



2026 RLS Foundation Research Grant Pre-Application (Letter of Intent)

The Restless Legs Syndrome Foundation is accepting pre-applications (letters of intent) through January 23, 2026. The RLSF is particularly interested in hypothesis-driven research for grant applications. Refer to this overview of our Research Grant Program for a complete description of the application process:
<https://rlsfoundation.blogspot.com/2025/12/call-for-2026-rls-research-grant.html>

First, please complete this letter of intent by **5 pm CT January 23, 2026**. All applicants will be informed by late February if their proposal will be invited for a full application.

* 1. Project Title

* 2. Name of Principal Investigator

Name

Title

Institution

Address

City/Town

State/Province

ZIP/Postal Code

Country

Email Address

Phone Number

* 3. Funding Request Amount



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*** 4. Name and Address of Institution or Official to Whom Award will be paid**

Name	
Institution	
Address	
Address 2	
City/Town	
State/Province	
ZIP/Postal Code	
Country	
Email Address	
Phone Number	

*** 5. EIN (Employer Identification Number) of receiving institution**



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6. Rationale (500-word limit): State the hypothesis and reasoning on which the proposed research project is based. Briefly describe how preliminary data, scientific rationale, and referenced literature support the research hypothesis. Clearly demonstrate that there is sufficient rationale for the project.

7. Focus Area: State the Research Priority that the proposed study seeks to address. For this round of funding, the primary research priorities are:

- ☐ **Iron homeostasis** - e.g.: Elucidate the genetic/epigenetic, developmental and biological factors that contribute to RLS-relevant alterations in the central nervous system.
- ☐ **Comorbidities** - e.g.: Elucidate the interactions between RLS and comorbid disorders, such as cardiovascular disease and sleep apnea.
- ☐ **Genetic/epigenetic** - e.g.: Elucidate the interactions between RLS-relevant genetic/epigenetic factors or the consequence of these genetic/epigenetic factors on RLS-relevant neurobiological factors.
- ☐ **Other topics:** Other research areas related to RLS may be also accepted for funding consideration.

8. Specific Aims and Study Design (500-word limit): Clearly describe the type of research study being proposed. Concisely state the project's objectives, specific aims, and ultimate endpoints. As applicable, briefly describe the proposed recruitment strategies and methods, how they will accomplish the project's aims, as well as the outcome measures that will be used.

9. Research Team (250-word limit): Provide a description of the research team that clearly demonstrates the appropriate background and experience to accomplish the proposed work.

10. Impact and Relevance to RLS (250-word limit): Describe how the proposed work will impact healthcare and quality-of-life needs for patients and/or family members or beneficiaries living with RLS.



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* 11. Have you previously submitted this or a similar grant to the RLS Foundation?

☐ Yes

☐ No

12. If yes, please state what is different about this resubmission.

* 13. 4. Do you plan to submit this or a similar grant to another agency for funding?

☐ Yes

☐ No

For both pre- and full submissions, applicants need to abide for all documents by the NIH-based formatting requirements for grant applications. All attachments need to follow these formatting requirements:

- Paper size no larger than standard letter paper size (8 ½" x 11")
- At least one-half inch margins (½") - top, bottom, left and right - for all pages
- No more than 6 lines per vertical inch
- Font size at least 11 pt in fonts: Arial, Georgia, Helvetica or Palatino Linotype.

14. Provide a reference list.

Choose File

Choose File

No file chosen

15. Provide a list of abbreviations, acronyms, and symbols (250-word limit).

Choose File

Choose File

No file chosen

16. Provide key personnel biographical sketches (NIH format).

Choose File

Choose File

No file chosen

17. Provide key personnel biographical sketches (NIH format).

Choose File

Choose File

No file chosen

18. Provide key personnel biographical sketches (NIH format).

Choose File

Choose File

No file chosen

19. Provide key personnel biographical sketches (NIH format).

Choose File

Choose File

No file chosen



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