



PeDRA Research Grants 2024 Request for Applications

Overview

Childhood skin diseases are associated with severe burden on patients, families, and health care providers. Despite this burden, effective treatments are limited and the pace of research slow. To help overcome these challenges, the Pediatric Dermatology Research Alliance (PeDRA) is committed to supporting an annual competitive grants program. As part of this 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 to receive:

\$40,000 to be used over two years to support larger scale projects.

or

Up to \$20,000 to be used over either one or two years to support more modestly sized projects requiring less financial support or smaller scale pilot projects.

Equal consideration will be given to projects in either of the two award formats with decisions to be based upon merit and available funds. PeDRA expects to give as many as two grants in 2024 across the above award formats, dependent up on receipt of sufficiently meritorious applications.

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 projects led by early-to-mid career principal investigators collaborating with senior mentors (or vice versa), 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*) – If applicable, the cover letter should include a statement of the role that mentorship will play in the conduct of the proposed project, whether the PI is a more junior investigator working with a senior mentor or a senior investigator working with the support of more junior mentee(s).
3. Abstract (*250 word maximum*)
4. Layman's Summary (*150 word maximum*)
5. Diversity Statement (*150 word maximum*) – Should explain how the applicant and/or their research will contribute to equity, diversity, and inclusion within PeDRA and the Pediatric Dermatology community.
6. 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
7. 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)
 8. Biosketches (*5-page maximum per biosketch*) – Provide NIH-style biosketches for the Principal Investigator and any Co-Investigators.
 9. 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 / relevance to the PeDRA mission and vision
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 **\$40,000 for one or two years** or up to **\$20,000 for one or two years. Direct costs only.** For two-year projects, receipt of funding for the second year will be dependent upon satisfactory progress through the first year as demonstrated in an interim report. Applicants may request salary support as part of their budget and are encouraged to use budget to compensate support staff necessary for the efficient completion of the proposed research. Refer to [PeDRA’s Grant Guidelines](#) for more information on requesting salary support.

Important Dates

Preliminary deadline*:	11:59 PM PT, Thursday, August 8, 2024
Final deadline:	11:59 PM PT, Thursday, September 19, 2024
Awards made:	no later than December 16, 2024
Earliest start date:	February 1, 2025

***Optional opportunity:** Investigators may submit preliminary applications before August 8, 2024 to be eligible to receive preliminary reviewer feedback. Preliminary applicants may then revise applications and submit by September 19, 2024.

Questions

For additional information, please email research@pedraresearch.org.