



AHA RESEARCH INSIDER: JULY 2017 EDITION

Important information for AHA Awardees, Applicants, Peer Reviewers, and Fiscal & Grant Officers

Application News

New AHA Research Award Programs Announced

AHA volunteer leaders have worked diligently to create a reimagined research portfolio that meets the needs of the science community, is responsive to the current science landscape, and is focused on driving toward the AHA mission. The new funding programs are based on discussion from AHA leadership and input from scientific overview committees.








Overall characteristics of the new AHA Research Portfolio include:

- AHA awards are open to an array of academic and health professionals. This includes but is not limited to all academic disciplines (biology, chemistry, mathematics, technology, physics, etc.) and all health-related professions (physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners, pharmacists, dentists, physical and occupational therapists, statisticians, nutritionists, policy scientists, etc.).
- Clinical, translational, population, and basic scientists are encouraged to apply. AHA maintains dedicated Peer Review Committees by program type and science type.
- AHA strongly encourages applications by women, underrepresented minorities in the sciences, and those who have experienced varied and non-traditional career trajectories.
- No minimum percent effort is required for project awards; however, the Principal Investigator must demonstrate that adequate time will be devoted to ensuring successful completion of the project.
- AHA project awards are fully transferrable to empower an awardee to move to another qualified institution while retaining the award.
- Award budgets are unrestricted among allowable categories (salary/fringe of PI and essential personnel, supplies, equipment/computers, travel, human subjects, etc.). Funds may be re-budgeted between categories without prior AHA approval.

Below is an overview of each award type, followed by the anticipated, staggered 2017-18 application deadlines and award activation dates. You will recognize a few programs that have been carried over from recent initiatives. We look forward to sharing more information about the new funding opportunities as it develops. You may monitor the [AHA Application Information](#) Web page for announcements.

We hope you will be pleased with the changes to the American Heart Association award programs. We strived to create inclusive opportunities for a broad array of disciplines, research types, and career stages, as well as opportunities to support innovative ideas. We welcome your feedback as the portfolio's inaugural year unfolds.

	<p>Institutional Undergraduate Student Award</p> <p>Encourages students from all disciplines to consider research careers. This is made to qualified institutions that can offer a meaningful research experience that supports the AHA mission undergraduate college students.</p>		<p>AHA Institutional Research Enhancement Award (AIREA)</p> <p>Supports small-scale research projects related to CVD and stroke at educational institutions that provide baccalaureate or advanced degrees but that have not been major recipients of NIH support. For any part of the full range of research and development from very basic to clinical.</p>
	<p>AHA Predoctoral Fellowship</p>		<p>AHA Postdoctoral Fellowship</p>

	Enhances the integrated research and clinical training of promising students who are matriculated in pre-doctoral or clinical health professional degree training programs and who intend careers as scientists, physician-scientists or other clinician-scientists, or related careers aimed at improving global cardiovascular health.		Enhances the integrated research and clinical training of postdoctoral applicants who are not yet independent. The applicant must be embedded in an appropriate research group with the mentorship, support, and relevant scientific guidance of a research supervisor.
	Career Development Award Supports highly promising healthcare and academic professionals, in the early years of one's first professional appointment, to explore innovative questions or pilot studies that will guide future strategies related to all aspects of cardiovascular and stroke research. The award requires a supportive mentoring team and a career development plan.		Established Investigator Award Supports mid-career healthcare and academic investigators with unusual promise and in rapid growth phase, who have established records of accomplishments, and demonstrated commitment to questions related to cardiovascular or cerebrovascular science.
	Innovative Project Award Funds ideas that may introduce new paradigms, challenge current paradigms, look at existing problems from new perspectives, or exhibit other uniquely creative qualities. Preliminary data is not required and not accepted as part of the proposal. However, a solid rationale for the work must be provided.		Transformational Project Award Represents the second phase of a new idea; proposals should include preliminary data. Proposed work should be the next logical step of previous work, and should already be revealing a high probability of revealing new avenues of investigation, if successful.
		Ongoing Award Programs Collaborative Sciences Award Institute for Precision Cardiovascular Medicine Awards Merit Award Strategically Focused Research Networks Partnered Awards with other organizations	

2017-18 AHA Funding Opportunities Timeline*

Award Program	Letter of Intent Deadline	Application Deadline	Award Start Date
SFRN Vascular Disease	Aug 1	Sept 26	April 1
AIREA	X	Oct 3	April 1
Institutional Undergraduate	X	Oct 4	April 1
Established Investigator	Aug 1	Oct 23	Jan 1
Predoctoral Fellowship	X	Nov 1	July 1
Postdoctoral Fellowship	X	Nov 2	July 1
Merit Award	Aug 15	Nov 6	April 1
Career Development	X	Dec 4	July 1
Innovative Project	X	Dec 11	July 1
Transformational Project	X	Jan 16	July 1
Collaborative Sciences	Nov 1	Feb 5	July 1
SFRN Atrial Fibrillation	TBA	TBA	July 1
Institute – Data Grants & Methods Validation	X	June 29	Oct 1
Institute - Uncovering Patterns	X	Aug 24	Nov 1

*Dates are subject to change.

