



## **INSTRUCTIONS TO APPLICANTS FOR NATIONAL KIDNEY FOUNDATION**

### **Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Grant**

#### **Mission**

The National Kidney Foundation (NKF) is dedicated to preventing kidney and urinary tract diseases, improving the health and well-being of individuals and families affected by kidney disease and increasing the availability of all organs for transplantation.

#### **Grant Program Overview**

The National Kidney Foundation recognizes that future improvements in the treatment and prevention of kidney disease rest on stimulating new research on optimal clinical practice, and can be aided by patient involvement. NKF has partnered with the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Initiative (PCORI) to support patient-centered clinical research studies. By supporting those who aspire to study and improve the care of kidney disease patients, NKF is making an important investment in the future of patient outcomes and in the scientific community dedicated to kidney research.

Eligible projects must be patient-oriented with a focus on one of the following topics:

- How to engage patients with kidney disease in research - including different communities/populations of patients
- Health literacy and communication barriers, patient education best practices (including - population/demographic-specific), cultural humility
- Patient self-management/patient activation - how do we best educate and partner with patients to understand and self-manage kidney disease
- Psychosocial issues - stigma, coping
- Kidney disease coordinated care

Applications will be considered from individuals who have experience in nephrology, or closely related fields, prior to the start of the grant award and who intend to pursue research directly related to these areas.

The National Kidney Foundation (NKF) will fund the most meritorious research projects proposed after careful and balanced peer review by an independent review committee, with an emphasis on the support of high-quality patient-centered clinical investigation. The responsiveness of each application to the research agenda of the NKF and above topics will be one of the elements used in the assessment of proposals. Applicants will be asked to provide a description of the applicability of the proposed research to the NKF's mission to improve the detection, prevention, and treatment of kidney disease, to foster kidney transplantation, and to improve the lives of patients with kidney disease.



It is permissible for an applicant to have a concurrent NIH "K" series award and an NKF Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Grant. The applicant should provide a statement of the budgetary and scientific overlap and relatedness of the two applications.

### **ELIGIBILITY**

- Applications will be considered from individuals, of all disciplines, who work in nephrology and who intend to pursue research directly related to these areas. The department head/facility director within which the research is to be conducted must provide approval
- Applicants must be a current member of the National Kidney Foundation
- Applicants must be a resident in the United States or its territories

Preference may be given to applicants who are affiliated with a medical institution or university program. The Review Committee reserves the right to award grants or to decline funding without stating its reasons.

### **GRANT REQUIREMENTS**

Each grant recipient is responsible for:

- Conducting the project as set forth in the proposal and consistent with accepted, systematic research methods
- Obtaining appropriate human studies clearance within the dialysis/transplant facility/hospital and maintaining data in a confidential manner
- Providing financial reports as required by the National Kidney Foundation
- Acknowledging NKF grant assistance on all publications arising out of the work done during the duration of the grant
- Submitting interim progress reports and preparing a final report of the work accomplished within 60 days of the end of the grant year
- Submitting a manuscript based on the results to the applicable journal (*American Journal of Kidney Diseases*, *Advances in Chronic Kidney Disease*, the *Journal on Renal Nutrition*, or *Journal of Nephrology Social Work*)
- Presenting the research at the National Kidney Foundation Spring Clinical Meetings upon completion of the project

### **TERMS OF SUPPORT**

Initial support for awards commencing July 1, 2018 will be provided for one year in a total amount of \$35,000. Funds provided by an NKF Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Grant will be administered by the appropriate fiscal department of the investigator's institution. Funds may be used only for equipment, supplies, clinical research costs or other expenses directly related to the conduct of the proposed research. No more than \$10,000 per year may be expended for salary and fringe benefits of the principal



investigator. No more than \$1,000 per year may be used for travel by the investigator to national or international meetings."

Funds for an NKF Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Grant may not be used for any of the following:

1. Indirect costs or overhead
2. Costs of patient care
3. Constructing or renovating facilities
4. Furniture or office equipment
5. Secretarial services

Any changes in the budget proposed in the original application or in subsequent amendments must be approved in advance by the NKF.

