

# National Ataxia Foundation

## Application for Young Investigator Award

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### Introduction

The National Ataxia Foundation was organized In 1957 in the state of Minnesota as a voluntary non-profit health organization. This national organization has as its primary goals:

- A. **Education-** Provide information to those families affected by the ataxias and to create public awareness of these diseases.
- B. **Service –** Provide services of referral, information, support groups and chapters.
- C. **Research –** to promote and support research to find the cause, treatment, and cure for the hereditary and sporadic ataxias.

In its continuing efforts to find the cause, treatment and cure for the ataxias, the National Ataxia Foundation (NAF) provides limited, short-term financial support of ataxia research.

This application document includes NAF guidelines relevant to its research program. It should be detached from the award application and used as a reference guide to completing the actual grant application.

**The National Ataxia Foundation will retain the right to unilaterally cancel any awards for non-compliance or non-performance. Awards are not transferable.**

**Indirect costs are prohibited from being applied to NAF grant awards.**

### Description

The Young Investigator Award was created to encourage young clinical and scientific investigators to pursue a career in the field of ataxia research. It is our hope that ataxia research will be invigorated by the work of young, talented individuals supported by this award. Candidates must have attained an MD or PhD degree, and have an appointment as a junior faculty member. Individuals at the Associate Professor level are not eligible. Clinicians must have finished their residency no more than five (5) years prior to applying

Each recipient will receive a one-year \$50,000 award. This award will be made to the sponsoring institution and will be used as salary support or for direct research expenses. Awards are for direct cost only, not for indirect costs or institutional overhead. The sponsoring institution must agree in writing to the following provision: a clinical investigator (MD) must be free to allocate a minimum of half time (50%) for a project; a non-clinician investigator

(PhD) must allocate a minimum of three-fourths time (75%) for the project. Periodic progress reports may be required.

Due to the larger availability of funding for Ataxia-Telangiectasia (A-T), those research proposals will receive a lower priority. However, a higher ranking will be given to those Ataxia-Telangiectasia research studies which lend themselves to an overall better understanding of the ataxia process.

## Pre-Submission of Application

**Please submit a brief e-mail with your intentions to apply for NAF funding, including a full title of your research proposal, on or before August 1<sup>st</sup> to: [naf@ataxia.org](mailto:naf@ataxia.org)**

## Submission of Application

Candidates must submit:

- ☐ A completed research application form.
- ☐ List of past, present and pending funding including project title, funding source, and amount of funding.
- ☐ Applications must also contain a letter of nomination from a faculty mentor to make appropriate resources available to support the project.

One original and two (2) collated copies of all parts of the application must be received on or before the due date at the National Ataxia Foundation. Original signatures must be contained on one copy of the application.

**In addition to the hard copies submitted, please e-mail the completed application in a single PDF file to: [naf@ataxia.org](mailto:naf@ataxia.org).**

Non-complying applications will be returned without review.

## Research Award and Deadline Statement

**Application Deadline: September 1**

Review by Board of Directors: December 1-24

Written notification of applicant: December 26-31

*Please do not call NAF about the status of your grant.*

Possible activation date: January 1

## **Award Management And Reporting**

A final scientific report and a laypersons summary are to be submitted to the National Ataxia Foundation electronically within four (4) months of completion of the research project or the anniversary date of funding.

The National Ataxia Foundation takes seriously its responsibility to report to its members on the use of their research contributions. Therefore, the layperson final summary will be published in the organization's newsletter, *Generations*.

This summary must be written in such a manner as to be understood by the average layperson and should not contain privileged or unpublished information.

The funding cycle is January 1 to December 31. Researchers may reapply for a second year of funding, which will be on a competitive basis.

All applications are evaluated by a committee, appointed by NAF's Research Director, who are members of NAF's Medical and Research Advisory Board. This committee will score and prioritize all grants received by the deadline. The Board of Directors will consider their recommendations for the final approval and funding.

Funding of awards is based on availability of funds, the merit score assigned to each application, and the relevance to the ataxias.

## **Change in Status of Awarded**

Awards are to remain solely with the designated awardee and may not be transferred to any other personnel. If a recipient decides not to continue work in ataxia research, the award will be terminated. In the event that NAF terminated an award, the award amount will be prorated for the number of months it was in effect, and the pro-rated unused funds shall be returned to NAF. If an investigator changes institutions, the award may be transferred, contingent upon the successor institutions commitment to support the research for the full remaining term of the award.

No-cost extensions will not be granted.

## Publications and Presentations

When a paper or exhibit by an awardee, based on the work supported by an NAF grant, is published or presented before a scientific organization, 2 copies of the paper or a description of the exhibit should be sent to the National Ataxia Foundation. In addition, a copy of any press releases regarding the study funded by NAF shall also be e-mailed to [naf@ataxia.org](mailto:naf@ataxia.org)

All papers, exhibits and press releases shall carry a credit line to the National Ataxia Foundation.

## Inquires

Direct all inquires to:  
National Ataxia Foundation  
2600 Fernbrook Lane # 119  
Minneapolis, MN 55447-4752

Phone: 763-553-0020  
Fax: 763-553-0167  
E-Mail: [naf@ataxia.org](mailto:naf@ataxia.org)  
Web: [www.ataxia.org](http://www.ataxia.org)

**APPLICATION FOR YOUNG INVESTIGATOR AWARD  
TO THE NATIONAL ATAXIA FOUNDATION**

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**SECTION I – ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

<b>Applicant:</b>
<b>Title or Position:</b>
<b>Sponsor:</b>
<b>Institution:</b>
<b>Department:</b>

<b>Mailing Address:</b>	<b>Telephone:</b>
	<b>Email:</b>
	<b>Fax:</b>

<b>Full Title of Research Proposal:</b>
<b>Abbreviated Title of Research Proposal:</b>
<b>Dates of Proposed Project:</b>
<b>Name, Title, Address of Person to Whom Checks Should be Mailed:</b> (Electronic deposit preferred.)

