



Rosenau Family
Research Foundation

September
2024
Newsletter

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Fall and Spring Grant Cycles

We are excited about the addition of a spring grant cycle that launched on May 1! With our original fall grant cycle still in place, two grant cycles enables Rosenau Family Research Foundation to expand and provide an excellent opportunity for applicants with projects with varying schedules and needs. We are energized by the passionate work in progress represented by the number of Letter of Inquiry submissions we received this Spring and encouraged by the progress made to improve the lives of patients impacted by Krabbe disease and Cystic Fibrosis.

If you are interested in an RFRF grant, see the table below with our updated grants schedule, and visit the [Grant Process Page](#) on our website to learn more about our grant process.

Please send any questions to grants@rosenaufoundation.org.

Grant Management Process – Fall & Spring Grant Funding Cycles

FALL GRANT FUNDING CYCLES		KEY DATES	SPRING GRANT FUNDING CYCLES		KEY DATES
Call for LOI		11/1	Call for LOI		5/1
LOI Submission Deadline		1/31	LOI Submission Deadline		7/31
LOI Award/Denial Notification		2/16	LOI Award/Denial Notification		8/16
Grant Application Deadline		6/1	Grant Application Deadline		12/1
Application Award/Denial Notification		Early Oct	Application Award/Denial Notification		Early April
Funding Agreement Executed		12/1	Funding Agreement Executed		6/1
Funding Distribution		12/31	Funding Distribution		6/30
GRANT RECIPIENT REPORTING***					
May Progress & Financial Reports		5/1			
November Progress Report		11/1			
December Financial Report		12/1			

*** Grants funded in both Fall and Spring grant funding cycles are required to submit progress and financial reports bi-annually on the same schedule



Announcing: Collaboration with National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD)



NORD[®]
National Organization
for Rare Disorders

Rosenau Family Research Foundation is excited to be partnering with **NORD's Student for Rare** program to introduce our network of researchers and help students explore the opportunities that come along with research grant funding!

Students for Rare unites students of all disciplines to spread awareness of rare disease and explore future opportunities working with the rare disease community.

RFRF will be participating in the program by sending speakers from our network to events, both in-person and virtual, offering mentorship and internship opportunities to students, helping to expand the program by connecting students with our network at various educational institutions, and more.

If you would be interested in participating or learning more about this collaboration, please email racheljackson@rosenaufoundation.org.



What is RFRF Looking For in a Grant Application?



The mission of Rosenau Family Research Foundation (RFRF) is to improve the lives of patients impacted by Krabbe disease and Cystic Fibrosis through research funding and disease advocacy, and to help individuals live life undefined by Krabbe disease and Cystic Fibrosis. RFRF Marketing Director, Rachel Jackson (RJ) recently spoke with RFRF Executive Director, Dr. Gabriel M. Cohn (GMC), to learn more about the Foundation's research funding.

RJ: How does RFRF fund research?

GMC: RFRF has a competitive grants program that is vital to the Foundation's mission of improving the lives of those impacted by Krabbe disease and Cystic Fibrosis.

RJ: What types of research proposals are considered for funding?

GMC: We will consider research proposals in basic science research, translational research, and clinical research that align with our mission. As such, grants that can lead to a better understanding of Krabbe disease or Cystic Fibrosis or that can enhance treatments and cures for Krabbe disease and Cystic Fibrosis will always be our highest priority. In addition, programs that promote, through education and awareness, the expansion of Newborn Screening, Krabbe disease, and Cystic Fibrosis, will be similarly considered.

RJ: Who is eligible to receive funding?

GMC: Currently, only organizations that meet 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status or 509(a) status, are eligible to receive funding through our program. In addition, we provide funding for established investigators of such organizations as well as new investigators (those that are either still in school or in training).

RJ: When and how can someone who is interested in receiving a grant apply?

GMC: In the past we solicited grants on an annual basis. This year, we've successfully transitioned to a semi-annual application cycle, one in the Fall and another in the Spring. We've noticed a 70% increase in interest, which is very exciting! The grant application cycle begins with completion of our online Letter of Inquiry (LOI) form, a link to which can be found on our website. The Fall grant funding cycle begins with a call for LOIs on November 1. The deadline for LOI submission is January 31. The Spring grant funding cycle begins with a call for LOIs on May 1 with a deadline for submission of July 31. Following review of the LOIs, some applicants will be invited to submit a full grant application. Notification to submit the full grant application is 16 days after the LOI submission deadline: so, February 16 for the Fall funding cycle and August 16 for the Spring cycle. The full application is then due approximately 3.5 months later: so, June 1 for the Fall cycle and December 1 for the Spring funding cycle ([see table on RFRF Grant Process Page](#)).



What is RFRF Looking For in a Grant Application?

continued

RJ: What is the applicant expected to provide in the LOI form?

GMC: The LOI form asks that the applicant describe the purpose of the project, key hypothesis, specific aims, key experiments, anticipated outcomes, annual objectives, timelines, and budget. We ask about the relevance of the findings if the proposed hypothesis is confirmed and the significance of the findings if the findings are not supportive of the proposed hypothesis.

RJ: How is the LOI reviewed by the Foundation?

GMC: Each LOI is reviewed by a member of the Foundation's Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC). To limit any potential bias, the reviewer is blinded to the applicant's name and institution, so the reviewer sees and evaluates the content of the LOI that is specific to only the proposed project itself. The reviewer then scores each section from 0-2 with 2 being satisfactory, 0 being unsatisfactory, and 1 being somewhat satisfactory. A total score is then generated along with any reviewer comments and recommendations for or against inviting the applicant to submit the full grant application. Applicants whose LOIs received the highest scores along with recommendations to proceed to the full application phase are then invited to submit the full grant application. The full application, like the LOI, consists of an on-line form.

