

I. Introduction

KIF1A.ORG is pleased to announce a Request for Applications for patient-centered research related to KIF1A, and KIF1A Associated Neurological Disorder. This mini grant initiative seeks to support basic and translational research projects.

Each selected proposal will be awarded up to \$10,000, with a total funding commitment of \$30,000.

Please note that our internal organization policy requires that 100% of funds must be applied directly to research, and we do not support the funding of indirect costs or institutional taxes.

II. Focus Areas

In alignment with the diversity of KIF1A research, all submissions will be assessed on their individual merit. Areas of high interest include, but are not limited to:

1. **Improving patient representation in scientific literature:**
 - a. Research of understudied KIF1A variants, including those outside the motor domain and/or Variants of Uncertain Significance
 - b. Assessment of patient perspectives and priorities
2. **Studying KIF1A symptoms with high impact on quality of life**
 - a. Use of preclinical systems to model understudied KAND symptoms

III. Submission Guidelines

To apply for funding, submit a document with the following information to www.kif1a.org/mini-grants by 8pm Eastern on September 20, 2026:

1. **Proposed project title:**
2. **Principal Investigator(s):**
3. **Institution:**
4. **Lay Description of Research Goals (150 words or less):** Describe your research area in plain language that can be shared with the KIF1A family community.
5. **Project Summary (300 words or less):** Describe your project hypothesis, methods, and anticipated results
6. **Specific Aims (200 words or less each):** Describe the questions your project seeks to address
7. **Patient-Centered Research Impact (200 words or less):** Describe how your work connects to improving the lives of those affected by KIF1A mutations.
8. **Budget, with justification (100 words or less):** How will mini grant funds be used? Examples include reagents, model systems, core facility services, or salary support.

IV. Criteria

1. **Scientific Merit:** The clarity, rigor, and novelty of the research hypothesis, methods, and expected outcomes.
2. **Patient-Centered Outcomes:** The degree to which proposed research addresses unmet needs in the KIF1A patient community.
3. **Innovation:** The degree to which the proposed research offers new insights or approaches to understanding or treating KAND.