

# Funding Programs – Information

## UAMS Fund to Cure Stroke Grant Program

### I. Purpose of the Fund to Cure Stroke Grant Program

The Fund to Cure Stroke Grant Program of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences is designed to advance the research mission of the institution and to provide seed money to faculty members to advance and develop their individual research programs. This Grant Program is funded in part by private donations and FGP Matching Funds to which are strictly limited to supporting the activities below. Therefore, grant proposals **must** be designed to either: 1) Develop new stroke therapies and promote their translation into clinical care, the primary focus of the Grant Program; 2) Develop improved diagnosis, diagnostic imaging, and care of strokes; 3) Develop improved methods of stroke prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation; or (4) Develop clinical and pre-clinical stroke-related research.

Awards may include funding to support the salary and benefits of the research fellows or other post-doctoral positions based at UAMS, as well as other research personnel as needed, all of which must be directly involved in the Fund to Cure Stroke program. Two types of grants are offered: research personnel grants and research study grants.

### II. General Conditions of Eligibility

Awards are made only to full-time faculty members and to part-time (50% and more) faculty members, of UAMS (including those with VA appointments) who are at the rank of instructor or above. Individuals in temporary positions are not eligible. Fellows, both clinical and postdoctoral, may be funded by projects led by faculty. The projects must be designed to be completed well before the end of the fellowship. Recipients may hold only two Fund to Cure Stroke Grants at a time. Eligible faculty members may submit only one application per deadline on which they are Principal Investigator.

## GRANT PROGRAMS

### I. *Personnel Grants:*

Description: Research support personnel may be critical in numerous situations including unfunded research projects and incompletely funded projects. This grant mechanism is designed to assist in these cases, augmenting other efforts, as well as focus research efforts on stroke. Protected time and support for research in the form of funding for a research fellow(s) and funding for other personnel including technical support, study coordinators, and Associates including the doctorate level are to be considered appropriate for this Fund. Salary and benefit funding may be covered here for all personnel except the Principal Investigator. Student funding can also be supported if under the supervision of an established investigator. Funding is for the research portion of any position and not for supporting standard care of patients or non-stroke related projects. Collaborative efforts are encouraged such that clinical training and research can

be combined. The usual objectives here are publication of high quality scientific papers including clinical and preclinical subjects as well as training physicians in stroke research.

## ***II. Research Studies:***

Description: The Fund to Cure Stroke grant program is designed to assist and encourage new and existing faculty to engage in stroke research. It will favor those projects that have promise for rapid translation into clinical use and also those which promise to develop research programs that can successfully compete for outside funding. The major objective of the program is to aide in translational research projects, especially those making the step from animal to human application, but this spectrum does include basic science studies and late stage clinical studies, as well. It is designed to provide seed money to initiate a project and acquire the necessary preliminary data for submission of a major extramural grant application to a federal agency or national foundation. Maximum awards are limited to \$30,000 per year but may be extended with re-application at the discretion of the Scientific Committee for a second year. Publications are expected.

Additional Requirements: The Research Plan (see below), in addition to the requirements outlined above, should clearly describe how the project relates to stroke or related disorders. Proposals will be judged by the general criteria given above and the probability of making a significant contribution to research, treatment, or prevention of stroke. Typically one to four awards will be made per year from the Fund to Cure Stroke, depending on the applications and funds available. High quality proposals submitted to, but not funded by, the Fund to Cure Stroke can also be considered for Pilot Study or Hornick funding from the College of Medicine if those requirements are met. However, duplicate funding is not allowed. Grants are usually to be for one year but may be renewed one time at the discretion of the Scientific Committee. For research Fellowships two years of appropriate funding can be committed. Maximum awards are limited to \$60,000 over 2 years for research projects and personnel cost limits are at the discretion of the Scientific Committee.

