

2023 GCRLE Grants - Additional Information

Global Consortium for Reproductive Longevity & Equality (GCRLE)

The GCRLE invites investigators to apply for two-year research projects focused on better understanding the biology of female reproductive aging.

Apply at gcrle.org/apply.

Applications will be accepted until December 16th at 11:59pm PST

Table of Contents

1. Application Details
 - a. [Collaborative applications](#)
 - b. [Senior Scholar Award](#)
 - c. [Junior Scholar Award](#)
 - d. [Postdoctoral Fellowship](#)
 - e. [Pilot Award](#)
2. [Policies and Expectations](#)
 - a. [General Policies](#)
 - b. [Ethical Conduct](#)
 - c. [Data, publication, and dissemination](#)
 - d. [Confidentiality](#)
3. [FAQs](#)
 - a. [Budget FAQs](#)
 - b. [Sample budgets](#)

Application Details

Collaborative applications

- We encourage collaborative applications to be interdisciplinary.
- The Coordinating PI must be affiliated with the institution submitting the application, and grant funds will be awarded to that institution, which will take responsibility for distributing funds and communicating the terms and conditions of this agreement to any other institutions. Note that foreign institutions may not subcontract to US institutions, so please be mindful when selecting the Coordinating PI/institution.
- PIs can only serve as co-PIs on one application; however, an applying PI can be listed as a collaborator on any number of other applications and provide a letter of support.
- Postdocs can serve as co-PIs.

Senior Scholar Awards

- Applicants must have an academic appointment and be in an independent faculty position or equivalent at an accredited college, university, medical school, or other research facility. Independence is typically demonstrated by a full-time faculty appointment, a tenure-track or tenure-track equivalent position, allocated space, a start-up package, and institutional commitment.
- A PI who is submitting their own grant application may serve as an advisor on a postdoctoral fellow's application at the same time.

Junior Scholar Awards

- Applicants must be principal investigators with an academic appointment who have been in an independent faculty role at an accredited college, university, medical school, or other research facility for **less than six years at the time of application**, i.e. starting after December 16th, 2016. Independence is typically demonstrated by a full-time faculty appointment, allocated space, a start-up package, and institutional commitment.
- Requests for exceptions to the eligibility requirement will be considered based on extenuating circumstances, such as a career break. Email info@gcrle.org
- A PI who is submitting their own grant application may serve as an advisor on a postdoctoral fellow's application at the same time.

Postdoctoral Fellowship Awards

- **Postdoctoral Fellowships require 2 letters of support**, one of which must be from the applicant's PhD thesis advisor.
 - Postdoctoral Fellow applicants should direct their references to submit their letters to the portal at gcrle.org/funding/los
- Candidates who hold, or are in the final stages of obtaining a Ph.D., M.D., or equivalent degree and are seeking beginning postdoctoral training in basic biomedical research are eligible to apply for a postdoctoral fellowship award.
- Regardless of current salary, this Fellowship Award grants \$70,000 in annual salary to the recipient.
- Applicants must be within 4 years of the date of the award of their PhD or 5 years of their MD at the time of application, i.e. starting after December 16th, 2018 (for PhDs) or 2017 (for MDs).
- Requests for exceptions to the eligibility requirement will be considered based on extenuating circumstances, such as a career break. Email info@gcrle.org
- Individuals receiving concurrent support from another organization are not eligible to apply.
- The fellowship may be transferable upon review, in the event that the fellow leaves the sponsoring organization.
- Awards are limited to one per laboratory/faculty sponsor.
- Fellowship training should be obtained in an academic setting. Applications that propose training in a commercial or industrial laboratory will not be considered.

Pilot Awards

- Applicants must have an academic appointment and be in an independent faculty position or equivalent at an accredited college, university, medical school, or other research facility. Independence is typically demonstrated by a full-time faculty appointment, a tenure-track or tenure-track equivalent position, allocated space, a start-up package, and institutional commitment.
- A PI who is submitting their own grant application may serve as an advisor on a postdoctoral fellow's application at the same time.

