

Klein Family Parkinson's Rehabilitation Center Call for Proposals

The Klein Family Parkinson's Rehabilitation Center (KFPRC) has a mission of bridging clinical practice and human-focused research to improve rehabilitation efforts for people with Parkinson's Disease. In service of that mission, the KFPRC provides grants of up to \$20,000 to stimulate innovation and clinical-research integration in the area of Parkinson's Disease. Grants may take one of two forms: research projects situated along the translational pipeline intended to increase our understanding of Parkinson's Disease and its treatment and rehabilitation, or innovative clinical programs that aim to improve the lives of patients and/or their caregivers.

Eligibility:

Proposals will be accepted from any discipline as long as they have a primary focus on Parkinson's Disease. The principal investigator must be a member of the Einstein or Thomas Jefferson University faculty. In the spirit of clinical-research integration and collaboration, all proposals must include participation from at least one individual with clinical training/expertise and one individual with research training/expertise, broadly defined. Grants will not be awarded for existing programs that have been previously funded under this or any other mechanism unless the proposed activity is substantially different from the current/previous work. This award may not be used as bridge funding. Applicants are welcome to submit a brief (1 page) pre-submission inquiry to the Grant Committee to confirm eligibility no later than 1 month prior to the submission date.

How to Apply:

Applicants should complete a written application form and submit it to the KFPRC Grant Committee. All proposals will be reviewed by the grant committee. One grant will be awarded each funding cycle or as funding permits.

Grants must be submitted using the provided application form, typed, single spaced, in Arial, Georgia, Helvetica, or Palatino Linotype font size 11 or larger. There may not be more than 6 lines of text per inch on the page. Margins must be a minimum of 0.5" wide.

Proposals are due December 1.

Proposal documents should be submitted to Aaron Wong at aaron.wong2@jefferson.edu.

What is clinical-research integration?

We believe that many different perspectives are needed to drive meaningful innovation and progress in clinical care and research, including for the treatment of individuals with Parkinson's Disease. Thus this award aims to foster interactions between individuals with clinical and research perspectives. Some examples of clinical-research integration may include:

- A research experiment testing the efficacy of a novel treatment approach may ask a therapist to help design exercises that are feasible and meaningful to individuals with Parkinson's disease

- A research experiment may involve a therapist to identify and/or administer clinical assessments hypothesized to be affected by the mechanism being studied
- A clinical program may include a formal program evaluation component to assess that the program achieves its stated objectives, which could be designed with assistance from someone with research expertise
- A clinical program may base its approach on a rigorous review of the existing research literature in consultation with a researcher

We recognize that clinical-research interactions can take many different forms (not limited to the examples above). Thus, we welcome applicants to be creative about how they choose to blend these two perspectives in the context of this award.

What if I get the Grant?

Successful awardees should complete their program within the specified timeline beginning from the award date (generally, 1 year). Progress reports must be submitted at 3 months and annually at the end of the year thereafter until the project concludes. If necessary, awardees may apply for an extension for additional time to complete their project as part of their annual report, but no additional funding may be requested.

What else should I know?

Any grants that remain inactive after 1 year will be terminated and unspent funds will be returned to the KFPRC.

Applicants may place salary of full-time hard-money employees (either the principal investigator or grant staff) on a KFPRC award only with permission of the respective Department Chair (a written letter of support is required). All salary support must include Fringe Benefits calculated at 20%. Note, the KFPRC is not authorized to adjust physician or other AEHN staff compensation schedules. Indirect costs are not considered an allowable expense under this award.

For research proposals, all projects must be submitted to the Institutional Review Board (IRB) no later than 30 days from the notice of award from the KFPRC unless a different timeline has been agreed on. Funds for awarded projects will not be released until proof of necessary approvals (e.g., IRB/Privacy) have been submitted to the KFPRC. Funds will not be awarded if proposals are unable to secure these necessary approvals, and will be returned to the KFPRC. Release of funds denote the start of the project period; projects must commence promptly at the start of the project period and continue for the proposed project duration. Awardees will be requested to submit a progress report 3 months and 1 year after the project period begins, then annually thereafter until the project concludes. If special circumstances necessitate a delay in starting, a request for delay must be submitted to and approved by the KFPRC.

Applications may be reviewed by individuals with a range of different expertise including clinicians, researchers, or lay individuals with a general interest in Parkinson's-related work. Thus proposals should include sufficient explanation and detail, and avoid the use of jargon or technical terms, to provide clear understanding of the proposal to a general audience. Any research proposal intending to recruit individuals with Parkinson's Disease, whether recruiting through the MRRI Research Registry or not, must also submit a signed MossRehab Research Resource Utilization Form (RRU). Clinical program proposals are not required to submit this form unless they also intend to make use of the Research Registry, involve active efforts to

recruit participants beyond direct clinician referrals (particularly if a desired number of participants are specified), or involve a clinical program whose effects or recruiting efforts may significantly interact with ongoing research studies (e.g., by causing individuals to become ineligible to participate in other research activities).

All activities supported by the award must be associated with the name and award number, including all publications and presentations arising from this work. It is generally expected that all award winners will present the outcome of their proposal in some fashion, such as by participation in the Einstein Research Recognition Day.

All decisions of the Grant Committee are final.