RJ: What is the difference between the LOI and the full application?

GMC: The LOI serves as more of a high-level summary of the proposed project whereas the full application asks the applicant to elaborate upon each section and provide greater detail, particularly in areas related to background and experimental approach and design.

RJ: Is the review of the full grant application similar to the review of the LOI?

GMC: There are similarities and differences.

- The key similarities between the LOI and full application are first, they both include a blinded scientific review. The scientific reviewer is blinded to any of the applicant's identifiers as we want to make this process as free as possible from any potential bias. Secondly, both review processes are standardized, meaning that each LOI and each full grant application is reviewed and evaluated against the same set of criteria and standards. By applying the same set of standardized criteria in the review of each application and by blinding the identifiers in the scientific review, we hope to make this process as fair, objective, and impartial as possible.
- Beyond these two similarities, there are some very significant differences. Unlike the LOI review, which is a single review, the full application review involves several steps: ([continued on website](#))

See the entire interview on our website





This past spring, we sent a film crew to Ernesto Bongarzone's lab at the University of Illinois, Chicago to document the work of our four grant recipients there and talk to them about how Rosenau Research Family Foundation (RFRF) funding has helped them to push their research forward.

Please feel free to [share this video](#) far and wide with your networks, especially anyone interested in applying for an RFRF grant.

Keep your eyes open for more videos from this trip in the coming months, including a lab tour and interviews with the students working in the lab. This is just the first of many video projects to showcase the exciting research of our grant recipients. If you would like to see your lab featured, please let us know.



Board Recruitment

The foundation continues to look for candidates interested in serving on the Board of Directors. While we have already begun the interviewing process for a slate of candidates, we desire to build a pipeline of candidates as board members roll-off at the end of each of their terms. We are currently most in need of candidates with medical ethics and scientific or bench science backgrounds. If you yourself are not interested, please consider sharing this opportunity with those in your network you feel would be a good fit. Check out the RFRF Board Candidate Overview and fill out the board interest contact form for more information.

Board Hellos and Goodbyes

Welcome

AMANDA POST

Secretary
Board of Directors



Rosenau Family
Research Foundation

We are excited to welcome Amanda Post as the new Secretary of our Board of Directors!

Amanda is a project manager at WCG Clinical. She works with pharmaceuticals and device companies to provide research solutions for active clinical trials, giving her experience in oncology, vaccine, neuro, and rare disease.

Amanda has extensive experience designing and executing practical ways to connect patients to treatment options and supporting them along the way.

We are grateful to have you on our team, Amanda!

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Julie McCarrier, who has termed out of her position on Rosenau Family Research Foundation's Board of Directors after six years of excellent service.

In addition to Julie's industry expertise, her tenure serving originally on The Legacy of Angels Foundation board, experience working with board members and staff, and commitment to the Foundation's mission provided invaluable leadership through a critical transition period and evolution to where it is today.

We will miss her, but are incredibly grateful for her time with RFRF, and are excited to follow her endeavors moving forward!

Thank you

JULIE MCCARRIER

6 Years on the
RFRF Board of
Directors



Rosenau Family
Research Foundation



Investment Committee Recruitment

RFRF is looking for individuals for our Investment Committee who are:

- Committed to RFRF's mission
- Thoughtful in their approach to working with others and challenging the Foundation
- Interactive and engaged
- Inquisitive & personable
- Experience in relevant fields such as investment, accounting, banking, financial planning, corporate finance, or non-profit financial sector

Click below to get in touch about joining the Investment Committee, or with any questions.

Investment
Committee Interest

Save the Date for KTRN 2025

KTRN 2025 will take place March 11-13 at the Hilton Minneapolis/Bloomington!

**Registration will open on
Tuesday, December 17, 2024.**

Sponsorships

We have several [sponsorship levels](#) available, which you can find to the right. We are continuing to offer custom options, to make sure we are connecting with our partners and giving you the most valuable opportunity possible. Please email ktrn@rosenaufoundation.org with any questions or to inquire about a sponsorship.

Call for Abstracts

Additionally, we are now accepting abstracts for consideration to present at the KTRN. Please fill out the form by clicking the button below and email it to ktrn@rosenaufoundation.org. All abstracts are due by Friday, 11/22.

Download Abstract
Form



MARCH 11-13, 2025 MINNEAPOLIS, MN

GOLD SPONSOR // \$5,000

- 5 complimentary registrations
- 1 platform presentation
- Inclusion of logo on event registration page
- Recognition as a Gold Sponsor on the RFRF website and in all social media posts
- Opportunity to add a promo or educational item to the attendee bag

SILVER SPONSOR // \$3,000

- 3 complimentary registrations
- Recognition as a Silver Sponsor on the RFRF website and in all social media posts
- Opportunity to add a promo or educational item to the attendee bag

BRONZE SPONSOR // \$1,500

- 2 complimentary registrations
- Recognition as a Bronze Sponsor on the RFRF website and in all social media posts
- Opportunity to add a promo or educational item to the attendee bag

NON PROFIT SPONSOR // \$1,000

- 2 complimentary registrations
- 1 platform presentation
- Recognition as a Non-Profit Sponsor on the RFRF website and in all social media posts
- Opportunity to add a promo/educational item to the attendee bag

Custom Opportunities Available



Connect With Us!

General Information

www.rosenaufoundation.org

info@rosenaufoundation.org

Grants

www.rosenaufoundation.org/grants-process/

grants@rosenaufoundation.org

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