



**Research Foundation**  
**Paralyzed Veterans of America**

# **PVA RESEARCH FOUNDATION**

## **POLICIES & PROCEDURES**

**FY 2023**

**PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA**

**801 Eighteenth Street, N.W.**

**Washington, DC 20006**

**202-416-7611**

**[www.pva.org/research](http://www.pva.org/research)**

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## ABOUT THE PVA RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Since its founding over 75 years ago, Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA) has worked to support our members and others living with spinal cord injuries and disabilities in achieving their goals. Our mission includes four 'pillars' to accomplish this goal:

- **Quality health care** for our members,
- **Research and education** addressing spinal cord injury and dysfunction,
- **Benefits** available as a result of our members' military service,
- **Civil rights** and opportunities that maximize the independence of our members.

In 1975, Paralyzed Veterans of America's Board of Directors formalized the research efforts by establishing a nonprofit foundation, the Technology and Research Foundation. The following year, the Foundation was legally incorporated as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, now known as the PVA Research Foundation.

## MISSION

The mission of the PVA Research Foundation is:

- To promote innovative research to find better treatments and cures for paralysis.
- To support efforts to improve the quality of life for individuals with spinal cord dysfunction until treatments are found.
- To train post-doctoral fellow investigators and encourage them to specialize in the area of spinal cord research.

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## **FUNDING CATEGORIES**

The Foundation supports two-year grants in four areas of emphasis, at varying funding levels.

➤ **Basic Science**

Laboratory research in the basic sciences related to spinal cord injury or disease.

Grants funded up to \$150,000 for 2 years.

➤ **Clinical Applications**

Clinical and functional studies of the medical, psychosocial, and economic effects of spinal cord injury or disease, and / or interventions proposed to alleviate these effects.

Grants funded up to \$150,000 for 2 years.

➤ **Design and Development/Assistive Technology**

Design and Development of new or improved rehabilitative and assistive technology/devices for people with SCI/D to improve function, which also includes improving the identification, selection and utilization of these devices.

Grants funded up to \$150,000 for 2 years.

➤ **Post-doctoral Fellowships**

Fellowships for postdoctoral students in basic science, clinical applications, or design and development, intended to encourage training and specialization in the field of spinal cord research.

Grants funded up to \$100,000 for 2 years.

Two-year awards are made as a single grant. The work plan must cover the entire 24 months of activity. Compliance with reporting requirements is a significant criterion for continued funding.

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## **ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS**

Applications are accepted from fiscally responsible organizational entities in the name of the Principal Investigator (applicant). Entities should be not-for-profit academic institutions, healthcare providers, associations, and/or organizations in the United States or Canada. PVA does not make grants to for-profit companies.

### **Applicant Citizenship**

While grantee institutions must be located in the U.S. or Canada, the applicant and key staff are not required to be U.S. or Canadian citizens. Foreign nationals may apply for grant funding. If this individual will serve as Project Director, Principal Investigator, or a Significant Project Staff Member (>20% FTE), he or she must include verification of a current United States or Canadian Visa in the application. Upon grant award, verification must be submitted with the grant acknowledgment form. If at any point in the grant cycle the visa status changes, PVA must be notified.

Visa and Permanent Resident Card verification can be accomplished by submitting a copy of his or her current visa or Permanent Resident Card that includes the expiration date. This should be submitted with the application as a supporting document.

### **Other Eligibility Requirements**

The Foundation does not fund undergraduate or pre-doctoral students.

## **SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS**

### **Special Requirement for All Grants: SCI/D Consumer Advocate**

The PVA Research Foundation is committed to involvement of individuals with lived SCI/D experience on our funded projects. A key review criterion is *impact*, how the project impacts the lives of veterans and others living with spinal cord injuries/disorders (SCI/D) and diseases including Multiple Sclerosis (MS) and Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS).

To this end, each grant project and fellowship must involve at least one person living with SCI/D, MS or ALS. This individual, who should be described as the SCI/D Advocate, will provide insights and support in assuring that the project has a positive impact on the target audience. This role can be filled by a member of the research team, in addition to their other roles and responsibilities. This can be a paid or un-paid position. A bio sketch

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for the SCI/D Consumer Advocate must be included with the application.

