



## **Request for Research Applications Targeting New/Early-stage Investigators Examining Health Outcomes in Prader-Willi Syndrome (Clinical Studies only, Excludes Clinical Trials of Therapeutic Agents)**

***[Total Award: \$25,000]***

The purpose of this RFA is to solicit applications from new or early-stage investigators for research projects examining factors that broadly but directly impact health outcomes in Prader-Willi Syndrome (PWS). The research findings should help make life better for individuals and families living with PWS. A broad range of topic areas will be considered, from societal and behavioral to biological, particularly in understudied areas such as adult health, quality of life, positive health outcomes, and diverse populations. Support is limited to clinical studies on human subjects including retrospective/secondary data analysis and medical informatics but excludes randomized clinical trials of drugs or other therapeutic agents. The goal is to encourage research by new investigators on topics impacting medical and behavioral determinants of health in PWS with the potential to enhance care and quality of life for people living with PWS and their families, and guide PWSA | USA priorities.

Proposals should designate a single person as Principal Investigator (PI) **[i.e., No multi-PI projects]** Additional collaborators including mentors and senior investigators should be listed as Co-Investigators. This award will give priority to PIs meeting the following:

**New Investigators** – Investigators who have not yet successfully served as a PI for a substantial independent NIH award.

**Early-stage investigator (ESI)** - A subset of new investigators who are within 10 years of a terminal research degree, medical residency, or equivalent.

*[Excludes PI status for senior investigators with multiple NIH R01 awards or comparable or larger grant awards from any funding source]*

### **Funding [2 Awards; \$25,000 each]**

The term of the award is one year. The total cost of the award [\$25,000] includes indirect costs which should not exceed 8%. Funding will be made directly to each institution according to the submitted budget, which should be proportional to the

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planned work at each research site. The award supports materials, supplies, professional and/or other services and salary for key personnel. Up to 20% of the award may be applied to the PI or Co-I salaries.

Awardees will be expected to attend the 2025 PWSA | USA Medical and Scientific Conference, provide a progress report six months after receipt of the award and provide a year-end review of activities which may be given as an oral or poster presentation at the Conference. Additional funding of up to \$2,000 will be provided to support related travel and expenses for the Conference.

## Selection Process

The PWSA | USA Research Committee will review letters of intent (LOIs) to select submissions best aligned with their priorities as described in the RFA; additional reviewers may be used, as needed, to consider technical elements, study design and scientific validity. Authors of a subset of the submitted LOIs will be asked to submit a full proposal. Guidelines for full proposals will be provided at that time.

## Timeline

1. LOI application deadline: May 1, 2023, at noon Eastern time.
2. All applicants will be notified of their status by May 15, 2023. A subset of the LOIs will be asked to submit full grant proposals, no later than July 15, 2023. Full grant proposals are limited to no more than a five-page research plan.
3. Announcement of the award will be made August 1, 2023. Written critiques will not be provided to unsuccessful applicants.
4. Funding could begin in August or September 2023.

## Letter of Intent: Submission Content [submitted as a single PDF].

1. **Cover page** including contact information for each investigator and institution
  - a. The title of the proposal.
  - b. Investigator name, role, position/title
  - c. Institution, and type of institution [Educational Institution, Not-for-Profit Research Center, Other (please describe)]
  - d. Contact information: address, email, and phone.

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2. **Proposal summary [limited to 800 words] including:**
  - a. Title of the proposal
  - b. Specific Aims
  - c. Research Plan: brief introduction/background, preliminary data (as applicable), and general methodology.
  - d. Impact: briefly describe the importance of the research to the priority interests of PWSA | USA as described in this RFA.
  
3. **Short NIH Biosketch [limit 2-pages]** for the PI and all Co-Investigators (Co-I). Single PIs only. Please indicate if the PI status meets criteria for a New or Early-Stage investigator.

Please submit LOI's to: Paige Rivard – [privard@pwsausa.org](mailto:privard@pwsausa.org). If you have questions, please call (941) 312-0400.