

Funding Sources

As part of the GBS|CIDP Foundation International's mission to provide education and support research, we offer research grants to qualified applicants.

This is made possible through contributions from individuals who have been personally touched by GBS or CIDP and by several commercial sources. Through the generosity of these contributors, to whom the Foundation is most grateful, we are able to offer a Research Grants Program. The GBS|CIDP Foundation International has worldwide representation, sharing resources with local support group chapters nationally and internationally. The Foundation's Global Medical Advisory Board includes many of the most respected clinicians and researchers in the field.

Areas of Interest

Foundation interests include GBS, both demyelinating and axonal variants, Miller Fisher syndrome, CIDP, multifocal motor neuropathy, and related conditions.

Research interests cover a broad range of subjects including development of methods to more rapidly diagnose these disorders, creation of educational and communication programs to inform patients and families of the Foundation's availability, identification of mechanisms involved in the pathogenesis of these disorders, development of more effective treatments to limit the disease process, prevent complications and reduce long-term adverse sequelae.



MISSION STATEMENT

To improve the quality of life for individuals and families worldwide affected by GBS, CIDP and variants by:

- Providing a network for all patients, their caregivers and families so that GBS or CIDP patients can depend on the Foundation for support and reliable, up-to-date information.
- Providing public and professional educational programs worldwide designed to heighten awareness and improve the understanding and treatment of GBS, CIDP and variants.
- Expanding the Foundation's role in sponsoring research and engaging in patient advocacy.

MORE INFORMATION

GBS|CIDP Foundation International

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Non-profit 501(c)(3)



Introduction

Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS), also called acute inflammatory demyelinating polyneuritis and Landry's ascending paralysis, is an acute or subacute symmetrically paralyzing disorder reflective of underlying demyelination and sometimes axonal damage of the peripheral nerves.

Although rare, GBS can be devastating, leading in some cases to respiratory failure and long-term major disability. Eventually, most patients return to a normal or near normal lifestyle, but may have a protracted recovery until they are again able to walk. The causes of and better treatments for GBS as well as other chronic inflammatory neuropathies, such as chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyradiculopathy (CIDP), are in need of investigation. There is a role for multiple lines of research, including determination of better education methods for the medical and lay communities about these disorders, clarification of their pathogenesis, as well as development of more effective treatment options.

GRANTS AMOUNTS

The Foundation funds three types of projects:

- 1. Discovery Awards** – Awards up to \$100,000 per year for two years are available for experienced researchers seeking to answer complex research questions about GBS, CIDP, or variants.
- 2. Seed Grants** – Awards of up to \$50,000 for 1 year may be distributed to fund smaller projects OR portions of projects. This award category is available at the discretion of the Foundation

If the application is to fund part of a project then the component to be funded by the Foundation should be clearly delineated with respect to the total research activity.

Proposals may address any aspect of GBS, CIDP or a variant. We do accept requests from international sources. We encourage all interested parties to submit applications. Even if not funded, we express our sincerest thanks to the entire GBS, CIDP, or variants research community for efforts on behalf of our patients.

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

The application process utilizes two steps more fully described below. Initially, a letter of intent is requested that summarize the research plan. If the applicant is thereafter notified, a complete application is then requested.

DETAILS OF THE APPLICATION PROCEDURE

LETTER OF INTENT

Applicants should submit a one-page Letter of Intent by November 1. The Letter should contain the following information: title of the project, name and title of investigator(s) along with their contact information (department and institution name, address, phone number, and email address) and a synopsis of the proposal not to exceed 300 words. The letter should be typed in 12 point, Times Roman font, with 1" margins. A PDF file should be submitted to the organization's website. Receipt of the letter will be acknowledged by email. Notification by email to submit or not submit a full application will be made by December 10.

THE COMPLETE APPLICATION

If notification to submit a full application is received, the following structure should be followed:

Format

The application should be typed, double-spaced, in 8 1/2" x 11" format with no less than a 1" borders in 12-point Times Roman font. Submit a PDF of the proposal to grants@gbs-cidp.org. The top of each page should contain in the header on one line, the principal investigator's first initial and last name, and an abbreviated title of the project. Pages should be numbered sequentially at the lower right corner in the footer.

Cover Page

This should list the principal investigator(s) and title(s), organization affiliation(s), tax-exempt number if applicable, and contact name, address, telephone and fax numbers and e-mail address and title of the research project. If funding is sought for a component of a research project, list the project and that part for which funding is sought.

Synopsis

Page 2, on the upper half, should be used for a synopsis in scientific language of the research project. It should include (1) objective or rationale for study (2) methods and (3) potential outcomes and implications. On the lower half of the same page, provide the **Impact Statement in lay language**, at a level suitable for the non-scientist/physician with a college background.

Detailed description of proposed study

The description should not exceed five pages. If funds are to support a specific component of a larger project, the component should be explained in detail, as well as how it relates to the larger project. Recommended subject headings include:

- **Specific Aims:** or Objectives, background information, rationale for study and any preliminary results to support the proposal, if available;
- **Methods:** Use language that will be comprehensible to experts in inflammatory neuropathy or neuromuscular conditions but not necessarily familiar with the methodology; use only acronyms and abbreviations that are clearly explained;
- **Data Analysis:** how the data will be analyzed and expected statistical or other methods that will be used;
- **Timeline** for the project.

Budget

Designate whether funding is for the entire project or a component of a project. No funds will be provided for overhead, indirect costs, etc. The budget should be itemized accordingly. If funding is sought for a component of a project, provide relevant information regarding funding for the rest of the project, including anticipated or known sources.

Appendices

The Appendix should list the following items, each on a separate page: 1) Bibliography; 2) Biosketch of the Principal Investigator(s); and 3) Job descriptions of each relevant staff member.

PROGRESS REPORT

Discovery Award recipients shall provide a yearly progress report and a final report within 6 months of the conclusion of the project. Seed grant recipients shall provide a 6 month progress report and a final report within 6 months of the conclusion of the project. Two versions of all progress reports should be submitted; one in scientific language and one in non-scientific language. The final report should include plans, where applicable, to submit results of the research for peer reviewed publication and, as may be warranted, copies of any meeting presentations in abstract form or manuscripts. The end date of the research study period is 18 months from June 1.

APPLICATION PROCESS SCHEDULE

All correspondences can be submitted by either email or through the secure portal on the Foundation's website. Investigators invited to submit a full application should be aware of the following schedule for reviewing grants:



November 1	Letter of Intent
December 15	Notification of Grant Status and Full Application
January 31	Full Application Deadline by Midnight
March 15	Grant Committee Reviews Full Applications
April 15	Presentation by Grant Committee to Board of Directors for Approval
May 30	Announcement of Awards
June 1	First installment payout to Awardee(s)

If an application is approved for funding the applicant should submit institutional approval for animal or/and human subject studies prior to disbursement of grant funds.