We look forward to sharing more information about the programs and funding in the coming months. You may monitor the [AHA Application Information](#) Web page for updates.

Free AHA Applications for AHA Professional Members Application fee to increase July 1

A research award applicant must be either an American Heart Association Professional Member (memberships start as low as \$81) or pay \$250 per application submission. Professional Membership includes free research application submissions. Join and save money today! This fee helps to defray the administrative cost of processing applications, making more funds available for research awards.

As an extra benefit, AHA awardees may use award funds to renew annual AHA Professional Membership!

Join or renew your membership today! Join or renew by phone at 301-223-2307 or 800-787-8984, or join from Grants@Heart as you prepare your application.

California Tobacco-Related Disease Research Program Invited Grant Applications in the Areas of Cardiovascular and Cerebrovascular Diseases

As a result of the passage of [Proposition 56](#), beginning in July 2017, the California Tobacco-Related Disease Research Program (TRDRP) will announce a Call for Applications that will broaden its current research priorities and expand them to better serve the Proposition 56 mandate. The opportunity offers an array of grant types including full research projects, pilot projects, postdoctoral fellowships, and other training opportunities.

The expanded research priorities, which will also encourage addressing health disparities in a cross-sectional manner, will invite research under the following priority areas, including research on Cardiovascular and Cerebrovascular Diseases.

2018 TRDRP RESEARCH PRIORITIES

- Tobacco-Related Health Disparities
- Cancer Prevention, Treatment, and Biology
- Cardiovascular and Cerebrovascular Diseases
- Environmental Exposure and Toxicology
- Neuroscience of Nicotine Addiction and Treatment
- Oral Diseases and Dental Health
- Pulmonary Biology and Lung Disease
- State and Local Tobacco Control Policy Research

This opportunity is open to all state of California residents and institutions.

Please visit their [website](#) for further details and how to submit an application, after July 7, 2017.

Strategically Focused Research Networks

AHA Vascular Disease Research Network Request for Applications Now Available Online

The full [Request for Applications](#) is now available online!

Prospective applicants are requested to submit a Letter of Intent via Grants@Heart for the AHA Vascular Disease Network on or before **August 1, 2017**. View the [Letter of Intent Instructions](#) for more details.

While a Letter of Intent is not required to submit a full application, and does not enter into the review of a subsequent application; the information provided in a Letter of Intent allows AHA staff to estimate the potential peer review workload and to avoid potential conflicts of interest in the peer review process. It also **allows AHA to provide potential applicants with updated information** about the application process, if necessary.

For more information, including the full request for applications, visit the [Vascular Disease Research Network](#) website.

Live Application Q&A Webinars

[Aug 15, 2017 at 10 a.m. CT](#)

[Sept 12, 2017 at 2 p.m. CT](#)

Strategically Focused Research Network Postdoctoral Fellowship Opportunities

Postdoctoral graduates interested in a fellowship opportunity with an AHA Strategically Focused Research Network should [submit an application](#) to the center(s) of interest. If you are interested in future SFRN postdoctoral fellowships with a Network, please submit a CV to SFRN@heart.org and it will be shared with the Training Directors once the Network is awarded.

Next Strategically Focused Research Network (SFRN) Topic is Atrial Fibrillation

The upcoming topic is [Atrial Fibrillation](#). For more information, including information regarding important dates, visit the appropriate web pages.

Upcoming AHA SFRN Session at Scientific Sessions 2017

This year at Scientific Sessions in Anaheim, CA the AHA's Strategically Focused Research Networks (SFRN) will conduct an educational session with panel presentations on the progress and innovation taking place across all of the Networks, including the opportunity for

future SFRN applicants to connect with current investigators. Further details on this session can be found on the [AHA SFRN webpage](#).

Lifelong Learning



Online Courses Available from the Research Leaders Academy

The AHA Research Leaders Academy is an invitation only event designed for AHA research awardees from strategically focused programs along with research thought leaders and AHA leadership. The event promotes the exchange of ideas through interactions among topic experts, experienced investigators and early career researchers. The sessions range from hot topics in science to professional skills development. New Lifelong Learning modules are being added periodically, so keep checking them out: <https://learn.heart.org/RLA>.

Current and Past Awardees

Preregister Your Research

Preregistration of studies involves registering the study design, variables, and treatment conditions. Preregistration may be a useful resource to ensuring that funded research projects are reproducible, while supporting our open science initiatives. The AHA encourages awardees to preregister their research.

If you are in the planning stage for a new award, now is an ideal time to preregister your study. Three benefits of pre-registration are:

1. It increases the credibility of your findings by making clearer what was specified in advance.
2. Unexpected or exploratory work is encouraged.
3. You can stake a claim to your ideas earlier.

The Preregistration Challenge, offered through the Center for Open Science, is an education campaign to encourage you to try out this process for yourself. If you have a project that is entering the data collection phase, **the COS is giving away \$1,000 to 1,000 researchers who pre-register before they publish.**

Still need more information? Here are a few helpful resources.