For both project and fellowship grants, this person should be identified by name, title, and project role in the narrative under key personnel, as well as in the budget justification.

Applicants are encouraged to use their local resources and networks to identify and recruit an SCI/D Advocate that best fits with their project. This can include contacting the local PVA Chapter, a VA medical facility or SCI/D Center, as well as long term assisted care facilities, rehabilitation facilities, or others.

### **Special Requirements for Design and Development/Assistive Technology Projects**

Grant funding for design and development projects may be used to develop drawings, schematics, or prototypes, and for the testing necessary to further the design of assistive technology devices. The Foundation prohibits the use of grant money for the expenses of bringing a product to market (e.g., patent attorney costs, mass production, promotion and marketing, etc.).

### **Special Requirements for Fellowship Applicants**

Fellowships may be granted in basic science, clinical applications, or design and development. **These grants are awarded to the fellow, not to the mentor, sponsor or host institution and may not be transferred.**

The fellow must write the proposal, although the mentor/sponsor may serve as an advisor.

Fellowship applicants must apply within 4 years of receiving a PhD, or within 4 years of completing a formal medical residency program. Applicants with more than 4 years of post-doctoral or medical experience should apply for a research grant, not a fellowship.

Fellowship applicants must have a designated and identified mentor/sponsor who is a senior-level investigator in the laboratory in which the research is to be conducted. In addition to the standard proposal contents, fellowship proposals must include:

- One 'blind' letter of support written by the mentor/sponsor. The mentor should be identified in the application and will be contacted by email to attach the blind letter of support to the application. This letter should include:
  - A statement about the applicant.
  - A brief overview of the sponsor's training and number of fellows and

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students previously trained.

- A description of the training environment provided by the laboratory and department, such as seminar programs, and availability of other investigators for discussion and consultation.
- Two additional letters of support from individuals familiar with the qualifications of the fellow. These individuals need to be identified in the application as sponsors and will be contacted by email to attach the blind letter of support to the application
- A biosketch of the mentor/sponsor (submitted as part of the “Biosketch” section of the online application).

## BUDGET REQUIREMENTS

### Allowable Costs

- While there are not specific limitations for most line items, including no salary caps, each budget item must be justified as it relates directly to the proposed research.
- Items such as salaries, wages, and travel should be based on the principles and policies of the applicant institution.
- Minor re-budgeting (less than 15% of grant total) among line items is acceptable with notification to the PVA Research Foundation. Significant budgetary changes (greater than 15%) and amendments must be requested in writing and are subject to review and approval by the PVA Research Foundation ~~Board of Directors~~
- All budgets must be submitted in U.S. dollars.

### Direct Costs

#### *Personnel Expenses*

- Grant funds may be requested for full- or part-time professional or technical support personnel who participate in the conduct of the project.



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- **Partial salaries of applicants and co-investigators are allowable**, but should be commensurate with the extent of effort in the project.
- **Fellowship applicants may request up to 100% of their stipend support.**
  - Budgeting for fellowship stipends is limited to amounts established by the applicant institution for individuals with comparable levels of postdoctoral training. Fellowship stipends must be clearly justified in the Budget Justification section.
- For each individual listed under Personnel, a project related role should be included as well as the anticipated percent of effort on the project.
  - Personnel and their role and effort on the project should be included in the Budget Justification.
- Grant contribution to employee fringe benefits will not exceed 40% of expenditures for total salaries and wages, *regardless of institutional policies*.

*Operational Costs*

- **Supplies** - direct costs of conducting the project may include expendable supplies, purchase and care of experimental animals, printing and publications, and necessary clinical tests and procedures purchased from other laboratories. All supplies must be used for conduct of the project.
- **Travel** - funds are limited to \$2,000 per grant cycle. Funds requested for travel may be used for:
  - conducting the project (e.g. travel among sites)
  - **one** trip to a Scientific meeting or conference each year of the project, at which the **applicant** will make a presentation *on the funded project*.
  - requests for travel funds should be separately identified for one or both purposes.