## **THE APPLICATION PROCESS**

Submission and Evaluation: Contact the office of W. C. Culp, MD, Jonathan Fitch Distinguished Chair in Stroke, (501) 686-6910, [culpwilliamc@uams.edu](mailto:culpwilliamc@uams.edu) in Radiology. The deadlines for receipt of a completed application in the Radiology Department Office are the close of business on October 1 or April 1 of each year (or the next business day if these dates fall on a Saturday, Sunday or holiday). Upon receipt, all applications will be referred to the Scientific Committee of the Fund to Cure Stroke for evaluation.

All proposals submitted for a single deadline will be considered together. Proposals will be evaluated and ranked on the basis of clinical significance, scientific merit, potential for generation of extramural funding, and need, as well as the stated goals of the Fund. Applications will be rated: 1) approved for funding; 2) approved conditionally pending receipt of additional information; or 3) not approved for funding. Conditional approvals may be funded shortly after receipt of the additional information and its acceptance by the Scientific Committee. Priority of proposals will be at the discretion of the Scientific Committee. The results of the review process

will be communicated to the applicant by letter from the Scientific Committee Chairman, usually within 4 to 6 weeks of submission. A brief listing of comments from reviewers will be included.

**Applications:** A signed original plus four (4) copies should be submitted to Fund To Cure Stroke, the Radiology office, room M1/265 or Dr. Culp, room M1/262, mail slot #556. Applications should be prepared carefully and completely. Incomplete applications or those which do not follow the required format will be returned without consideration. Photocopies of extramural grant applications will not be accepted as intramural applications.

**Award Periods:** The award period for all Fund Research Study grants is up to one year. Personnel Grants may be for up to 2 years. If any funds are remaining at the end of that period, a single six month extension may be requested by submitting a justification in writing to the Office of the Executive Associate Dean of Research. If an awardee receives significant funding from an extramural source for the research proposed in the Fund to Cure Stroke funding application, the unspent funds shall be returned to the Fund.

**Final Reports:** In order to evaluate the effectiveness of its intramural programs, the Fund requires that all intramural grant recipients submit a Final Report. This Final Report is due three months after the end of the award period, unless a no-cost extension has been granted. No applicant shall be eligible for further intramural awards without submission of a Final Report. After the conclusion of the award, the Executive Associate Dean for Research will request a list of pertinent publications and grant applications from the Awardee.

## **THE APPLICATION PACKAGE**

**Preparing the Application:** It is important that the applicant follow the required format and guidelines for proposal preparation. Well-written, concise proposals that clearly describe the research are more likely to receive favorable consideration. In preparing the application, follow the format and general guidelines below.

### **PAGE 1, COVER PAGE:**

This page must be completed in its entirety. The applicant should check the program under which the application will be considered for funding.

### **ITEM 4:**

It is recommended that the applicant obtain all necessary approvals before submission, and attach the approval letter(s). Applications with pending approvals will be considered, but no application will be funded until all necessary approvals are obtained.

### **ITEM 5:**

Both the applicant and the Department Chairperson must sign the application. Signature acknowledges acceptance of the rules and requirements for proposal submission.

### **PAGE 2, ABSTRACT:**

Please provide an abstract of 150-200 words that clearly and concisely describes the project.

**PAGE 3, BUDGET:**

On this page give a detailed budget for the project. Justify the amounts requested in each category. The Scientific Committee disallows budget items that do not have a clear relevance to the research proposed. Travel is not normally allowed, unless it is intrinsic to the research effort. Sponsoring Principal Investigator faculty salaries are not allowed but personnel including fellows, postdocs, and associate professional personnel and staff may have their salaries and benefits included in the grants.

**PAGES 4 AND 4A:**

A current biographical sketch of the Principal Investigator and each Co-Investigator in NIH format must be submitted with the application. Do not exceed four pages for each biographical sketch. Do not attach full CV's.

**PAGE 5 (add additional pages if necessary):**

List all current and past institutional support. Attach an abstract and final report for all previous intramural grants.

**PAGE 6 (add additional pages if necessary):**

List all active and pending extramural support. For each grant, list the title, source, total amount, percent effort, and grant period. List the status of pending applications, including any to the UAMS Medical Research Endowment Funds.