Policies and Expectations

General Policies

- **All application instructions must be adhered to or the application will be immediately removed from consideration.** The GCRLE will not negotiate exceptions.
- Funds from these awards are intended to support research activities. Grants are made to institutions on behalf of the named award recipients and reasonable flexibility on how these funds are utilized is allowed, provided that the funds are used to support research activities related to the project. Funded investigators will be asked to provide summary budgets at the time of award and during annual reporting.
- Funds from these awards can be used to support clinical research.
- For awarded projects, financial statements and progress reports will be due at the conclusion of each grant year, and the second year of funding is contingent upon reporting and reasonable progress.
- Investigators of funded projects will be required to participate in regular investigator meetings, including annual investigator meetings. Travel support for these meetings should be budgeted from the requested GCRLE grant funds.
- Grantees may obtain funds for their research from other funding sources, provided that there is no conflict with meeting the terms of the GCRLE award. Additional funding should be reported as an outcome on the annual and final reports.
- All grants will be made in compliance with the US Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Asset Control (OFAC) program. For additional information regarding OFAC sanctions, please refer to the [US Treasury Department's resources](#).

Ethical conduct

- GCRLE advocates the highest standards for the ethical conduct of research. In addition to requirements of their own countries, grantees should adopt procedures for the humane and ethical use of animals in research and for the ethical treatment of human subjects and tissue donors, including obtaining their written informed consent. GCRLE regards the [policies](#) of the [National Institute of Health](#) as a strong model for such procedures.

Data, publication, and dissemination

To accelerate scientific discovery and collaboration, GCRLE supports a consent, sharing, and publication policy for open and rapid dissemination of research results, including methods, data and reagents, and a policy for software development that maximizes accessibility, reuse, and shared development. GCRLE will also provide network infrastructure for data sharing among grantees.

Software and code

- GCRLE and the Buck Institute require sharing of software code developed by its grantees to generally be made publicly available on GitHub (or a similar public service) under a permissive open source license (MIT, BSD 2-Clause, BSD 3-Clause, or Apache v2.0).
- All preexisting and derivative code should be designed to be licensed under the most permissive license possible, given the licensing terms of the pre-existing code.
- All analysis packages must be released through the appropriate language-specific package manager with documentation, example data, and interactive demos (e.g., Jupyter notebooks), and the use of Docker or similar container technologies to ensure portability and reproducibility.
- Software code supported by GCRLE should be archived for [long-term digital preservation](#) and [citability](#), when applicable.

Content and data sharing

- GCRLE and the Buck Institute are committed to developing and using platforms that disseminate data openly and freely. Any datasets either curated or generated through the proposal should be made publicly available and easily accessible through an appropriate [data repository](#), when applicable, under an [Open Definition conformant license](#).

Publications

- Scientific publications, preprints, and presentations that result from this award **must acknowledge the project was supported by GCRLE funding**.
 - Recommended phrasing: “This work was funded by GCRLE-XXXX from the Global Consortium for Reproductive Longevity and Equality at the Buck Institute, made possible by the Bia-Echo Foundation.”
- To encourage rapid dissemination of results, any publications related to this funded work **must be submitted to a preprint server**, such as bioRxiv, before the first submission to a journal. Experimental protocols should be made publicly available through a protocol sharing service, such as [protocols.io](#).

Reagent sharing

- Where possible, resources and reagents developed with this funding support should be available for rapid dissemination to the community in an accessible

community repository, such as Addgene (for plasmids/DNA reagents/viruses) and Jackson Labs (for mouse lines), etc. This requirement applies to cell lines, transgenic organisms, plasmids/clones, antibodies, and other reagents.

Consent

- All human tissues should be adequately and fully consented to permit full sharing of the resulting data and any resulting tools, in accordance with laws and regulatory requirements. Any desired exceptions to this policy must be identified at the time of application.

Intellectual property rights

- The Buck Institute and GCRLE do not require assignment of ownership to any data, published results, or any other intellectual property that results from the work funded by these grants, but will have the same rights generally afforded to others in the permissive licenses described above.
- GCRLE supports and promotes policies that enable results and technologies to have the broadest reach and impact. Toward this end, all newly developed software should be made available through permissive open source licenses as described above.
- Other technology and intellectual property rights (such as patents) should be made freely available for all academic and non-commercial use. Where intellectual property rights are commercialized, they should generally be subject to non-exclusive commercial licenses that enable broad availability and dissemination

Confidentiality

All submitted applications will be kept confidential. We do not provide feedback on unfunded applications.

FAQs

- Am I eligible to apply if I don't have a background in reproductive aging?
 - Investigators without a background in reproductive aging are welcome to apply, and should include a description of how the relevant expertise will be acquired.
- Is this grant transferable between institutions?
 - As long as there is an appropriate institutional support from the other institution, the grant may be transferable upon review. However, we do not guarantee transferability.