*Equipment*

- **Maximum Expenditure** - equipment necessary for conduct of the project must not exceed \$7,500 for the entire grant period
  - Requested equipment purchases must be integral to conduct of the proposed project and otherwise unavailable for the purpose
  - A detailed justification is required for each piece of equipment, including the actual cost of the item(s).
  - Requests for amounts exceeding \$7,500 will be considered only in exceptional circumstances and should be specifically justified, including the plan for disposition of the equipment after the grant has ended.
- **Retention** - all project equipment becomes the property of the grantee institution and is expected to be retained for use in future activities *focused on SCI/D*.

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*Consultants*

- Consultant agreements or subcontracts are allowed.
- Consultant fees may be included to obtain advice or guidance on particular aspects of the project.
- The grantee institution will be responsible for the administration of the agreements and for the accountability of the contractors.

*Contracts*

- Specialized services may be obtained under a contractual agreement or interdepartmental arrangement for services required for the project (e.g., preparation of manuscripts, conducting focus groups or surveys, prototype production expenses.)
- The grantee institution will be responsible for the administration of the agreements and for the accountability of the contractors.

**Other Direct Costs**

- Project related expenses that do not fall under one of the above categories, will be listed under Other Direct Costs

These costs should be categorized in the Budget Justification with detailed descriptions. For example: participant incentives - \$50 per session x 6 sessions per participant x 50 participants = \$15,000, DEXA Scans - \$75 /scan x 3 scans per subject x 50 subjects = \$11,250, VA IRB approval fees - \$1,500

**Unallowable Costs**

- Computers, office equipment, and furniture.
- Dues and memberships in professional societies or associations.
- Registration or tuition fees for a professional meeting/conference for someone other than the PI or for a meeting not related to the funded project.
- Cost of patient care or services not directly related to the project.
- Construction, alteration, maintenance, or rental of buildings or building space.
- Tuition remission or reimbursement for any project personnel.

**Indirect Cost Rate**

Grant contribution to institutional indirect costs is limited to 8% of total direct expenditures, regardless of the institution's actual or federally negotiated overhead rate. This is not negotiable.

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**TIMELINE FOR PROPOSALS**

The PVA Research Foundation has one grant cycle per fiscal year. The anticipated timeline for the 2023 grant cycle is:

April 1, 2022	Application submission open on <a href="http://pva.aibs-scores.org">pva.aibs-scores.org</a>
July 1, 2022	Application submission deadline
November 30, 2022	Award recipients notified
January 1, 2023	Grant projects begin

Please check [www.pva.org/research](http://www.pva.org/research) routinely for program updates and announcements.

**Deadline for Submission**

The deadline for submitting applications is **July 1, 2022**, no later than 11:59 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time [EDT], **without exception**. Only applications submitted online to [pva.aibs-scores.org](http://pva.aibs-scores.org) will be accepted.

Submit full applications early. All submissions are treated as new during each grant cycle. The applicant will need to create person records for the institutional Officials (IO) and Mentors (required for Fellowship Applicants only) and then invite them through the system, which will then email them directly with instructions to submit letters (Mentor) or to approve (IO) the application when it is submitted.

***Prospective applicants are strongly encouraged to start a submission in the system by May 1, 2022, indicating a title, keywords, abstract, proposal type and creating a person record for the applicant. This information will be used to develop the review panel in a timely manner.***

**Applications are not fully submitted until institutional approval is submitted.**

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**Notification of Grants**

Notification of grant decisions will be made to the applicants no later than November 30, 2022. You will be notified via email. Please be sure you include your full and correct email address on your application. Inaccurate or incomplete addresses may delay notifications of awards.

Please do not contact our staff to ascertain the status of your proposal, unless you have not received notification by December 6, 2022.

