

Evaluating Candidates for ABTA Funding

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American
Brain Tumor
Association®

Providing and pursuing answers®

ABTA Research Grant Opportunities



Jack & Fay Netchin Medical Student Summer Fellowships

Three-month, \$3,000 grants for medical students to conduct brain tumor research with esteemed scientist mentors during the summer term.



Basic Research Fellowships

Two-year, \$100,000 mentored grants for postdoctoral fellows to conduct lab or field-based research and establish their careers as brain tumor scientists.



Discovery Grants

One-year, \$50,000 grants for high risk, high impact research with the potential to change current diagnostic or treatment models.



Research Collaboration Grants

Two-year, \$200,000 grants to promote team science and accelerate advancements in the brain tumor field.

Review Criteria: Criteria that is similar across all grant types

Research Question and Significance

- Does the project address an important problem or a critical barrier to progress in the field of brain tumor research?

Scientific Merit and Feasibility

- Does the proposed hypothesis(es) comprehensively address the overarching research question(s)?

Investigator(s)

- Do they have appropriate research experience and training?

Resources

- Are the institutional support, equipment, and other resources necessary for the successful conduct of the proposed research clearly available to the Applicant/PI?

Impact

- Does the applicant explain clearly for a non-scientist how this project will have a significant impact on the brain tumor community?

Review Criteria: criteria that vary across grant types

Mentorship

- Do the mentor(s) have the research and training expertise and the time needed to develop and successfully implement the proposed research?

Grantsmanship

- Is the project narrative specific to the role the PI will have in the mentor's lab?

Career Development Potential

- Does the Applicant/PI present a clear and feasible plan for developing the necessary research, scientific, management, and leadership skills needed to progress towards independence?

Innovation

- Does the proposed project challenge and seek to shift current research or clinical practice paradigms by utilizing novel theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies?

Project Team

- Do the PIs have the appropriate track record of accomplishments and leadership to successfully implement the proposed research and overcome obstacles that might arise?

Review Process

Peer Review

- Introductory call with reviewers
- Three reviewers per LOI (if applicable) and Full Application
- NIH Scale for scoring 1-9
- Select score for each criteria
- Select overall score – consider all criteria weighted equally
- Top-scoring applications discussed in the peer review meeting

Patient Advocate Review

- 1 – 2 training calls with reviewers
- One Patient Advocate per Full Application
- Can consider and comment on all individual criteria, but do not select a score
- Primarily consider potential for impact on patients
- Select overall score (NIH Scale 1-9)

All applicants receive all reviewer comments at all stages