

Akira Arimura Foundation

Akira Arimura Foundation 2025-2026 Young Investigator Grant Application Procedures

Outline

The Akira Arimura Foundation is seeking proposals for its 2025-26 Young Investigator Grant. The Foundation provides awards to young investigators in the field of VIP/PACAP that complement competitive research funding in the laboratory of the investigator or mentor. We encourage applications for translational research, including pre-clinical studies and those from laboratories with clinical neuro endocrinologists. Candidates for the program should be under the age of 40 at the time of submission, generally within 5 years of having received his/her doctorate or equivalent and working at an academic, not-for-profit institution. Proposals are welcome for a 2-year grant of up to \$25,000 per annum for a total of \$50,000. Applications should conform to the format outlined below. Entries conforming to the NIH Research Project Grant Program (RO1) will also be accepted. Applicants whose proposals may not have been accepted in prior years are welcome to reapply if the above conditions are met. All proposals will be reviewed by a foundation committee of medical professionals.

Key Dates: October 31, 2024 – Applications Due
 January 2025 – Award Notification and Funding

Application Requirements

1. **Abstract** – Two versions of the abstract should be prepared:
 - (a) Non-technical summary of proposed research prepared in layman's terms and not to exceed 200 words.
 - (b) Technical summary, written in scientific terms and not to exceed 300 words.
2. **Curriculum Vitae** – Should include biographical sketch of the principal investigator (applicant), mentor if relevant, and all key personnel, with each individual sketch being no more than 2 pages. Selective bibliographies limited to publications or peer reviewed published abstracts for the past 5 years, which do not count towards the 2-page limit, should be appended.
3. **Budget** – To be provided for each of the following categories:
 - (a) Personnel – Names and titles. Indicate percentage of total personnel-related costs per individual.
 - (b) Equipment – List individually all equipment costing at least \$1,000.
 - (c) Consumables, supplies – List should be grouped into major types, e.g. chemicals, reagents, glassware, animals and animal maintenance, etc.A table should be provided including each category. Apart from this table, justification for each major budget item should be given. No more than 10% of the award may be used to pay the salary of the principal investigator. Grant funds may go towards salaries and fringe benefits of trainees and technical assistants. The Foundation does not provide funds for institutional overhead.

4. **Other Research Funding and Pending Grant Applications** – This section should include active and pending support from all sources, including governmental, non-governmental, institutional or public funds, available to the principal investigator or other key personnel named in the application, supporting the proposed research. The portion of the total project budget that would be covered by this foundation grant should be mentioned.
5. **Letter of Support** – A senior faculty member (mentor colleague or institutional official) should provide a letter attesting to the applicant’s qualifications for the proposed project and indicate his/her commitment to support the applicant’s work during the project as needed.
6. **Project Description** – A project description should be organized into the following sections and presented sequentially. The total description of no more than 5 pages, excluding referenced publications, figures and tables, should be submitted as an appendix.
 - (a) Scientific background and specific aims
 - (b) Experimental design and methods
 - (c) Significance and impact of proposed studies
 - (d) Previous work including preliminary data if applicable
 - (e) Resources and environment, outlining facilities to be used, space and equipment requirements
7. **Akira Arimura Foundation 2025-26 Young Investigator Grant Application Cover Letter**
The following items should be included in a letter on the institution’s letterhead and signed by the appropriate person(s) responsible for institutional facilities and resources as specified:
 - (a) Project title
 - (b) Applicant name, Department, Institution, Address, Phone number, Email address
 - (c) Amount requested
 - (d) Term of project period covered by grant
 - (e) Signatories must include (1) the applicant, (2) department head and (3) fiscal officer authorized to sign on behalf of the institution. All signatories should have their names, titles and department typed onto the letter, along with the date.

The grantee must agree to provide annual progress reports to the foundation and to be receptive to occasional status requests well after the funding period as it is in our interest to see how past grantees have developed in their fields and to evaluate how our support may have factored in their accomplishments.

Applications should be typed in English on standard (8-1/2 x 11 inch in U.S.) white paper, with either 11-12 point Arial, 11-point Courier or 12 point Times New Roman font. All documents should be sent via PDF to mako.santamonica@gmail.com. All sections except for publications may be combined into one PDF document as long as no transmission exceeds 25MB. Please direct any inquiries to Mark Arimura at mako.santamonica@gmail.com.