



## Grant Application

Required Elements:
Application (see attached)
Abstract of the proposal (250 words or less): Describe your proposed project in non-technical language. The abstract must contain the central hypothesis or goal of the proposed project. If your project is selected for funding, the abstract will be posted on the CACNA1A Foundation's website ( <a href="https://www.cacna1a.org/">https://www.cacna1a.org/</a> ).
Research Strategy – Cover each of the points below for each specific aim (no page limit) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Specific aim</li> <li>2. Hypothesis</li> <li>3. Research design – background, preliminary data, experimental plan, methods and timeline</li> <li>4. Expected outcomes</li> </ol>
A statement on how the research will advance understanding and treatment of people with CACNA1A mutations (one page or less)
Citations – references can be in any style or format as long as they are consistent (no page limit)
Budget – see below for limitations (no page limit)
CV – NIH Biosketch form is acceptable (5-page limit)
Funding – current/past (3 years), pending
Optional Elements:
Letter of Support

- Formatting requirements: Use at least 11-point font and ½ inch margins
- Email the complete application as one file in PDF format to [Lisa@cacna1a.org](mailto:Lisa@cacna1a.org)
- For questions, please contact Lisa @ 203-969-6552

## General Grant Guidelines – The CACNA1A Foundation, Inc.

The purpose of The CACNA1A Foundation, Inc. is to support research that will ultimately find treatments and a cure for CACNA1A. The CACNA1A Foundation is also dedicated to educating families and healthcare providers about CACNA1A variants. As funds become available, The CACNA1A Foundation will solicit proposals for research grants from interested scientific and medical researchers. For more information, please email: [Lisa@cacna1a.org](mailto:Lisa@cacna1a.org). Grant information will also be posted on the NORD website ([www.rarediseases.org](http://www.rarediseases.org)).

While many criteria are used to judge research proposals, of primary concern to the CACNA1A Foundation Board of Directors and its Scientific and Medical Advisory Board is the ability to achieve a better understanding of CACNA1A and treatments for the disease in order to improve the quality of life for those with it.

Grants are awarded up to \$50,000 for one year on a rolling basis to support an appropriate research project, subject to fund availability and CACNA1A Foundation Board approval. The researcher may apply for a second year of funding, if offered.

### **Research Grant Policies and Procedures:**

1. CACNA1A is a rare genetic disease on the 19<sup>th</sup> chromosome. Its symptoms and severity are highly variable and substantial research is needed to understand its complexities. For this reason, The CACNA1A Foundation awards grants to applicants who seek to conduct basic, pre-clinical, translational, and clinical research projects that investigate all aspects of CACNA1A. The CACNA1A Foundation is particularly interested in funding research projects that show promise for contributing to the scientific advancement of this rare disease by:
  - Identifying novel therapies that may significantly improve the quality of life of individuals with CACNA1A;
  - Investigating an aspect of CACNA1A that is less well researched or is a promising new area for research and could make a significant contribution to the understanding of CACNA1A or its treatment;
  - Producing preliminary data that would facilitate broader or more substantial long-term funding from the NIH, research centers, foundations, or pharmaceutical companies in the future;
  - Discovering a cure for CACNA1A.
2. Proposals that have little or no relevance to CACNA1A will not be considered for funding.
3. The CACNA1A Foundation strongly encourages interdisciplinary collaboration and the sharing of resources as a means of accelerating progress in CACNA1A research. We are committed to sharing biospecimens, cell lines, animal models and de-identified data. Any content resulting from research funded by the CACNA1A Foundation is for public use in an effort to educate and promote further discovery.

4. The CACNA1A Foundation endorses the principles of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) report, “The Maintenance of High Ethical Standards in the Conduct of Research.” The CACNA1A Foundation follows U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH) Guidelines for the humane care and use of animals in research and for the use of human subjects in research. Grantees are expected to comply with all local government regulations regarding the participation of human subjects and the use of animals in research.

### **Applicant Eligibility:**

To be eligible to apply for research grant funding from The CACNA1A Foundation, individuals or teams of applicants must demonstrate the following:

- Applicant(s) must have a Ph.D., M.D., or equivalent degree;
- Applicant(s) must currently hold a full-time position at any level (post-doctoral, research scientist, assistant/associate/full professor, etc.) at a qualified non-profit academic institution.
- Applicant(s) will be considered from both the United States and internationally although proposals must be submitted in English.

### **Funding Guidelines and Limitations:**

Funding is limited to \$50,000 USD for one (1) year. The following will not be funded by The CACNA1A Foundation:

- Overhead or indirect costs;
- Collaborator salaries;
- Salaries or stipends for students;
- General institutional expenses;
- General fundraising campaign expenses such as dinners and mass mailings;
- Religious, political, or other research that does not fall within The CACNA1A Foundation’s areas of interest;
- Miscellaneous expenses unrelated to the research project including but not limited to journal subscriptions, advertisements, tuition fees, professional society dues, meals, receptions, or parking fees.

Research grant funds awarded by The CACNA1A Foundation must be used for the specific purpose for which they were originally intended in the grant proposal. Any funds not used in the manner specified in the grant award must be returned to The CACNA1A Foundation. Applicant(s) may apply for an extension in writing no later than two months before the end of the grant period to use the remaining funds at the end of the grant period.

Grant recipients shall provide The CACNA1A Foundation Board with a one to two-page mid-year Research Grant Progress Report summarizing results obtained with funds provided by The CACNA1A Foundation. The Report must indicate plans for publication of research findings in scientific or medical journals. The CACNA1A Foundation requests that all publications or presentations resulting from research funded by The CACNA1A Foundation include an acknowledgment of this support and, where possible, our contact information.



**Applicant's Assurance:** I certify that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I agree to comply with the terms of the conditions of the award if issued as outlined in the Grant Guidelines above. I agree to take responsibility for the scientific conduct of the project and to provide the required progress reports if a grant is awarded as a result of this application.

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Institution Representative Assurance:** I certify that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and accept the obligation to comply with the grantor's terms and conditions if a grant is awarded as a result of this application.

Signature of Signing Official: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_