The undersigned agree to 1.) acknowledge support from the National Ataxia Foundation in any publication resulting from an award, 2.) submit a final report and lay summary within four months after the end of the support period. Copies of reprints or manuscripts supported by this grant shall be made available to the National Ataxia Foundation.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Mentor Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Official representing the Applicant’s Institution Date

**APPLICATION FOR YOUNG INVESTIGATOR AWARD  
TO THE NATIONAL ATAXIA FOUNDATION**

<b>Applicant:</b>
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<b>Abbreviated Title of Research Proposal:</b>
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**SECTION II – RESEARCH PLAN SUMMARY**

<b>Full Title of Research Proposal:</b>
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<p><b>Abstract of Research Plan:</b> (Do not exceed the space provided) This is meant to serve as a description of the proposed work when separated from the application. If funded, this may be made public so should not include confidential information.</p>
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**APPLICATION FOR YOUNG INVESTIGATOR AWARD  
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<b>Applicant:</b>
<b>Abbreviated Title of Research Proposal:</b>

**SECTION II – RESEARCH PLAN SUMMARY, cont. (2)**

<b>Full Title of Research Proposal:</b>
<b>Lay Summary:</b> (Do not exceed the space provided) This lay summary, which should be written in such a way as to be understood by the average layperson, may be used and published as NAF sees fit.

**APPLICATION FOR YOUNG INVESTIGATOR AWARD  
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<b>Applicant:</b>
<b>Abbreviated Title of Research Proposal:</b>

**SECTION III – BUDGET FOR 12 MONTH GRANT PERIOD**

Personnel			Amount Requested	
Name, Official Title, Department	Role on Project	% Effort	Salary	Fringe Benefits
<b>Subtotals</b>				

<b>Consultant Costs:</b>	
	\$

<b>Equipment (Itemize):</b>	
	\$

<b>Applicant:</b>
<b>Abbreviated Title of Research Proposal:</b>

**SECTION III – BUDGET FOR 12 MONTH GRANT PERIOD, cont. (2)**

<b>Supplies (Itemize briefly by category):</b>	
	\$

<b>Travel (explain briefly):</b>	
	\$

<b>Other Expenses (Itemize briefly by category):</b>	
	\$

<b>TOTAL DIRECT COSTS FOR PROPOSED PROJECT:</b>	
	\$

**Note: The National Ataxia Foundation does not allow indirect costs to be paid from funds awarded.**

<b>Applicant:</b>
<b>Abbreviated Title of Research Proposal:</b>

**SECTION IV – BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

Please provide the following information for all key personnel. A copy of this page should be completed for each individual.

Name:	Position Title:
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Education/Training: Begin with baccalaureate or other professional education.

<b>Institution &amp; Location</b>	<b>Degree</b>	<b>Years</b>	<b>Field of Study</b>

**Research and Professional Experience:** Concluding with present position, list in chronological order, previous employment, experience, and honors.

List, in chronological order, the titles, all authors, and complete references to all publications during the past three years, and representative earlier publications pertinent to this application. If the list of publications in the last three years exceeds two pages, select the most pertinent publications.

<b>Applicant:</b>
<b>Abbreviated Title of Research Proposal:</b>

**SECTION V – OTHER RESEARCH SUPPORT**

List all other research support of the principal investigator, including requests now being considered as well as any proposal that the principal investigator plans to submit to other potential funding resources. Also, include current or pending contracts, fellowship awards, research career awards and training grants. Amounts shown reflect total fund awarded or pending over the entire grant periods indicated in the final column.

There is no form page for other support. Information on other support should be provided in the format shown below.

<b>Name of Individual:</b>		
<b>Active or Pending:</b>		
<b>Project Number (Principal Investigator):</b>	<b>Dates of Approved/Proposed Project:</b>	<b>Percent Effort:</b>
<b>Source:</b>	<b>Annual Direct Costs:</b>	
<b>Title of Project (or subproject):</b>		
<b>The Major Goals of this Project are:</b>		
<b>Overlap (summarized for each individual):</b>		

<b>Applicant:</b>
<b>Abbreviated Title of Research Proposal:</b>

## SECTION VI – RESEARCH PLAN

1. Summary of specific aims (brief) \*
2. Background and significance (2 pages) \*
3. Preliminary studies, with figures \*
4. Methods, expected results, data analysis, interpretation and significance \*
5. A letter from the mentor should outline a program of studies for the applicant and delineate the candidate's future plans. \*
6. Consultant and collaborative arrangements (if applicable)
7. Human subjects information (if applicable)
8. Laboratory animals (if applicable)

\*Items 1 – 5 may not exceed 10 pages. (10–12 point font size)

### Return completed application to:

**National Ataxia Foundation**  
**2600 Fernbrook Lane, #119**  
**Minneapolis, MN 55447-4752**  
**Phone: 763-553-0020**  
**Fax: 763-553-0167**  
**Email: [naf@ataxia.org](mailto:naf@ataxia.org)**

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