may not be included in the budget.
- Any scientific overlap with other projects should be described in the budget justification section of the application.
- Awardees may be asked to engage in promotional activities with NAN related to their NAN CRG funded project.
- Awardees are required to submit a manuscript based on the full study for possible publication in *Archives of Clinical Neuropsychology*. It will go through the usual review process for submissions to the journal, thus publication is not guaranteed. Other manuscripts generated based on the data acquired may also be submitted to the journal.

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 the timeline for completing project]
5. **Significant Innovation for Neuropsychology or Likelihood to Lead to Future Funding** [results will make a 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, sex, language, sexual orientation, gender identity, sensory/motor impairment, sociocultural factors, and socioeconomic status, 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 at least 2-3 members of the NAN Clinical Research Grants committee, 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 Professional or Associate Member* in good standing who is employed in private practice, institutional, and/or academic settings.

NAN Trainee members who are currently postdoctoral fellows are eligible to apply. If they will no longer be a trainee at the time of the award, they must provide a Letter of Support (submitted as part of their application) from the department chairperson at their new work setting indicating that the institution will support their effort on the grant and that it has the necessary resources to complete the proposed work (e.g., facilities, materials, access to research population).

NAN Trainee members who are currently completing a predoctoral internship may apply, but postdoctoral status must be achieved by the time the grant is awarded. They must also provide a Letter of Support (submitted as part of their application) from the director of neuropsychology training at their new setting indicating that the institution will support their effort on the grant and that it has the necessary resources to complete the proposed work (e.g., facilities, materials, access to research population).

Graduate students are otherwise not eligible.

NAN grants cannot be used to fund graduate level research.

NAN board members, NAN committee chairs, and members of the NAN Clinical Research Grants committee are not eligible.

Applicants must be a member of NAN at the time of award and maintain membership throughout the period of funding.

The committee will only consider one proposal per applicant (e.g., an applicant cannot be a PI on one proposal, as well as a mentor or co-investigator on another proposal).

APPLICATION DEADLINES

The deadline for filing an application through email to NANGrants@nanonline.org is **May 1, 2026**.

Funding is expected to begin October 1, 2026.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Resubmissions. Applicants may resubmit an application reviewed during a previous grant cycle. The application should include a 1-page *Response to Reviewers'* critiques, as well as marked changes or additions to the application (please use highlight). The resubmission must, however, adhere to the 1-page limit for the Specific Aims page and the 5-page limit for the Research Strategy & Plans.

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.

Trainee Members. If the applicant is a predoctoral intern or postdoctoral fellow, the application must include a letter of support from their primary mentor for the proposed project.

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 the 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.

End of Project / Funding. At the close of the NAN funded project, the PI is required to submit a letter to the NAN Clinical Research Grants Committee (Ellen.Woo@ucsf.edu) clearly stating that the funds were used solely for the purpose of completing the funded project and whether any funds were unspent. If there are unspent funds, these must be returned to NAN (the NAN Office will contact the PI to arrange for the return of remaining funds).

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

Interested individuals are strongly encouraged to contact the NAN Clinical Research Grants Program Officer or Chair (see emails below) to discuss the fit of their project idea with the RFA prior to submitting their proposal.

Program Officer:

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Chair, Clinical Research Grants Committee

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