#### **OTHER SUPPORT**

If, during the period of support by an NKF Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Grant, the investigator obtains any type of "R" grant from the National Institutes of Health or a Merit Award from the Veterans Administration, the NKF Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Grant will be terminated at the start of funding by the other agency. Individuals who have received "K" awards from the NIH are eligible for funding under the NKF Grant Program. To assist the NKF Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Grant Committee in implementing this policy, the application should list all research projects (either funded or with funding pending) in which the applicant is participating. The scientific and/or budgetary relationship between the proposed NKF Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Grant and any other research funding should be explained.

#### **FORM OF APPLICATION**

Completed applications should be submitted electronically at [www.kidney.org/researchgrant](http://www.kidney.org/researchgrant)

Most of the sections of the application do not require explanation. However, the following requirements should be noted:

#### **DEPARTMENT CHAIRMAN/FACILITY HEAD'S LETTER OF COMMITMENT**

A letter of commitment from the chairman or head of the applicant's department/facility must be submitted with an application.



## **DOCUMENTATION OF COLLABORATIVE ARRANGEMENTS**

Applicant should provide letter(s) from consultant(s) indicating their willingness to assist in the proposed project and any conditions on such assistance, if applicable.

## **LAY SUMMARY**

A brief (150 words) description of the research that the NKF Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Grant investigator proposes to undertake should be written as a summary for a lay audience. The summary should include a brief discussion of the proposed research and an indication of its potential benefits to the patient with kidney disease. Scientific jargon, abbreviations and complex discussions should be avoided.

## **RESEARCH PROPOSAL**

The research proposal should be divided into the following parts:

Part A. Specific Aims (limited to one page)

Part B. Significance and background (limited to one page).

Part C. Preliminary studies (limited to one page)

Part D. Experimental design and methods (limited to two pages)

The candidate should explicitly acknowledge limitations in the research design and provide alternative approaches which would be employed should aspects of the research design be unproductive.

Part E. Bibliography

The page limitations for the different parts of the Research Plan are the maximum acceptable. Eleven-point proportional font is the smallest print permitted. There must be no more than 60 lines per page. Margins should be greater than or equal to 0.5 in. An application may be denied scientific review if it exceeds required number of pages or permitted type size.

An Appendix may be used for presenting data tabulation, figures, graphs, submitted manuscripts, abstracts and papers. Any Appendix should not contain further descriptive material.

## **REFERENCES**

Three references should be submitted separately from the application on the form provided in the application materials and each reference should be **e-mailed to [Julia.schrogin@kidney.org](mailto:Julia.schrogin@kidney.org) by the February 9, 2018, deadline**. One of these letters should be from the sponsor of the research performed



during the applicant's research training. If a reference is submitted by the chairman of the applicant's department, it should be separate from and in addition to the required letter of commitment (see above).

### **DEADLINE AND PEER REVIEW PROCESS**

Applications and all supporting documents for NKF Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Grant must be submitted electronically on or before **Friday, February 9, 2018**. Applications received after this date will not be considered. Applications will be reviewed by an NKF study section panel, using outside reviewers, as necessary. The successful applicant will be notified in late-Spring, 2018 and funds will be made available to them effective July 1, 2018. NKF is not able to provide written critiques of applications.

### **FUNDING AGREEMENT**

The successful candidate will be required to execute an agreement that incorporates the terms and conditions of research support from the National Kidney Foundation described in these instructions.

### **REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

In carrying out its stewardship for the resources devoted to the National Kidney Foundation (NKF) research program and to provide feedback to the NKF benefactors who make this research program support possible, it is the policy of the NKF that its membership should be kept informed of the research progress, the status of their careers and the effectiveness of the NKF Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Grant Program. By accepting an NKF Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Grant, the investigator and the grantee institution agree to the following reporting requirements:

- The grant recipient will provide a Progress Report written for a lay audience at the end of the year of support, and to provide quarterly progress reports to the grant committee
- The grant recipient agrees to provide a reprint of every publication (including abstracts) resulting from research supported by the NKF Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Grant, even if published after termination of the grant
- Results of research supported by the National Kidney Foundation and Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Initiative may be made available to the public through appropriate scientific channels. All publications will bear the statement:
- "The work was supported by a Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Grant of the National Kidney Foundation."
- The grant recipient will present the research at the National Kidney Foundation Spring Clinical Meetings after completion of the grant.