



NATIONAL KIDNEY FOUNDATION®

Council on
Renal Nutrition®

PURPOSE

In keeping with the overall goals of the National Kidney Foundation (NKF) and its Council on Renal Nutrition (CRN), the purpose of the CRN Research Grants Program is to further knowledge of dietitian issues in the management of kidney disease.

AREAS OF INTEREST

1. Basic or applied research on renal nutrition issues in the area of kidney disease
2. Early intervention and treatment of kidney disease
3. Development and evaluation of education programs to enhance patient/family understanding of kidney disease treatment
4. Demonstration projects related to kidney disease, failure, and rehabilitation
5. Incorporation of renal palliative care and advanced care planning in CKD/ESRD care models

ELIGIBILITY

Grant applications must meet the following eligibility requirements:

1. Current membership to NKF-CRN
2. Minimum of two years of nephrology experience as a renal dietitian
3. Written approval of the department head or facility director within which the research is to be conducted
4. Residence in the United States or its territories
5. Prior research training or evidence of technical support from individual with research experience

REQUIREMENTS

Each grant recipient is responsible for:

1. Conducting projects as set forth in the proposal and consistent with accepted, systematic research methods.
2. Proof of appropriate human studies clearance within the hospital, medical, or dialysis/transplant facility and maintaining data in a confidential manner.
3. Completing the project within the specified time frame.
4. Providing financial reports as required by the National Kidney Foundation.
5. Acknowledging NKF professional grant assistance on all publications arising out of the work done during the term of the grant, and whenever published.
6. Preparing brief quarterly reports of progress on the work accomplished, including a complete summary report at the end of the grant period. Please note that monies will be held until quarterly report is received.
7. Submitting an original manuscript based on the results of the research to *Journal on Renal Nutrition (JRN)*.
8. Presenting the research at the NKF Spring Clinical Meetings upon completion of the project.

9. Submitting a photograph and brief description of the research project for display at the NKF Spring Clinical Meeting prior to the completion of the research grant.

FUNDING INFORMATION

1. Availability of Funds

One or more grants will be awarded. Because of limited resources, the maximum grant that can be awarded is \$10,000. Applicants submitting to more than one granting agency will be awarded the difference between the amount awarded by the other agency and the amount applied for from NKF-CRN.

2. Allowable Expenses

Grant funds will be allocated to assist in defraying the cost of research and projects. It is expected that the space, basic facilities, durable equipment, and office supplies/services will be provided by the facility where the research is to be conducted. It is also important to note that no overhead or grant administration fees will be allowed; the institution must waive those charges. If other sources of financial support are available, the applicant must list the other sources and indicate how the NKF funding will be used.

2a. Support of Applicant

Not to exceed 20 percent of total requested funds. It is anticipated that the applicant retains employment with the investigating institution or is a student pursuing advanced education in the field and would therefore have facility support to pursue their research.

2b. Consultant Fee(s)

Not to exceed 25% of total requested funds. Circumstances and justification for payment to consultants must be detailed. Include a curriculum vitae for any paid consultant. Primary care physicians will not be compensated for patient care during the study with any grant monies.

2c. Support Services

This would include payments to technicians, statisticians, lab assistants, etc., who assist in the manipulation of data or actual performance of research objectives. Please list each separately and detail their role in the research investigation.

2d. Supplies

Funds may be used only for technician salary, supplies, clinical research costs or other expenses directly related to the conduct of the proposed research. Grant funds cannot be used for the purchase of equipment. Please list each cost separately in proposed budget.

2e. Other

The budget should include a maximum of \$750 to cover travel (and related) expenses which would be incurred by one investigator so that s/he can make a presentation of research findings at the NKF 2024 Spring Clinical Meetings. Please note that the National Kidney Foundation will not provide any additional funding to defray travel expenses in connection with such presentation. These costs may include: purchase of tickets to travel to the meeting at which data is presented and charges for hotel accommodations and meals during the meeting; Medline expenses associated with review of literature; media costs (i.e., production of slides, transparencies) for presentation of research; and other clearly defined incidentals that do not fall under any previously delineated categories.

