



**RESPIRATORY HEALTH ASSOCIATION®**

**Request for Application (RFA)**

**Funding Opportunity Purpose:**

**This notice announces a new funding opportunity from Respiratory Health Association (RHA) to support local research projects to improve our understanding of lung health and lead to improvements in treating and curing Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis (IPF).**

## **Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis Research Request for Application (RFA)**

### **Overview**

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**Participating Organizations:** Respiratory Health Association

**Announcement Type:** New

**Funding Opportunity Announcement Number:** RHA2019-01- IPF

**Number of Available Awards:** 1

**Funding Opportunity Purpose:** This notice announces a new funding opportunity from Respiratory Health Association (RHA) to support local research projects to improve our understanding of lung health and lead to improvements in treating and curing Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis (IPF).

### **Key Dates**

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**Published Date:** October 24, 2018

**Letter of Intent Due Date:** December 17, 2018 by 5:00 PM (CST)

**Application Due Date:** January 7, 2019 by 5:00 PM (CST)

**Awards Announcement:** June 3, 2019

**Earliest Start Date:** July 1, 2019

**Expiration Date:** June 30, 2020

### **Full Text of Announcement**

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**Purpose:** This Request for Applications (RFA) encourages grant applications from investigators interested in conducting innovative research studies in Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis (IPF). The award will support one established investigator to build upon an existing portfolio of research in pulmonary fibrosis OR one junior investigator to develop a pulmonary fibrosis research program. Respiratory Health Association will award \$25,000 in FY 2019 as part of this research initiative. Basic, clinical/translational and social/behavioral studies are welcomed, but translational research studies are particularly encouraged. The over-arching goal of this award is to support pilot and feasibility studies with the goal of generating preliminary data that may be used to compete for larger federally-funded projects in the future.

## **Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis Research Request for Application (RFA)**

### **Award Information**

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**Application Types Allowed:** New

**Funds Available and Anticipated Number of Awards:** One (1) award contingent upon RHA appropriation and the submission of a sufficient number of meritorious applications.

**Award Budget:** The total costs for this one (1) year award will not exceed \$25,000. This is a one-time award.

**Award Project Period:** The total project period for this one-time award may not exceed one (1) year.

### **Eligibility Information**

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**Eligible Applicants:** To be considered for the grant, applicants must meet the following criteria at the time of application:

- The grantee will have a faculty appointment at a Public or Private Institution of Higher Education; OR
- The grantee will be a junior investigator or fellow AND have a faculty mentor at a Public or Private Institution of Higher Education;
- The grantee be a United States citizen or United States resident; and
- The grantee will be an investigator(s) who works for an institution (or has a research partnership with an organization) located in, metropolitan Chicago.

**Eligible Individuals (Program Director/Principal Investigator):** Any individual(s) with the skills, knowledge, and resources necessary to carry out the proposed research as the Program Director(s)/Principal Investigator(s) (PD(s)/PI(s)) is invited to work with his/her organization to develop an application for support. Individuals from underrepresented racial and ethnic groups as well as individuals with disabilities are always encouraged to apply for RHA support.

#### **Additional Information on Eligibility:**

- Applicant organizations may submit more than one application, provided that each application is scientifically distinct.
- RHA does not support or provide research funding to institutions that accept any form of tobacco industry support. Applicants with current or past relationships with tobacco industry organizations must disclose this upon submission of application.

### **Application and Submission Information**

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Applicants must follow the instructions in the application. Conformance to the requirements in the application is required and strictly enforced. Applications out of compliance with these instructions may be delayed or not accepted for review.

## **Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis Research Request for Application (RFA)**

**Letter of Intent (LOI):** A Letter of Intent is required, but is not binding, and does not enter into the review of a subsequent application. The information it contains allows RHA staff to estimate the potential review workload and plan the review. All applicants that submit an LOI by the established deadline are invited to submit a full application. No additional invitation will be distributed upon receipt of LOI.

