



## **Lily's Fund for Epilepsy Research**

at the University of Wisconsin Foundation  
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### **Call for Applications in Epilepsy Research: Grace Grants**

#### **History**

Lily's Fund was established in 2007 in honor of a local young woman named Lily who lives with epilepsy. Today, the all-volunteer grassroots organization raises awareness of epilepsy and has raised more than \$1.8 million to support epilepsy research at UW-Madison. In January 2013, Lily's Fund began funding cutting-edge epilepsy research at UW Madison through Grace Grants. Grace Grants are intended to fund specific projects, which may be carried out by individuals, cross-disciplinary teams, or entire departments/labs. These grants are named in honor of another local young woman who lives courageously with a severe form of epilepsy. Grace is tenacious, determined and creative...just what is needed in the epilepsy research projects named for her. She is also a really good whistler.

#### **Purpose**

Grace Grants should foster innovative research that, if successful, will enrich our understanding of epilepsy, advance new epilepsy treatments, identify new diagnostic tools, or otherwise improve quality of life for those who live with epilepsy. A priority will be given to new projects that spark new thinking and open new avenues of inquiry into the mechanisms of epilepsy.

#### **Eligibility**

Applications may be submitted by any UW-Madison faculty or academic staff member(s), including prior awardees, who have the skills, knowledge, and resources necessary to carry out meaningful epilepsy-related research. Applicants must also be able to whistle a jaunty tune.

#### **Funding Available**

- Up to \$100,000 (\$50,000 per year) over two years.
- Midway through the grant period, a progress report must be submitted and approved by the advisory committee prior to releasing the second half of funds.
- No PI salary or indirect costs may be charged to this award. The PI of the award will be named the "Lily's Fund Recipient."

#### **Review Criteria**

Reviewers will consider, but will not be limited to, each of the following criteria:

1. **Innovation.** What is unique about this project?
2. **Importance.** How does this project address an important problem in understanding, diagnosing or treating epilepsy in humans? What will be the potential benefit and appeal to people with epilepsy and their families?
3. **People.** Who are the PD/PIs, collaborators, and other researchers and are they well suited to the project? Will they serve as good ambassadors for the university and for Lily's Fund? Is the PI committed to a career in epilepsy research?
4. **Approach.** Are the overall strategy, methodology, and analyses well reasoned and sound?
5. **Environment.** What are the timeframe and the probability for success?
6. **Overall Impression.** Is it creative, tenacious and determined in its exploration of epilepsy?

## **Proposal Content**

### Page 1: Title Page

On a single page, using ½ inch margins and Arial 11-pt font, please provide the following information:

- Date of application
- Principal Investigator Name and Degree
- Principal Investigator Title
- Names, Degrees, and Titles of Key Collaborators, if appropriate
- Contact information for PI, including Campus Address, Phone Number, and email address
- Project Title
- One paragraph **Lay** Summary (please assume your audience does not have a science background)
- Scientific Abstract

### Pages 2-6: Scientific Project Proposal

Please limit proposal to 5 pages, single spaced, using ½ inch margins, and Arial 11-point font. Please include:

- Summary of project goals and plans/approaches.
- How your project would ultimately benefit people with epilepsy.
- One paragraph description of what is unique about the project. If you know of similar research projects, describe how yours is different.
- Provide a detailed description of your plan to accomplish the project goals above and include a timeline for the project.

### Additional Required Documentation

- Provide a budget and budget justification for the use of these funds (no page limit). Please note that no PI salary or indirect costs may be charged to this award.
- Bibliography (no page limit).
- NIH-style Biosketch, including Other Support, for PI and Key Collaborators (standard NIH page limits apply).

## **Important Dates**

- Application Due: noon on Tuesday, October 3
- Awardees will be notified early 2024

## **Submission Method**

- Proposals are due via the “2023 Lily’s Fund Grace Grants” Box folder: [Lily’s Fund Grace Grants](#)
- Upload single PDF attachment as “PI Last Name\_2023-Lily’sFund\_Application”

Finalists will be interviewed by an appointed Lily’s Fund Selection Committee, and the recipient will be announced in Spring 2024, with funding available July 1, 2024.

## **Resources & UW Contact on behalf of Lily’s Fund**

- Chrissy Pientok, Associate Administrative Director, SMPH Dean’s Office: [pientok@wisc.edu](mailto:pientok@wisc.edu)
- For more information about Lily’s Fund, please go to [www.lilysfund.org](http://www.lilysfund.org).