3. Duration and Tenure

Funding for NKF-CRN research grants runs from January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023, at which time the project proposed in the application must be completed.

If a principal investigator must suspend work on the project for which s/he has received support, either because of prolonged illness or any other reason, the department head or facility director must immediately notify the National Kidney Foundation. Transfer of the grant from one person to another in the same institution is not permitted unless written authorization is received from the NKF-CRN Grants Review Committee.

Funds are granted for research at the university or institution specified in the application. The grant terminates if a grantee transfers to another institution. However, application may be made to the Grants Review Committee of the Council to have the unspent portion allocated for use at the new institution. Such petitions must be supported by a letter of approval from the department head or facility director at the institution where research is to be continued.

When research under a grant is completed, or if for any reason it cannot be continued, the grant will be closed. Any funds remaining are frozen and cannot be put to any other use. The grantee will prepare a final accounting and return outstanding funds to the NKF.

4. Payment of Awards

Payment of awards and financial accounting procedures for grants will be in keeping with NKF policies. Appropriate information and instructions will be provided to grantees through the NKF office.

GRANT APPLICATION PROCESS

Applicants will complete an online form, and upload supporting documents. Research Grant Applications must include the following components in order to be considered:

1. Name and contact information
2. A copy of the applicant's curriculum vitae.
3. A copy of the curriculum vitae of consultant(s) if grant request includes fees for that consultant. Describe the role of the consultant(s) in the research project.
4. Letters of approval regarding the research/project to be undertaken from the applicant's department head and/or the facility director. Approval letters should include verification that adequate time and resources (e.g., space, basic supplies, secretarial support, etc.) will be afforded the applicant in carrying out the proposed research and that overhead and administrative fees will be waived.
5. A copy of the research approval letter from the institution's Human Studies Committee, Human Subjects Committee or Institutional Review Board or a copy of the application for such approval. If a facility does not have one of these stated committees, the applicant must seek approval through an affiliated hospital or institution.
6. A concise description of the proposed research or project, not to exceed ten (10) double-spaced pages, which include the following:
 - a. a brief review of background research/literature, including any preliminary work by the applicant, specific to the proposed research question or project (not to exceed one page).
 - b. a clear statement of the purpose of the project.

- c. a description of the methodology to be used, including the population to be studied; justification for test instruments selected and data analysis techniques proposed, in the case of research; and the proposed time frames for various components of the project.
 - d. Implications for practice.
7. A completed budget outline should be attached to the grant application. This is not included in the ten-page summary of the research description. Since funds are limited, it is important to justify expenses in a detailed manner and recognize that funds are set forth primarily for actual research data collection and analysis and not ancillary funds for institutions or individuals in the conducting of research in their facility.

All forms are due by **October 17, 2022**.

REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS AND AWARDS

All research grant proposals that meet the requirements of the application procedures will be reviewed on a fair and impartial basis by the NKF-CRN Grants Review Committee. Committee members from applying institutions cannot vote on the merits of, nor review the grant(s) from that institution. The Committee will evaluate applicant eligibility, research design, and applicability to clinical practice. These areas will be independently weighted according to their merits by the Committee members.

Awards will be announced on or before **November 30, 2022**. The Review Committee reserves the right to award grants or to decline funding without stating their reasons.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF GRANT RECIPIENTS

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 medical facility and maintaining data in a confidential manner
- Completing the project within the specified time frame
- Providing financial reports as required by the National Kidney Foundation
- Acknowledging NKF-CRN grant assistance on all publications arising out of the work done during the duration of the grant
- Submitting quarterly progress reports and preparing a final report of the work accomplished within 60 days of the end of the grant year
- Presenting a paper at the 2020 NKF Spring Clinical Meetings describing the research, results and implications for practice
- Submitting a manuscript based on the results to the *Journal on Renal Nutrition (JRN)* (and with the committee's approval, another related journal)

Key Dates

Oct 17, 2022	Submit grant application (via online form)
Oct-Nov 2022	Council Research Grants Committee Review
Nov 30, 2022	Award Announced
Jan 1, 2023	Approved projects begin operation and continue until Dec 31, 2023