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The Thome Foundation Awards Program in Age -Related Macular Degeneration Research is a twostep proposal process. After the Initial Proposal phase, selected applicants are invited to submit a Full Proposal.

The Full Proposal process requires an online submission The Full Proposal consists of an Online Application, Application Face Sheet (with signatures) , Research Project Summary, Non-Technical Overview and Summary, DEI Statement, ten-page Research Proposal Projected Milestones and Research Plan Table Budget and Justification Forms, Applicant Biosketch, Co-Investigator Biosketch(es) (if applicable), Department or Division Head Letter, and Letter(s) of Collaboration (if applicable).



Applicants will be notified of the final funding decisions in January 2023



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February 15, 2023 – February 14, 2025



Up to five \$500,000 twoyear grants (\$250,000 per year) will be made to independent investigators working in nonprofit , academic, medical or research institutions within the United States . Awards do not cover indirect costs.



The Edward N. & Della L. Thome Memorial Foundation was created in 2002 to advance the health of older adults through the support of direct service projects and medical research on diseases and disorders affecting older adults. In keeping with the Foundation's mission, te et

■ Successful research proposals should fall along the preclinical research spectrum such that they can be “carried out using cell or animal models of disease; samples of human or animal tissues; or computer-assisted simulations of drug, device or diagnostic interactions within living systems”.¹ These projects are intended to move basic science insights towards solutions, techniques, and tools that can be transferred to clinical practice in the near term. Funding areas include, but are not limited to:

- 1) The discovery and testing of small molecule, genetic, and other therapies directed at promising

appropriate and will be received prior to the funding start date. The timeline indicates clear roles for key personnel;

- The budget is realistic and appropriate;

Applicant & Co-Investigators

- The Applicant's background and experience is well-suited for completion of the proposed work;
- The roles of Applicant and Co-Investigators are well-defined and aligned with the background and skills necessary for the successful completion of the research;
- The Applicant shows a strong commitment to fostering a positive research culture, including activities that support a diverse, equitable, and inclusive research environment.



Applicants should take serious consideration of the comments provided from the Initial Proposal review. Applicants are strongly encouraged to prioritize good grantmanship in writing their applications. *The writing of the proposal will not be directly assessed*; however, it is recognized that clarity of the writing enhances the ability of the reviewers to reflect upon how the proposal aligns with the review criteria.

The Review Committee is composed of a multi-disciplinary group of professionals such as biotech executives and academic researchers with expertise in AMD and pharmaceutical development and the ability to assess a wide range of proposal topics.

Characteristics of a well-written proposal are reflective of the following practices:

- Funding via non-governmental agencies should be tailored. Make sure the proposal is reflective of the program goals and review criteria;
- Tell the story and sell the proposed work. Make sure the background outlines why the proposed questions are important to answer and why the proposed approach is promising;
- The language should be understandable to a general scientific audience. When jargon must be used, it is clearly explained, and complex technical points are put in context;
- Any other personnel included in the project should be clearly justified;
- Don't fall victim to proposing to complete too much work. Reflect on the timeline of the work to ensure it can be feasibly completed;
- Provide enough time to obtain feedback and allow for proof reading prior to submission.

Applicants are encouraged to seek feedback on their proposals within their institutions and externally. Examples of successful proposals can be found in the grantwriting tip sheets for NIH research grants. Institutions and colleagues may also be willing to provide examples of well-written and successful grant applications.



Secrets to Writing a Winning Grant: <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-019-039145>

NIH grant writing tips:


<https://www.nlm.nih.gov/ep/Tutorial.html>

<https://www.nlm.nih.gov/funding/grant-writing-and-application-process/grant-writing-tips.shtml>

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/format-and-write/write-your-application.htm#Important%20Writing%20Tips>

The required application form templates for the following sections can be found in a separate MS Word document located at www.tmfgrants.org/ThomeAMD.

Include all items in the following order:

1.  : The Face Sheet is the first template provided in the Application Forms. It must be completed and signed by the Applicant and the Office of Sponsored Programs or the Institutional Officer administratively responsible for the oversight of the project.

The signature of the Applicant on the Face Sheet will confirm their responsibility for obtaining any required human subjects (IRB), animal use (IACUC), or institutional equivalent approvals. In addition,

Proposal Components:

- 1) Background and significance (discuss project impact on AMD and how the project contributes to improving current therapeutic strategies or revealing new therapeutic approaches for individuals suffering from AMD);
- 2) Specific aims;
- 3) Preliminary data (if available);
- 4) Research design, exDinai9 frc.8 (n4-14 (ce)-.4 ()-0.6 (c))n(u)-18.2 (n)-1.3 (ci)-4 (ce)-8.7 (ca)-e2 (a)-80412

In Out of fairness to applicants who adhere to the guidelines, applications that do not conform to the stated application procedures or that contain more than the specified number of pages or letters will be rejected. Applications that are not properly organized will be rejected.

English
English

Direct any Questions to Program Staff:
Email: ThomeAwards@hria.org