- [Preregistration Help Guide](#)
- [A How-To Guide to Improving the Clarity and Continuity of Your Preregistration](#)
- [Preregistration: A Plan, Not a Prison](#)

Why Should You Become an AHA Peer Reviewer?

- * Provides a substantial addition to curricula vitae that is noticed throughout the science community
- * Serves as a key point for tenure track and other promotions within most institutions
- * Exposes reviewers to relevant scientific breakthroughs happening daily in their specialties
- * Facilitates comradery amongst reviewers and encourages networking and potential collaboration
- * Advances interaction with other AHA council members

Sign up today at [Grants@Heart](#)

Under "First Time Users Register Here," select Peer Reviewer, fill out the form, and await confirmation.

Manuscript Submission Process for Recent Awardees

All recipients of awards that began on or after January 1, 2015, must ensure any signed publication agreement is consistent with the AHA public access [policy](#), which stipulates that awardees deposit all publications resulting from AHA funding into PubMed Central as soon as the manuscript is accepted for publication, make all publications freely and publicly available in PubMed Central within twelve months of publication, and reserve all author rights necessary to comply with this policy.

Also, all recipients of non-exempt awards that began on or after January 1, 2015, must ensure that their Open Data plans are current. Any factual data that is needed for independent verification of research results must be made freely and publicly available in an AHA-approved repository within twelve months of the end of the funding period (or any no-cost extension). Data Plans are available by logging into Grants@Heart, selecting the *Principal Investigator* role, then from the left panel, selecting *Manage Awards*, then *Manage Open Science*, then

Manage Data Plan/Opt-Out Request. When the data has been deposited into the repository, contact ResearchData@heart.org to ensure data submitted is compliant with the Open Data policy.

AHA Awardees Must Now Have ORCID

The American Heart Association now requires that all awardees obtain an Open Researcher and Contributor Identification (ORCID), which is a universal identifier for researchers. Registration is very brief and available [here](#). Awardees will be prompted for this identifier in their upcoming scientific reports.

Peer Reviewers

Thank you for participating in our recent peer review meetings!

We will contact you soon about participation on newly organized "program centered" 2017-18 review committees.

Fiscal Officers and Grant Officers

Visit the AHA Awards and Policies Page

The AHA [Awards and Policies](#) web page contains past program descriptions, the awardee guide, and policies governing all AHA awards.

Have you had a Change of Personnel?

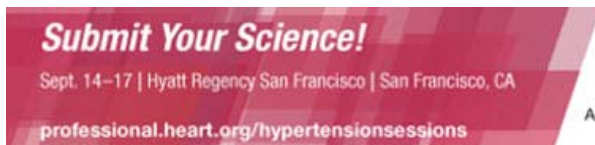
To create smoother transitions, kindly alert the AHA when a fiscal or grant officer leaves or enters your institution. Please send personnel updates to awards@heart.org.

Submit Your Science



Since AHA Awards are made possible through voluntary contributions by the public, research results should be made available to the public promptly, either by presentation to scientific societies or publication in scientific journals. We encourage you to submit abstracts to AHA's Scientific Sessions and Journals. AHA award funds may be used to pay abstract submission fees as part of allowable publication costs.

Council on Hypertension, Council on the Kidney in Cardiovascular Disease and The American Society of Hypertension Joint Scientific Sessions 2017



AHA Council on Hypertension / AHA Council on Kidney in Cardiovascular Disease
American Society of Hypertension Joint Scientific Sessions 2017

This collaboration between the American Heart Association's Council on Hypertension, the Council on the Kidney in Cardiovascular Disease and The American Society of Hypertension will provide one of the most important medical meetings on this subject in the world. Don't miss the chance to meet with international experts in the fields of hypertension and its relationship to cardiac and kidney disease, stroke, obesity and genetics. **Register today!**

Info at <http://professional.heart.org/hypertensionsessions>

International Stroke Conference



Call For Abstracts
For Abstract Categories and Submission Guidelines
strokeconference.org

May 10– August 1
11:59 PM CDT
SUBMIT YOUR SCIENCE!

American Heart Association | American Stroke Association | INTERNATIONAL STROKE CONFERENCE 2018
life is why™

Be a catalyst in the fight against stroke! [Submit your best science](#) for the [International Stroke Conference](#) Jan. 24-26, 2018 at the Los Angeles Convention Center in Los Angeles, CA. Abstract submission is open May 10 through Aug. 1. Mark your calendars: Registration opens in September. Learn more at strokeconference.org.

AHA Scientific Sessions 2017



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SCIENTIFIC 2017 SESSIONS

EXPECT THE BEST

Submit Your Science Now!

Your science and research deserve a worldwide audience! Submit your abstract to the best-in-class cardiovascular conference, AHA Scientific Sessions 2017, Nov. 11-15 in Anaheim, CA. We are accepting submissions now through **Monday, June 12 at 8:00am CDT**. Don't delay! There will be **no extensions** offered in 2017.

Visit scientificsessions.org to submit your cutting-edge cardiovascular research today!