**Grant Start Date**

If you are awarded a grant, you will be sent a Grant Acknowledgment Form to complete and return to the Foundation office. No funds will be disbursed until we receive an original Grant Acknowledgment Form, signed by both the Principal Investigator and the Grant Administrator, together with appropriate supporting items as outlined in the grant award letter. Awarded grants will be funded for a two-year grant period beginning January 1, 2023.

If you require a grant start date up to 60 days after January 1, please state this in your application or on the Grant Acknowledgement Form. A written justification for the delay is required. Once the Grant Acknowledgement form is signed, delayed start dates will not be considered except in the case of dire emergency.

**REVIEW PROCESS**

Grant applications undergo a stringent, independent peer review for scientific merit and relevance to spinal cord dysfunction. Peer review reports are an integral part of the grant selection process. A panel of reviewers, assigned by the Peer Review contractor, will evaluate each eligible application.

Reviewers will utilize the following criteria to evaluate the applications:

- Impact on veterans and others living with SCI/D, MS, or ALS
- Innovation and Significance
- Approach
- Feasibility
- Investigators
- Facilities
- Budget

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The PVA Research Foundation Board of Directors, whose voting members are all Paralyzed Veterans of America members, makes final funding decisions, based on numerous factors, including the peer review reports. Final funding decisions rest solely with the Directors.

Upon notification of grant awards, all applicants will receive copies of their grant reviews.

**FOUNDATION STAFF CONTACTS**

**Grant application or administration questions should be directed to:**

- Lindsay Perlman  
Associate Director, Research & Education  
Phone: (202) 416-7611  
Email: [lindsayp@pva.org](mailto:lindsayp@pva.org)

**Policy or program questions should be directed to:**

- Cheryl L. Vines  
Director, Research & Education  
Phone: (202) 256-5526 or (805) 439-2804  
Email: [cherylv@pva.org](mailto:cherylv@pva.org)

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## ONLINE APPLICATION PROCESS

All application submissions **MUST** be made online at [pva.aibs-scores.org](https://pva.aibs-scores.org), which can be accessed on the PVA website, [www.pva.org](http://www.pva.org). Go to “Research Foundation” and click on “Apply Here”

You may also go directly to <https://pva.aibs-scores.org>.

General instructions for completion of PVA Research Foundation applications are available on the [pva.aibs-scores.org](https://pva.aibs-scores.org) site, under the “Files” tab:

*“General Instructions for PVA Research Project Applications”*

Please download and review the instructions before initiating your grant application.

For **technical assistance** with the online application submission process, contact Customer Service at [pva@aibs.org](mailto:pva@aibs.org), Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., EST.

1. Research Basic Science, Clinical Applications
  2. Fellowship Grants,
  3. Research Design & Development Grants,
- will be filed under **separate grant solicitations** on [pva.aibs-scores.org](https://pva.aibs-scores.org). Please be sure to use the correct award section for your application.

## SUBMISSION CONTENT

The online application includes the following components:

- Title Page (title, abstract, keywords)
- Person Records for Key Personnel (address, email, etc.)
- Eligibility Information
- Proposal Narrative (15-page maximum, not including references)
- Budget / Budget Justification
- Facilities and Resources
- Biosketches (must include one for SCI/D Advocate)
- Listing of Other Support

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- Letters of Reference (required for fellowships; optional for others)
- Organizational Assurances (e.g. IRB assurance #)
- Supporting Documents (e.g. Letters of Collaboration)
- Electronic Institutional Approval

All components of the application must be completed and submitted electronically. All submissions are considered confidential. Specific instructions for completing each component are in the General Instructions document. Applicants should adhere to templates and instructions to ensure uniformity of presentation for reviewers. Some of the components are web fields that are completed online. Others are Microsoft Word templates that you may download to your computer. You may complete these templates with any standard word processing software (e.g., MS Word or other), but you must convert completed documents to Adobe PDF format to be uploaded to the website.

Please note that upon completing a submission, a notification email will be generated by the system to your Institutional Official (the Official signing for the applicant institution whom you identified in the online applicant registration process). This Institutional Official must approve your application before it is fully submitted to the system. This must be completed before July 1, 2022, 11:59 pm EDT.