**Note:** If you are also submitting essentially the same proposal to the UAMS Medical Research Endowment Fund or other intramural funding source, please keep in mind that you cannot receive funding for the same work from two or more intramural funding sources. Be aware of the longer format some grants favor.

If you are also submitting an extramural pilot proposal for funding of essentially the same work (for example, to a pilot study program of an outside foundation), you may be required to return all or part of a Fund to Cure Stroke Grant Award, depending on circumstances, if the extramural pilot proposal is also funded.

Depending on the particular program, the Research Plan of the application should follow the appropriate format given below.

**Research Plan (Fund to Cure Stroke, Pilot Study, Hornick):**

A. *Specific Aims:* State concisely and realistically what the research described is intended to accomplish and what hypothesis is to be tested. **Do not exceed 1 page.**

B. *Background and Significance:* Briefly sketch the background to the present proposal, critically evaluate existing knowledge, and specifically identify gaps which the project is intended to fill. State concisely the importance of the research described in the application by relating the specific aims to long term objectives. **Do not exceed 3 pages, < 2 pages preferred for Fund.**

C. *Scientific Plan and Methods*: Discuss in detail the experimental design and the procedures to be used to accomplish the specific aims of the project. Describe the protocols to be used and the tentative sequences of the investigation. Include the means by which the data will be analyzed and interpreted. Describe any new methodology and its advantages over existing methodologies. Discuss the potential difficulties and limitations of the proposed procedures, and alternative approaches to achieve the aims. Describe any hazardous procedures or materials and the precautions to be taken. **Do not exceed 5 pages, < 2 pages preferred for Fund.**

D. *Future Plans*: Describe your plans for continuing or extending the work if the current project is successful. In particular, describe how the current work will move toward clinical use and will support a plan for continued extramural funding. Give a possible title and specific aims for an extramural application and intended funding agencies. **Do not exceed 1 page.**

E. *Literature Cited*: In the text, number the references in order of appearance and provide the complete, numbered citations (including title of the article) in a list at this point. **Do not exceed 2 pages, < 1 page preferred for Fund.**

F. *Collaborators/Consultants*: Attach a letter from each collaborator or consultant confirming his or her role on the project.

**DO NOT ENTER THIS INFORMATION INTO THE CLARA SYSTEM PRIOR TO AWARD NOTIFICATION!**

**IF YOU RECEIVE AN AWARD YOU WILL THEN ENTER THE NECESSARY INFORMATION INTO CLARA AND SUBMIT A COPY OF THE PROPOSAL TO THE OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND SPONSORED PROGRAMS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER AWARD NOTIFICATION HAS BEEN RECEIVED.**

# FUND TO CURE STROKE GRANT APPLICATION

Use UAMS Intramural Grant Programs Form for non **Fund to Cure Stroke** applications which have more detailed requirements and must be submitted separately to the College of Medicine.

## Program (check one or more):

\_\_\_\_\_ Fund to Cure Stroke (Submission dates: October 1 and April 1)(Original and 4 copies)

\_\_\_\_\_ Hornick Endowment (Submission dates: October 1 and April 1)(Original and 3 copies)

\_\_\_\_\_ Individual Pilot Study (Submission dates: October 1 and April 1; Original and 3 copies)

## 1. Title:

## 2. Principal Investigator information: UAMS/VA/ACH Address:

Name:

Title:

Department: Telephone: E-mail Address:

## 3. Budget Request: \$

## 4. Committee Approvals: (Attach copies to proposal)

Animal Use: \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ Pending \_\_\_\_\_ Not Applicable

Human Subjects: \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ Pending \_\_\_\_\_ Not Applicable

Biosafety approval: \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ Pending \_\_\_\_\_ Not Applicable (DNA & Biohazards)

Radioisotopes: \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ Pending \_\_\_\_\_ Not Applicable

## 5. Signature:

Principal Investigator: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Department Chairperson: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_