

Request for Applications 2021 PeDRA Research Grants

Overview

Childhood skin diseases are associated with severe burden on patients, families, and health care providers. Despite this burden, effective treatments remain sparse and the pace of research slow. To help overcome these challenges, the Pediatric Dermatology Research Alliance (PeDRA) is committed to supporting an annual competitive research grants program. This year PeDRA is offering **PeDRA Research Grants** to support early-stage research projects where preliminary data may be lacking, and to establish infrastructure and foster collaborations that support larger-scale studies in future. Applications may be submitted by either a single investigator or multiple investigators at multiple institutions for an annual amount of **\$15,000** with the opportunity to renew for a second year of funding. PeDRA expects to award as many as eight Research Grants this cycle.

Goals

PeDRA Research Grants are driven by the mission to create, inspire, and sustain research to prevent, treat, and cure childhood skin disease. They are intended to provide financial support for early-stage studies that are unlikely to be funded elsewhere, and to provide a mentorship opportunity for both grant preparation and project execution. Ultimately, PeDRA Research Grants are expected to generate data, establish research infrastructure, and foster collaborations that form the basis for larger scale studies with a high impact on patient lives. Individual investigators and teams at any career stage are encouraged to apply.

Priority consideration will be given to early-to-mid career principal investigators collaborating with senior mentors, projects that address high-priority patient-centered research questions, and projects that align with the focus of any of [PeDRA's Focused Study Groups](#). Additional priority will be given to applications that support PeDRA's commitment to advancing equity, diversity, and inclusion across all facets of its organization and pediatric dermatology research. Diversity and inclusion strengthen the PeDRA research network and are critical to the pursuit of its mission.

Application

Applications must be submitted through the [online portal](#) and will include the following (*all files to be uploaded as single pdfs*):

1. Investigator(s), Institution, and Project Information
2. Cover Letter (*2-page maximum*)
3. Abstract (*250 word maximum*)
4. Layman's Summary (*150 word maximum*)
5. Project Proposal (*5-page maximum, not including references*) must include:
 - a. Specific Aims (*one page*)
 - b. Background and Rationale
 - c. Project Description
 - i. Methods and study/experimental design
 - ii. Primary and secondary outcome measures (*if applicable*)
 - iii. Statistical analysis
 - d. Potential pitfalls
6. Budget (*2-page maximum*) – Provide a detailed budget and brief justification that includes an explanation of any actual or anticipated overlapping funds and plans for support beyond the award period (if applicable)
7. Biosketches (*5-page maximum per biosketch*) – Provide NIH-style biosketches for the Principal Investigator and any Co-Investigators.
8. Letter(s) of support – (*Optional*) While not required, letters of support are recommended from Co-Investigators, key collaborators, and the chairperson of the Principal Investigator's department.

Review

Applications will be reviewed by the PeDRA Grants Committee based on the following:

1. Significance
2. Innovation and Impact
3. Clarity of proposal
4. Strength of approach and feasibility (including statistical analysis)
5. Strength of investigator(s) and research environment (including strength of mentorship, if applicable)
6. Strength of budget

Eligibility

Applicants need not be trained in pediatric dermatology but must hold the degree of MD and/or PhD (or equivalent) and be eligible to apply for grants under the guidelines of their host institution. Principal Investigators need not be United States citizens and the research need not be conducted in the United States. Evidence of IRB or IACUC (or equivalent) approval is required for all studies when relevant.

Award

Applicants may request up to **\$15,000 for one year (direct costs only)**. Recipients will be eligible to apply for a second year of funding through a competitive process before the end of their project term.

Renewing an Existing Award

Recipients of a 2020 Research Grant have the option to apply for a second year of funding. To do so, applicants should submit the following as a single pdf via email to Katherine Devenport (katherine.devenport@pedraresearch.org):

1. Cover letter (*2-page maximum*)
2. Progress report (*2-page maximum*)
3. Project proposal (*same format as above, 3-page maximum, not including references*)
4. Budget (*2-page maximum*) – Provide a detailed budget and brief justification that includes an explanation of any actual or anticipated overlapping funds and plans for support beyond the award period (if applicable)
5. Biosketches (*5-page maximum per biosketch*) – only required if new personnel are joining the study team

Important Dates

Preliminary deadline*: 11:59 PM PT, Thursday, September 9th, 2021

Final deadline: 11:59 PM PT, Thursday, December 2nd, 2021

Awards made: no later than March 15th, 2022

Earliest start date: May 1st, 2022

***Optional opportunity:** Investigators may submit preliminary applications before September 9, 2021 to be eligible to receive preliminary reviewer comments and discuss their applications with a representative from the PeDRA Grants Committee in October 2021. Preliminary applicants may then revise applications and submit by December 2, 2021.

Questions

For additional information, please email Katherine Devenport, at katherine.devenport@pedraresearch.org.