## **ORGANIZATION ASSURANCES**

The Foundation supports research in a wide variety of areas that may use animal models, human tissue, and human subjects. All applicants must comply with rules and regulations published by the National Institutes of Health on certifications and assurances regarding use of animals in research, human tissue, and human subjects. In each case, approval documents from the appropriate Institutional Review Board (IRB) or Committee must be specific to the proposed investigation, including the time period for which the grant is requested. If application for such approval has been made but has not been acted upon at the time of submission, a letter from the IRB chair or safeguard committee acknowledging the pending status, with a scheduled date for board or committee action, must accompany the application. **Official approval by the relevant board or committee must be received in the Foundation office before awarded funds will be disbursed.**

### **Animal Research**

The Foundation requires that all individuals and institutions that conduct research with Foundation funds using animals must adhere to all federal, state, and local laws pertaining to the humane care and use of animals for research purposes, including IRB

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procedures and approvals. At a minimum, the Foundation requires investigators to adhere to the following laws that provide guidelines for such research:

- The Health Research Extension Act of 1985 (Public Law 99-158, November 20, 1985), an amendment to the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. § 289d).
- The Animal Welfare Act (Public Law 89-544, August 24, 1966) and all subsequent amendments through 2013.
- The Public Health Service Policy (7 U.S.C. 2131 et seq.) on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (revised and reprinted 2015).
- The *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* (Institute of Laboratory Animal Resources, National Academy of Sciences, updated 1996).

#### **Human Tissue**

The Foundation requires that all individuals and institutions that conduct research using human tissue, including stem cells, with Foundation funds adhere to all federal, state, and local laws pertaining to the use of this tissue, including IRB procedures and approvals.

#### **Human Subjects**

Studies that involve human subjects must ensure that informed consent is obtained from the participants. A copy of the final Subject consent form must accompany the proposal (see Supporting Documents). A letter from the applicant's IRB stating that adequate protection of human subjects' rights will be provided must be submitted with the proposal.

### **AGREEMENTS WITH COOPERATING INSTITUTIONS OR AGENCIES**

Proposals for projects involving institutions or agencies in addition to the grantee (e.g., affiliated clinical facilities, laboratories conducting work under a contract, etc.) must include a letter signed by a responsible official of the cooperating facility acknowledging its role in the project and supplying such assurances as may cover any aspect of the research to be conducted in the facility. Such letters must be submitted online under the "Supporting Documents" section of the application. Copies of contracts are not required.



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## **ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF AWARD**

When a project is approved for funding, the applicant will be notified in writing.

This written notification will include:

- Instructions for submitting the Grant Acknowledgment Form
- List of required documents
- Copy of the FY23 PVA Research Foundation Policies and Procedures and the Research Foundation Frequently Asked Questions fact sheet.

Manual or electronic signatures of both the Principal Investigator and the Grant Administrator are required on the Grant Acknowledgment Form. **The Principal Investigator may NOT sign as/for the Grant Administrator. Signing this form acknowledges your acceptance of and agreement to comply with the PVA Research Foundation Policies and Procedures.**

The Grant Acknowledgment Form must be accompanied by a photo of the Principal Investigator, a lay project summary, and any other supporting documents requested in the grant award letter.

If you require a grant start date after January 1, please state this on the Grant Acknowledgment Form. A written justification for the delay is required. Grants may start no later than March 1, 2023.

**All grant payments are made by an Electronic Transfer of Funds (ETF).**

## **REPORTING AND PAYMENT SCHEDULE**

All progress and expenditure reports, as well as any supplemental documents, must be uploaded to [pva.aibs-scores.org](http://pva.aibs-scores.org).

Reports and documents are required at the beginning, midpoint and end of the grant period. Progress reports should be thorough, concise and provide detailed descriptions of accomplishment of the project goals and objectives. The reports should reflect actual progress and achievement of milestones and goals. The report should also reflect changes in personnel and barriers to progress. Supporting documents should be compiled with the report form into a single PDF document for submission.

