

Heartland Border Walk™ for MS Innovation Research Grant



Purpose:

Funding is provided for innovative research that addresses advances in the understanding, treatment or improvement in the quality of life for Multiple Sclerosis patients. This research may be performed at the basic science level (cellular level, animal model level, etc.) or clinical level (exploration of disease modifying or symptom management). Priority will be given to applications that in the sole judgment of the Innovation Research Grant Committee (IRGC) are unique, ground breaking and innovative.

Applicant Eligibility:

A broad field of principal investigators with a minimum graduate school level training will be eligible (Graduate student researchers will be eligible for funding). Researchers from all fields of MS research will be considered including but not limited to basic scientists, neuroscientists, medical professionals (physicians, nurses), physical therapists, social workers, psychologists or neuropsychologists. Applicants from both academic and private settings will be eligible.

Size of Grant:

The grant size will be limited to no more than \$25,000. Preference will be given to grants ranging from \$10,000 to \$20,000.

What will not be funded:

No grants will be awarded to cover operational expenses, or clinical trials. Occasional grants may be given to purchase equipment necessary for conducting an approved or funded study, but this program is not designed to fund equipment purchases.

Funding Cycles:

Decisions regarding grants will be on the following schedule:

| Application deadline | Proposed Funding date |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| December 1 | February 1 |
| April 1 | June 1 |

Decision Making Process:

The Innovation Research Grant Committee (IRGC) of the Heartland Border Walk™ for MS within the MidAmerica Neuroscience Research Foundation will determine the final approval. No appeals, exceptions or reconsiderations will be accepted unless requested by the committee with specific instructions regarding the application.

Responsibilities of Principal Investigator:

- Assurance that the research will comply with all state and federal regulations governing research.
- Provide proof of review and approval by their institution's Human Subjects Review Board or Institutional Review Board (IRB) where research will be conducted. Pending IRB approval will not disqualify an application; however, final approval must be obtained before the grant is awarded.
- Appropriate supervision of all personnel and processes utilized in the research project.
- Submission of progress reports, including an accounting for the use of the grant funding to the IRGC every six months until research is completed.
- Completion of the project within two years of initial funding.
- Presentation of the research projects through any of the following: publication in appropriate journals, platform presentation at appropriate meetings or poster presentations at appropriate conferences.
- Acknowledgement of source of funding in any publication, paper, poster or presentation for the project and research.

Limitations and Exclusions:

The MS Border Walk Innovation Research Grant committee and the MidAmerica Neuroscience Research Foundation, at their sole discretion, have the right to limit, refuse or cancel any grant made. The awarding of grants is at the discretion of the MidAmerica Neuroscience Research Foundation.

For more information regarding the grant application process and to obtain an application, contact Heartland Border Walk for MS via email:

research@msborderwalk.org

Or via Regular U.S. Postal Service at:

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