- Are NIH intramural scientists eligible?
 - Yes
- What documentation is needed during the application stage in order to request dependent child allowance? What documentation is needed during the course of the grant?
 - No documentation is needed during the application stage.
- Is preliminary data required to apply?
 - No data or experimental results are required for the application, but are accepted as part of the scientific proposal.
- Does the postdoctoral fellowship allow for part-time positions?
 - No, the postdoctoral fellowship is only for full-time positions.
- Are clinical research projects within the scope of the CFA?
 - Yes.

Budget FAQs

- Can annual expenses exceed the allotted budget if they are lower than the total funding amount? (Ex: spending \$500,000 in year 1 of the \$400,000/year Senior Scholar Award)
 - No, release of funds for year 2 is dependent on progress in year 1. Rare exceptions may be granted on a case by case basis.
- What is your policy regarding salary caps?
 - We do not require adherence to NIH salary limits
- Is budget justification required?
 - No budget justification is required at the time of application. Upon acceptance, further budget details may be requested.
- What can funds for each award be applied to?
 - For Senior, Junior, and Pilot awards, funds can be used for salary, laboratory supplies, dependent child allowance (\$2,000 per child), scientific meeting registration, travel expenses, fringe benefits, and equipment.
 - Funds for the Postdoctoral Fellowship are intended to support the Fellow's salary of \$70,000/year, laboratory supplies, dependent child allowance (\$2,000 per child), scientific meeting registration, fringe benefits, travel expenses, and equipment. No other salaries can be funded by this Award.
 - Tuition reimbursements are not an allowable expense
- What are the policies regarding indirect costs?
 - Total funding includes indirect costs. Indirect costs are allowed on the Senior, Junior, and Pilot awards
 - For institutions inside the US, **indirect costs are capped at 40%**
 - For institutions outside the US, **indirect costs are capped at 8%** and may not be used on subcontracts exceeding \$25,000.
 - Indirect costs may not be assessed on capital equipment
- Are there any stipulations for what the funds **must** be used for?

- Investigators of funded projects are required to budget travel from GCRLE's Award funding to attend the annual GCRLE Symposium.
 - Postdoctoral Fellowships must support the Postdoctoral Fellow's full salary of \$70,000.
- Do you support salaries over the NIH cap?
 - Yes

Sample Budget - Junior Scholar Award

Sample Budget: Junior Scholar Award			
Add rows as necessary			
Proposed Budget			
	Year 1	Year 2	Notes
Personnel Direct Costs			
Salaries and Wages	100,000	100,000	Must enter \$70,000 for Postdoctoral Awards
Fringe Benefits	30,000	30,000	
Sub Total	130,000	130,000	
Non-Personnel Direct Costs			
Equipment	20,000	0	
Supplies	30,000	30,000	
Travel	5,000	5,000	Include travel cost to GCRLE Symposium
Other Expenses (specify in notes)	4,000	4,000	Childcare
Other Expenses (specify in notes)	2,000	2,000	Computer related
Other Expenses (specify in notes)	20,000	40,000	RNAseq facility
Sub Total	81,000	81,000	
Total Direct Costs			
	211,000	211,000	
Indirect Costs (max 40% USA; 8% Intl; not allowed on Postdoctoral Awards)			
Indirect Costs	39,000	39,000	
Total Costs	250,000	250,000	

Sample Budget - Postdoctoral Fellowship

Sample Budget: Postdoctoral Scholar Award			
Add rows as necessary			
Proposed Budget			
	Year 1	Year 2	Notes
Personnel Direct Costs			
Salaries and Wages	70,000	70,000	Must enter \$70,000 for Postdoctoral Awards
Fringe Benefits	10,000	10,000	
Sub Total	80,000	80,000	
Non-Personnel Direct Costs			
Equipment	0	0	
Supplies	14,000	14,000	
Travel	2,000	2,000	Include travel cost to GCRLE Symposium
Other Expenses (specify in notes)	2,000	2,000	Childcare
Other Expenses (specify in notes)	2,000	2,000	Computer related
Other Expenses (specify in notes)	0	0	
Sub Total	20,000	20,000	
Total Direct Costs			
	100,000	100,000	
Indirect Costs (max 40% USA; 8% Intl; not allowed on Postdoctoral Awards)			
Indirect Costs	0	0	
Total Costs	100,000	100,000	

For questions and all correspondence regarding these Grants, please contact us in advance of the proposal deadline at info@gcrle.org. Deadline extensions will not be granted.