



INTERNATIONAL
FOXP1
FOUNDATION

Request for Proposals Funding Cycle 1

Description:

The International FOXP1 Foundation is seeking grant proposals for projects that directly address the Foundation's research mission: *To accelerate the development of effective treatments for FOXP1 Syndrome*. Proposals should explore a novel aspect of FOXP1 function that may support identification/characterization of drug targets, therapeutic candidates, or aspects of FOXP1 biology (including genes that regulate or are regulated by FOXP1), and/or neurodevelopmental outcomes suitable for intervention by a future therapeutic. Both basic and pre-clinical translational research is encouraged. All applications should indicate how projects will advance the Foundation's research mission.

Timeline:

RFP released: Monday, **April 1, 2024**

Letter of intent deadline: **Friday, September 13, 2024, 11:59pm ET**

Invitations to submit full proposals sent by: **Tuesday, September 24, 2024**

Full application deadline: **Friday, November 1, 2024, 11:59pm ET**

Announcement of Awards: **January 2025**

We expect to release an RFP for another funding cycle near the end of 2024, with Letters of Intent due in May or June 2025.

Eligibility:

- Applicants must hold PI status at a university/institution or an organization with 501(c)(3) status.
- Applicants must have an MD, PhD, or MD/PhD. Applicants with a master's degree in life sciences are also eligible if they are in a full-time academic position.
- Open to all stages of investigators post-graduate degree.
- Applicants working in all countries are welcome to apply.
- Co-Principal Investigators on the application are allowed.

Funding ranges, duration, and indirect costs:

Indirect costs will be paid at a rate of 10% of direct costs. Grants will typically be awarded up to a maximum of \$75K including indirect costs for the first year. To complete a project requiring more than one year, PIs may submit a request to continue a research program in the following cycle. Funding for follow-on years will be contingent upon adequate progress achieved in the first year. Funding amounts for follow-on years can vary from initial requests. Our hope is to increase funding amounts in the future. If no additional funds are required, PIs can request a no-cost extension for up to 1 year.

Exceptions to the funding limit and to the 1-year duration of the initial awards may be granted. PIs seeking multi-year funding should present a strong argument that guaranteed multi-year funding is critical to project feasibility and success. If granted, the funding cap stated above will apply for each year, and projects must be concluded within 3 years of the start date. Similarly, projects that may have a profound impact toward the Foundation's mission and require funds in excess of \$75K may be proposed. Proposals that combine funding from the IFF with other sources are welcome.

Preference will be given to projects that adhere to the 1-year time frame and demonstrate efficient use of the funding provided. For this reason, applicants may choose to submit proposals requiring less than the \$75K maximum.

RARE-X Data Collection Site:

The IFF would like to make researchers aware of the RARE-X Data Collection program, which has caregiver-entered data for over 200 patients with FOXP1 Syndrome. Researchers may request access to the data at this site:

<https://forms.monday.com/forms/02fc5ad2b4b1a75e1d3520b913d73ecb>

Researchers may request data regardless of whether a proposal is submitted to this RFP, and use of the data will not affect the evaluation of proposals.

Letter of Intent:

Applicants must submit a letter of intent by September 13, 2024 in the form of a scientific abstract (250 word limit) describing their project *prior* to full submission of an application. PIs will be notified by September 24, 2024 whether they have been selected to submit a full proposal. Full proposals are due by November 1, 2024. Early submission of letters of intent prior to the September 13 deadline is highly encouraged.

Review process:

After final submissions are received, proposals will be sent to external reviewers. External reviewers will evaluate proposals based on the criteria below and submit their evaluations to the IFF. The Board of Directors and Scientific Advisory Board of the IFF will make final funding decisions.

Submission process:

All required components should be sent as a combined PDF email attachment to research@foxp1.org and CC to Dr. Samit Dasgupta (sdasgupta@foxp1.org) with the subject line: "Letter of Intent–PI Full Name–Cycle 1" for the letter of intent and "Proposal Submission–PI Full Name–Cycle 1" for the full proposal. By submitting the LOI and application, the applicant provides IFF permission to provide the materials to external reviewers, the IFF Board and Scientific Advisory Board for evaluation purposes.

Required Components:

By September 13, 2024:

- **Letter of Intent** – scientific abstract describing the proposed project (≤ 250 words)

By November 1, 2024 (full application components):

The following information should be organized in this order within the PDF. Please use NIH formatting guidelines, particularly with respect to font and line spacing, as described here:

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/format-and-write/format-attachments.htm>.

- **Project title**
- **Lay abstract** (≤ 250 words)
- **Scientific abstract** (≤ 250 words) – can be the same as the letter of intent or have minor updates.
- **Specific Aims** (≤ 1 page)
- **Research strategy** (≤ 3 pages not including references)
 - Should include background/significance, innovation, research approach including rationale, preliminary data (if applicable), methods, analysis plan, anticipated results/potential pitfalls/alternative approaches.
 - References should be included and do not count towards the page limit.
 - All graphs/charts must fit within the 3-page limit.
- **Description of Translational Potential** (≤ 1 page)
 - Explain why the proposal plays an important role in a specific path toward the development of a treatment for FOXP1 Syndrome.
 - This section should be written to be understandable by both scientific and layperson audiences.

- **Data Management and Sharing Plan**

- Applicants may complete the NIH Data Management and Sharing Plan found here:
<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/data-management-and-sharing-plan-format-page>
- In lieu of completing the form above, applicants may provide a summary of ≤ 1 page explaining their data management and sharing plan, including how results will be released once the project is complete (publication, website article, etc.), the plan for sharing data and possible other products produced with other researchers, etc.
- By submitting a proposal, applicants agree to deliver a 1-hour live presentation over Zoom to the IFF describing project results following study completion.

- **Budget** - Exact budget allocations as line items.

- **Budget justification** - Short descriptions explaining budget line items.

- **CV or NIH-format biosketch of PI and any Co-PIs** (≤ 5 pages)

Review criteria:

- Impact to forward the Foundation's research mission: *To accelerate the development of effective treatments for FOXP1 Syndrome.*
- Investigator background and track record, and likelihood of success of the proposal.
- Feasibility of experimental strategy and/or novelty of research question(s) posed, including likelihood of project goals to be met within stated time frame.
- Potential for the proposed project to make important strides towards an eventual therapeutic strategy.
- Is the budget appropriate, and is this an effective use of Foundation funds?

Successful applicants will be notified by the end of January 2025. Applicants not selected for an award will receive a summary of reviews in an anonymous fashion at this time.

For grant-related inquiries, please contact research@foxpl.org