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Expenditure reports should reflect actual, not budgeted, expenditures for the designated reporting period. After 1st payment, all payments will be based on the expenditure reports.

The Principal Investigator and Grant Administrator must sign the reports. Report templates and submission instructions will be emailed to the grantee one month prior to submission date.

<b>Reporting Schedule</b>	
<b>Grant Acknowledgment</b>	<b>The grantee must return the original signed Grant Acknowledgment Form before any funds can be disbursed to the project. Upon the Foundation’s receipt of the signed Grant Acknowledgment Form, the 1<sup>st</sup> payment on the grant will be made.</b>
<b>Interim Expenditure and Progress Reports</b>	<b>The Interim Expenditure and Progress Reports are due from the grantee within 30 days of completion of the first 6 months for a one-year project or first 12 months for a two-year project. Upon the Foundation’s receipt, review and approval</b>
<b>Final Expenditure and Progress Reports</b>	<b>The Final Expenditure and Progress Reports are due within 60 days of the completion of the project. Upon the Foundation’s receipt, review and approval of the Final Report, the 10% Retainer, initially withheld from the grant award will be sent to the grantee.</b>

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Payments are made to the grantee institution in three installments according to the following schedule:

<b>Payment Schedule</b>	
<b>Retainer</b>	<b>10% of the total award is retained by the Foundation until a grant successfully completes all requirements and final reports are received.</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Payment</b>	<b>45% of the total award is paid to the grantee upon the Foundation's receipt of the original signed Grant Acknowledgement Form.</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Payment</b>	<b>45% of the total award is paid to the grantee upon the Foundation's receipt and approval of the grantee's Interim Expenditure and Progress Reports.</b>
<b>Final Payment</b>	<b>The final payment will be based on the final expenditure report. The 10% retainer will be paid upon the Foundation's receipt and approval of the Final Expenditure and Progress Reports. If funds remain at the end of the grant period, this amount will be remitted by the recipient or will be decreased on the final payment, depending upon the amount remaining.</b>

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**AMENDMENTS AND EXTENSIONS**

**Proposed changes** to the terms of the grant agreed upon in the Grant Acknowledgment Form, including but not limited to grant period, personnel, budget, and location, must be **made in writing, at least one month** in advance of the proposed change. **This includes requests for No Cost Extensions (see following page).**

Such written requests must be signed by both the Principal Investigator and the Grant Administrator, and should detail the reason for and other relevant information about the change. Approval of any extension or amendment request must be acknowledged in writing by the Foundation to be considered binding.

**Personnel Changes**

Replacement of the Principal Investigator, Grant Administrator, or any other key personnel must be approved by the Foundation. The request must detail why the change is being made, the name of the replacement, and include biosketch and contact information for that person. **Funded fellows cannot be replaced and grants must be relinquished.** Requests for change should be submitted to the PVA Director of Research and Education.

**Budget Changes**

The project budget should be constructed carefully, as you will be expected to adhere to the approved budget in making expenditures from grant funds. The total amount of the grant cannot be increased; however, you may make minor changes within categories of your approved budget. Changes of 15% of total grant or less, **that do not change personnel costs**, may be made without approval, but should be reported. These changes must remain within PVA budgetary guidelines. **Budget changes greater than 15% of total grant amount and ALL personnel line item changes must be approved by Foundation staff in advance of making the change.** A detailed description of the reasons for change should be submitted, in writing to the PVA Director of Research and Education.

**Location Changes**

The Foundation must be notified if the Principal Investigator or Fellow intends to move from the grantee institution at any time during a funded project period. A written request must be submitted to the PVA Director of Research and Education at least 30 days in

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advance of the move. The request should state why the move is taking place, the date of transfer and new location.

The request letter must be accompanied by:

- Letter from your current institution acknowledging the move, “closing out” any fiscal responsibilities, and returning any unexpended funds to PVA.
- An interim expenditure report, reflecting expenditures made on the grant by the current institution through the date of transfer.
- Letter from the new institution agreeing to accept the grant and fiscal responsibility
- A new Grant Acknowledgement form for the remaining period, signed by the PI and the new Grant Administrator.
- If this is a Fellowship, a letter from the Mentor must be included stating how supervision of the fellowship will take place. If this results in a change in mentor, a letter from the new Mentor (with brief CV or biosketch) accepting the role.

