



## KCNT1 Epilepsy Foundation Grant Award Process

Through our *investigator-initiated grant program*, the KCNT1 Epilepsy Foundation hopes to accelerate the development of therapeutic treatments and disease-modifying advancements for those living with mutations in the KCNT1 gene. This grant program is designed to facilitate *preliminary investigations* that will potentially lay the groundwork for subsequent grants from the government, industry, or other funding sources, including the KCNT1 Epilepsy Foundation.

The KCNT1 Epilepsy Foundation is interested in supporting research that advances understanding of the cellular, molecular, genetic and systems-level mechanisms of KCNT1 related disorders. However, priority will be given to innovative projects which could potentially lead to therapeutic treatments or a cure for those with KCNT1 related disorders.

### Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must fall into one of the following categories to be eligible for a KCNT1 Epilepsy Foundation grant:

- A postdoctoral fellow
- A clinical fellow in Neurology or Psychiatry who is focused on Epilepsy
- Newly appointed faculty who are within one year of having completed postdoctoral training

*Note: International applicants are welcome; however, all materials must be submitted in English.*

### Budget

The KCNT1 Epilepsy Foundation will provide up to \$50,000 of funding for one year of direct costs. No indirect costs or equipment will be funded (see travel stipend information below). The number of grants funded will be contingent on available funds.

### 2022 Funding Cycle Dates and Deadlines

Request for Application – April 1

Letter of Intent Deadline – May 1

Full Application Deadline – June 1

Anticipated Award Announcement – Aug 1

Anticipated Project Start Date – Fall 2023 (Flexible)

## **Letter of Intent (LOI)**

All applicants must submit a Letter of Intent (LOI). The LOI should clearly and concisely outline the hypothesis to be tested in layman's terms, the specific aims, and provide a brief description of the research plan. The LOI will be reviewed by KCNT1 Epilepsy Foundation Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) as well as select parents and the Board of Directors (BOD.)

## **Letter of Intent Submission**

Send LOI via email to [justin@kcnt1epilepsy.org](mailto:justin@kcnt1epilepsy.org)

## **Letter of Intent Instructions:**

Below are instructions for the required scientific summary, future directions and award relevance sections, which together can be no longer than two (2) pages in length.

**Scientific Summary:** Clearly and concisely outline the hypothesis and specific aims, and provide a brief description of how the proposed research plan aligns with KCNT1 Epilepsy Foundation's mission. (1 1/2-page maximum)

**Future Directions:** Describe what next steps will be taken once the goals of your proposed project have been achieved. (1/2-page maximum, including spaces)

**Award Relevance:** Explain how this avenue of research is independent from your mentor's research, and how will it lead to a path of independent epilepsy research.

## **Application Requirements:**

Please make sure to include a title page for the proposal being submitted. The main body of the proposal needs to include the following and not be more than 6 pages (total) in length:

- A description of the project background
- Hypothesis and specific aims of the research
- Preliminary data
- Research plan detailing experimental design and methods
- Expected outcomes, potential pitfalls and interpretation(s) of outcomes of the research

**Mission:** Include one paragraph detailing how the proposed research aligns with the KCNT1 Epilepsy Foundation's mission: *to improve the lives of those affected by KCNT1 related disorders through research and the acceleration of treatments*

**Independence:** Include one paragraph describing how this avenue of research is independent from your mentor's research, and how it will lead to a path of independent epilepsy or neurodevelopmental research.

**Abstract:** The abstract must include a Lay and Scientific Summary as detailed below:

**Lay Summary:** The lay summary will be reviewed by the KCNT1 Epilepsy Foundation BOD, consultants and/or SAB committee. Please take special care to describe the proposed work and its potential impact on KCNT1 related disorders in language appropriate for non- scientific audiences.

Make sure to include the following:

- **Project Goals:** Bulleted list of the goal(s) of the project.
- **Aims:** Bulleted list of how those goals will be tested.
- **Deliverables:** Bulleted list of tangible deliverables to result from this work if successful.
- **Impact:** Briefly explain how the project, if successful, will contribute to improved treatments and cure. In this section, you may also explain the next steps in your research plan once the goals of your proposed project have been achieved.

**Scientific Summary:** Please provide a scientific abstract for your project. This will be reviewed in detail by the SAB.

**References:** Make sure to list all literature cited within the proposal. *\*Note: references do not count toward the page limit.*

**Letters of Reference:** In addition to the references mentioned previously, you are required to submit two (2) letters of support. One letter must come from your direct supervisor/mentor and the second letter should come from another senior investigator/clinician familiar with your expertise and experience.

**Budget Period Detail:** Provide a detailed budget. The budget maximum for this program is \$50,000 for direct costs for one year. Include an itemized list of how funds will be used (e.g., materials, animals, salary, fringe benefits, disposables, maintenance, travel\*). Funds are not to be used to purchase equipment. Please note that indirect costs and institutional overhead are not provided. All expenses must be converted to U.S. dollars (USD).

*\*Note there is a travel cap of \$1,000 for international applicants and \$800 for U.S. applicants per year, which can be budgeted for a maximum of two investigators (the PI and Co-PI). If awarded, the KCNT1 Epilepsy Foundation asks all grantees to attend the annual American Epilepsy Society meeting and/or the KCNT1 Epilepsy Foundation Family or Professionals conference to present their findings.*

**Current and Pending Support:** Provide all current and pending support for key personnel. Please indicate if there is any overlap with the proposed work.

**Biosketch:** Include NIH-style Biosketches for all key personnel involved. **Submit:** Please submit your application via email to [Justin@kcnt1epilepsy.org](mailto:Justin@kcnt1epilepsy.org)

**Inquiries:** Questions regarding these guidelines are welcome and should be directed to the Justin West via email: [Justin@kcnt1epilepsy.org](mailto:Justin@kcnt1epilepsy.org)

**Updated 12.8.2022**

