



2022 Seed Grant Program Request for Proposals (RFP)

FFOR is seeking applications for innovative, potentially high-impact pre-clinical, translational or clinical research from investigators around the world. We seek to support projects that have the potential to significantly advance the understanding of the pathophysiology of OCD and/or improve the treatment of severe OCD.

General Award Characteristics and Eligibility

- The project award period is 3 years.
- The total funding is \$600,000 direct costs; \$200,000/year for 3 years.
- Maximum indirect costs of 10% can be added to these amounts.
- Applicants must have principal investigator (PI) status at their home institutions at the rank of Assistant Professor (or equivalent) or above at an academic or other non-profit research institution within or outside the United States.
- Applicants should have demonstrated productivity in a scientific field that can be applied to the study of the causes and treatments of OCD.
- A maximum of five awards will be given. At least two will be given to junior faculty (or equivalents)
- Multiple applications will be accepted from a single institution, provided that each application has a different PI and represents independent research.
- The proposal should not overlap with existing funding.
- Continuation of the awards for second and third years of research will be dependent upon review of an annual progress report by FFOR's Board of Directors and SAB.
- Awardees will be expected to attend the annual retreat of FFOR's participating scientists.

FFOR seeks applications covering a broad range of topics and approaches that have the potential to dramatically change understanding of OCD pathophysiology or dramatically improve its treatment. Virtually any pre-clinical/basic science, translational or clinical research topic will be considered. Cross-disciplinary collaborative projects are encouraged. Examples of relevant research include, but are not limited to studies that aim to:

- Discover the molecular, cellular, synaptic, or circuit basis of prominent OCD symptoms in model organisms including non-human primates or humans. **However, this year we will not consider projects using rodent models.**
- Identify and/or test pharmacological and non-pharmacological therapeutic targets.
- Advance biomarker development for OCD to improve diagnoses and/or treatment outcomes.
- Explore the role of the immune system or microbiome in OCD.
- Develop new models or refine existing models of OCD.



Application and Review Process

- Applications will be in the form of a short “Letter of intent” (LOI). This will entail a 2 page (maximum) high level description of the proposed project including a brief introduction, specific aims, methods, figures/diagrams and impact if successful. (A third page may include references). An NIH style biosketch, which includes other support, should be included.
- The FFOR SAB along with current FFOR investigators will review LOI’s and up to 5 will be funded.

To apply: Please download the directions and cover page at FFOR.org/grants

For additional information: please contact Dr. Robert Malenka, FFOR Lead Scientist:
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