By **5:00PM (CST) on December 3, 2018**, prospective applicants are asked to submit a Letter of Intent (LOI) that includes the following information:

- Descriptive title of proposed activity
- Name(s), address(es), and telephone number(s) of the PD(s)/PI(s)
- Names of other key personnel
- Participating institution(s)
- Number and title of this funding opportunity
- Letters of Intent should be no longer than two pages

**The Letter of Intent should be emailed to:**

Jennifer Kustwin, MPH, RRT, CCRC  
Sr. Program Coordinator  
Respiratory Health Association  
Email: [research@resphealth.org](mailto:research@resphealth.org)

**Content and Form of Application Submission:**

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**Page Limitations:** There are to be no more than 6 pages in total for the research plan. *This does not include the lay summary, biosketch and budget justification. You may attach these as additional pages in your submission of the application.*

**Lay Summary:** Included in this application should be an explanation of the intended study described in lay terms which are easily understood by a non-scientific/non-academic public health audience. This lay summary shall be **no more than 250 words in length.**

**Research Plan (6 pages):**

**Specific Aims (1 page):**

- State concisely the goals of the proposed research and summarize the expected outcome(s), including the impact that the results of the proposed research will exert on the research field(s) involved.
- List succinctly the specific objectives of the research proposed, e.g., to test a stated hypothesis, create a novel design, solve a specific problem, challenge an existing paradigm or clinical practice, address a critical barrier to progress in the field, or develop new technology.



## **Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis Research Request for Application (RFA)**

### **Research Strategy (5 pages):**

Organize the Research Strategy in the specified order and using the instructions provided below. Start each section with the appropriate section heading: Significance and Innovation.

#### a. Significance

- Explain the importance of the problem or critical barrier to progress in the field that the proposed project addresses.
- Explain how the proposed project will improve scientific knowledge, technical capability, and/or clinical practice in one or more broad fields.
- Describe how the concepts, methods, technologies, treatments, services, or preventative interventions that drive this field will be changed if the proposed aims are achieved.

#### b. Innovation

- Explain how the application challenges and seeks to shift current research or clinical practice paradigms.
- Describe any novel theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation or interventions to be developed or used, and any advantage over existing methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions.
- Explain any refinements, improvements, or new applications of theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions.

**Biosketch of all Senior/Key Personnel Profile:** Please submit biosketches for all key personnel in current [NIH Format](#).

**Budget:** A budget spreadsheet along with narrative of budget justification is required for this project which includes percent effort for key personnel and details all other expenses. **Please note: per RHA policy the award does not support indirect costs.** You may use the template included which can be found on the RHA [Funding Opportunities page](#).

### **Other Submission Requirements and Information**

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We do not require institutional endorsement; however, we will accept it if that is consistent with your institutional policy.

Mentorship plans may be requested at the discretion of RHA for junior investigators or fellows, if selected.

Applications must be submitted electronically by **5:00PM (CST) on January 7, 2019** to Jennifer Kustwin, MPH at [research@resphealth.org](mailto:research@resphealth.org). Paper applications will not be accepted.

## **Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis Research Request for Application (RFA)**

### **Application Review Information**

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**Overall Impact:** Reviewers will provide an overall impact score to reflect their assessment of the likelihood for the project to exert a sustained, powerful influence on the research field(s) involved, in consideration of the following review criteria and additional review criteria (as applicable for the project proposed).

**Scored Review Criteria:** Reviewers will consider each of the review criteria below in the determination of scientific merit, and give a separate score for each. An application does not need to be strong in all categories to be judged likely to have major scientific impact.

**Significance:** Does the project address an important problem or a critical barrier to progress in the field? If the aims of the project are achieved, how will scientific knowledge, technical capability, and/or clinical practice be improved? How will successful completion of the aims change the concepts, methods, technologies, treatments, services, or preventative interventions that drive this field?

**Investigators(s):** Are the PD(s)/PI(s), collaborators, and other researchers well suited to the project? If Early Stage Investigators or New Investigators, or in the early stages of independent careers, do they have appropriate experience and training? If established, have they demonstrated an ongoing record of accomplishments that have advanced their field(s)?

**Innovation:** Does the application challenge and seek to shift current research or clinical practice paradigms by utilizing novel theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions? Are the concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions novel to one field of research or novel in a broad sense? Is a refinement, improvement, or new application of theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions proposed?

Email any inquiries concerning this funding opportunity to the application submission contact listed below.

#### **Application Submission Contacts:**

Jennifer Kustwin, MPH, RRT, CCRC  
Sr. Program Coordinator  
Respiratory Health Association  
Telephone: (312) 628-0219  
Email: [research@resphealth.org](mailto:research@resphealth.org)