A detailed description of the reasons for change should be submitted to the PVA Director of Research and Education.

Failure to notify the Foundation of the move and/or complete these documents in a timely manner may result in a delay in funding and or relinquishment of the grant.

### **No Cost Time Extensions (NCE)**

The Foundation will consider NCEs from grantees who determine that they will be unable to complete the project during the established grant cycle. **Requests for additional time must be submitted, in a letter signed by the PI, to the PVA Director of Research and Education at least one month in advance of the project deadline.** The request must detail the progress on the grant to date, the particular circumstances or reasons requiring additional time, an updated timeline for completion, and the length of extension requested.

**The maximum NCE is one 6-month period.** Extensions beyond 6 months of the original grant period will not be approved, except in extraordinary circumstances. All NCE requests must be submitted to PVA at least 30 days prior to the project deadline.

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The Foundation does not accept applications for funds to be used exclusively for publication, market testing, or patenting of project results.

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All parties originating the research who agree to such exclusive license also thereby agree to cooperate in the obtaining of the patent protection of the research and further agree to sign all documents necessary to obtain such protection as may reasonably be deemed necessary for such protection.

### **OWNERSHIP OF EQUIPMENT**

All allowable purchases of apparatus, equipment and materials with PVA Research Foundation grant funds will become the property of the grantee institution. These should be retained for use in further activities focusing on SCI/D research.

### **PUBLICITY AND SUPPORT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Following award of a grant, grantees are required to submit a photograph of themselves (and other relevant photos) to the Foundation together with their Grant Acknowledgment Form. Other photos may be submitted during the course of or at completion of the project. These photos may be used for publicity in Paralyzed Veterans of America's monthly magazine, *PN*, in our Annual Report, or in other publications as deemed necessary to let our readers and donors know how grant funds are being used.

The grantee institutions will cooperate with the Foundation in making announcements through the news media of the grant award. We will provide you with a sample press release about your grant that you may use to seek publicity within your host institution and peer community. Principal Investigators are encouraged to publicize the results of their projects using available avenues for dissemination (e.g., press releases, journals, conference presentations, etc.).

All awarded projects are required to prominently acknowledge Foundation support in every appropriate way (e.g., press releases, articles, posters, platform presentations).

In crediting PVA Research Foundation as a funding source, the following acknowledgment language must be used with all publicity concerning the grant:

**Supported [in part or in full, whichever is appropriate] by Grant # \_\_\_\_\_ from the Paralyzed Veterans of America Research Foundation.** In addition, any co-funding sources must be given credit in a similar statement.

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## COMPLETION OF GRANT

Upon completion of the grant:

- The grantee will have 60 days to liquidate all commitments against the grant account and submit written Final Progress and Expenditure Reports
- The grantee is required to prepare and submit a lay article (250-500 words) describing the results or outcomes of the project, with an accompanying photo. This article will be considered for publication in PN (our monthly magazine) and/or for other publicity purposes to promote PVA Research Foundation.
- Unexpended funds must be returned to the Foundation within 30 days of submission of the Final Reports. PVA does not allow any unexpended funds to be used for any purpose after grant completion.

When appropriate, photos taken in the course of your project, particularly photos that illustrate the nature of your work (for example, you working in your laboratory, demonstrating your equipment, talking with a patient or teaching a class, or a photo of materials you are developing under the grant) are requested with your final grant report. You may submit more than one photo if you like. Photos may be used in our Annual Report, as part of an article in PN or other publication. They must be high resolution, and in color.

## AMENDMENT OF POLICIES

The PVA Research Foundation reserves the right to amend these policies. By returning to the Foundation a signed Grant Acknowledgment Form, the grantee agrees to abide by any changes or to terminate the grant at such time that new policies become effective.