

FAQs about the 2024 Research Grants

Note: We will add questions that we receive through info@foundation4PT.org that we think will be beneficial to share. If there is a major update related to the ProposalCentral online application platform functionality, we will post that information here and possibly through social media. If we do update the FAQs, we will indicate on the webpage that they have been updated.

UPDATE: The deadline for LOIs for the Magistro and two Paris Patla grants has been extended to May 24 at 23:59 ET. Invitations will be issued June 6.

Latest questions submitted to @info (last updated May 7, 2024)

- **Can a post-doc fellow apply for a research grant?**

Yes. A post-doctorial fellow is considered a professional researcher.

- **Is a co-PI on a current research grant funded by the Foundation eligible to apply for a grant as a PI?**

Yes. The Foundation does not consider "co-PI" a formal term for the purposes of eligibility. Eligibility pertains solely to the Principal Investigator, and they are the applicant.

- **Can a Sponsoring Institution hold a grant from the Foundation that will be open when a new grant start, can they sign on a new grant application, so long as the PI is different from the one holding the current grant?**

Yes.

Previously posted FAQs

- **The eligibility requirements in the guidelines and LOI application eligibility questions are not clear.**

We have updated the guidelines and LOI instructions and reposted them. The eligibility requirements in all the guidelines pertain to the Sponsoring Institution and the Principal Investigator. The eligibility questions in the LOI application pertain to the Principal Investigator.

- **What if I know now that I will be changing my employment to a new institution by the time grants are awarded?**

The Principal Investigator must apply with a current employer at the time of the submission deadline. Even if they have accepted a job offer, until they are actually onboarded as staff, the new employer would not qualify to sponsor the grant. If the change happens after applying but before the Foundation finalizes a contract with the existing sponsoring institution, there is a process the

provisional grantee can undertake to request a change in institutions prior to the award being finalized. The Foundation reserves the right not to agree to a change in institutions.

- **I saw your announcement and went to ProposalCentral.com. It is not clear to me what I should do to get started.**

The simplest way to start is from our [research grants webpage](#). Scroll down to the list of available grants. Click on the + sign. You will see the guidelines and the application instructions for that grant. You need to read the guidelines carefully. The first two pages of the application instructions will show you how to access that grant on the ProposalCentral application platform. You can then proceed to follow the instructions to complete your application. If you do not understand what content you are being asked to provide, contact info@foundation4PT.org. If you need help navigating or entering information on ProposalCentral, contact PCsupport@Altum.com.

- **I am familiar with the Foundation's research grants. Has anything changed about them this year?**

Yes, there are changes in the grants we are offering, as well as in our guidelines and application requirements. There is one new grant, which is for cardiovascular and pulmonary research. We are offering the physical therapy education and the Snyder grants, which are offered biannually. This year, both the Paris Patla Manual Therapy and the Magistro Physical Therapy grants are funded at \$200k.

In terms of the application process, we have revised our requirements to simply and reduce what you need to submit. We have improved the instructions in the online application. We have updated, simplified and made our grant guidelines and their instructions easier to understand.

- **Are you encouraging any particular applications this year?**

Yes. We would like to have more applications for our new grant in [cardiovascular and pulmonary research](#), as well as the [Paris Patla Manual Therapy](#), and the [Physical Therapy Education grants](#).

- **Does the Foundation ever extend a submission deadline?**

Yes, but only for good reason and for all applicants. Extensions are announced on the website and through social media. If you are applying for a grant, it is helpful to follow @foundation4PT on X, visit our website regularly, and sign up for our newsletter.

- **Are proposals to gather pilot data or test feasibility of a research design or intervention eligible?**

As long as the application meets the requirements in the grant guidelines, the research questions, objectives, design, and scope are determined by the applicant.

- **Can a team apply for a grant?**

No. The application must be submitted by one principal investigator employed by a U.S. institution that formally agrees to sponsor the research project by having an official sign the application. However, the Foundation expects and encourages a principal investigator to be heading a team for larger or more complex research projects.

- **I am a foreign researcher on sabbatical in the U.S. Can I apply for funding?**

A foreign citizen may apply if they have the right to work in the U.S. and will be employed by a U.S.-based sponsoring institution, and will conduct all the funded research in the U.S.

- **I am finishing my PhD in March next year. Can I apply now?**

No. The applicant cannot be a student of any type any later than December 1, 2024.

- **I am a licensed PT, but I am not affiliated with any university or research institution. Can I still apply?**

Yes. But any research involving human or animal subjects will require necessary approvals or exemptions, which can be very difficult if the applicant does not have access to IRB or IACUS processes. Applicants who want to research human or animal subjects should consider partnering with a sponsoring institution that can meet the Foundation requirements concerning protections for human or vertebrate animal subjects.

- **I have applied twice and have not been successful. Can I apply again?**

Yes. An applicant can apply for one grant each year. In some cases, they may indicate in their grant application that they want to be considered for similar grants for which they might be eligible. However, the Foundation is not obligated to consider any application beyond the one for which they are directly applying.

- **Can I apply for more than one research grant in the same year?**

No. But a number of grants allow the applicant to indicate up to three other grants for which they would like to be considered. The Foundation is not obligated to consider an application beyond the original submission.

- **I am currently a post-doc. Can I apply?**

An applicant must be employed by the sponsoring institution. You must hold a physical therapy or physical therapist assistant license issued in the U.S. or one of its territories.

- **Do I need to have a DPT, PhD, Ded, or DSc to apply?**

No. There are no minimum academic requirements. See minimum requirements below.

- **What are the minimum requirements to apply?**

The following requirements apply to all grants:

- The principal investigator must hold a physical therapy or physical therapist assistant license from a U.S. state or territory.
- They must be a member of APTA at the time of application and for the life of the grant.
- They must be a U.S. citizen or a foreign citizen with a right to work in the U.S.

If the grant is sponsored by an APTA academy or section, they must be a member in addition to being an APTA member.

- **Why am I not seeing the McEwen, Digital, or Pediatrics grants this year?**

The Foundation has a number of grants that it offers every other year. Those grants were offered last year.

- **What percentage of research grant applicants receive funding?**

The Foundation makes one award for each research grant. Competitiveness varies among the grants and varies from year to year. The Foundation board may decide not to award a grant if the peer review process did not identify an application with a sufficiently high score.

- **Can I apply for a grant in a language other than English if my research will be in that language?**

The Foundation's working language is English. We encourage research conducted in languages other than English, but the application, all documents, and communication concerning the research must be in English.

- **Does the Foundation support home-based physical therapy research?**

Some grants require clinical research. Some grants do not require a specific setting.

- **If I am not successful, can I find out what I did wrong?**

Yes. All applicants will receive their score and summary comments if their application was reviewed.