



Call for Grant Proposals 2024-2025

General Information

Aufzien Family Center for the Prevention and Treatment of Parkinson's Disease

The *Aufzien Family Center for the Prevention and Treatment of Parkinson's Disease* (**APPD**) is a venture of Tel Aviv University and brings together excellence in research among basic scientists (Tenure-track Faculty members at TAU from all faculties) and physicians and PhD researchers (TAU Faculty members from affiliated hospitals and HMOs*).

The primary objective of the APPD grant program is to accelerate progress in **Parkinson's Disease** (PD) research by supporting projects with significant potential for clinical impact. By adopting a milestone-based approach, we aim to facilitate the translation of scientific discoveries into tangible advancements for patients living with Parkinson's disease.

The Research Fund will provide up to 2 research grants for the amount of \$100,000 (preliminary data required), and up to 3 seed money grants of \$25,000, supporting fundamental and translational research into the causes, mechanisms, diagnosis, treatment and prevention of PD. Preference will be given to proposals focused on understanding and modifying the basic mechanisms of the disease, and potential interventions aimed at slowing the progression of symptoms or synucleopathies. Collaboration with at least 2 different groups within TAU or with international groups is an advantage; funding only provided within TAU.

In addition, we will provide up to 2 research grants for the amount of \$50,000 for research on the peripheral aspects of PD pathophysiology including the involvement of the autonomic nervous system, the olfactory system and the microbiome, as well as the unique contribution of LRRK2 and GBA genes to PD pathophysiology.

In order to promote long-term research programs, we encourage groups to apply for a 3-4 years support, \$50,000 each year, with clear milestones for each year. Continuing grants will be subject to a review of achievements and the meeting of pre-stated milestones. Priority will be given for teams involving both basic researchers and clinicians.

The research proposal should outline the vision, deliverables, and overall goals of the initiative, and the priorities of its research themes. APPD's grant program will support the exploration of novel and innovative ideas, with the potential for breakthrough science.

The budget will be maintained by the Research Authority at TAU. All grants that pass eligibility rules will be reviewed competitively by an *ad hoc* review committee. All applications, after passing the Grant Committee's initial evaluation for suitability, will be evaluated by internal and external referees.

Please note that the provision of the grants is contingent on the Center receiving its annual donation.

GRANT COMMITTEE:

Prof. Nir Giladi (Director, APPD)

Dr. Keren Shatzman (Grants Administrator, APPD)

*See rules on next page



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Rules

To encourage collaborations between TAU and the hospitals: TAU Faculty member from one of the TAU-affiliated hospitals or HMOs (MD or PhD, on clinical or regular track) are eligible to apply in collaboration with TAU Tenure-track Faculty members with laboratories on the TAU Ramat Aviv campus (Preclinical Faculty at the Faculty of Medicine; faculty members at other Faculties and Schools).

Each faculty member can only be part of **ONE** grant, whether as PI or collaborator.

GRANT FUNDS AND DURATION

The proposed studies are expected to substantially advance the understanding, diagnosis or treatment of Parkinson's Disease, with meaningful clinical impact. Studies that prove to be successful may receive continuing funding over several consecutive years.

Full grants of \$100,000 are intended for a period of two years, payable in 2 installments (\$50,000 per year), contingent on reaching significant milestones during the research period. Please note that the second year of the funding is conditional on the Center's donation continuing to Tel Aviv University. We reserve the right to provide a cap of \$50,000 if there is no progress in the first year, or the donation does not arrive for the second year. While this grant is intended for a period of two years, research projects may request an extension for the use of the funds. Proposals for seed grant money or for research on specific topics may commit to limited deliverables, providing it is clear how the success of such a preliminary study can potentially lead to a significant breakthrough, in this study or in a successive one.

For all grants, from the end of the first year of the research, after the initial results have been obtained, the researcher can apply for continued funding, contingent on meeting the milestones.

According to University regulations, retired faculty are not eligible to receive funding though can collaborate on projects. Collaborators may be from non-TAU institutions but are not eligible to receive funding.

Note regarding IP: If TAU faculty and Hospital Clinical faculty are co-inventors of any results or inventions, the parties will negotiate in good faith and enter into an inter-institutional agreement relating to the protection, use and commercialization of such joint results or inventions.



Application for \$100,000 grant

Application for \$50,000 grant

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Application for \$100,000 research grant

Format for research grants proposal – [use this template](#)

The proposal must be submitted in the template form and include:

1. Scientific background
2. Research aims:
 - Research hypothesis & research question
 - Goal and specific objectives
 - Potential for a major breakthrough (resulting from this study, or from a successive one)
3. Methodology, Materials and Methods *
4. Preliminary data (required)
5. Milestones and budget justification

Include letter of endorsement from Dean/Head of School

Limit up to 5 pages (includes figures), font Arial or Times New Roman 11, 1.5 space. References can be beyond 5 pages.

Add CV of each applicant – NIH Biosketch or similar format

*For **clinical** research, please submit the Helsinki authorization or statement that the request is in progress. For research involving **animals**, please submit IACUC authorization or statement that the request is in progress. If funding for **both non-clinical and clinical research**, please separate each type of research in different sections. All applications, after passing the Grant Committee's initial evaluation for suitability, will be evaluated by external referees. The Grant Committee reserves the right to reject applications if they do not meet the criteria. Projects will be reviewed annually to ensure that the objectives of the research program are being met.

DEADLINE: July 15, 2024

Refer any **questions** to Dr. Keren Shatzman, kersha@tauex.tau.ac.il

Please **submit** application in 1 pdf file [here](#)

Application for \$50,000 research grant on peripheral aspects of neurodegeneration in PD and the role of LRRK2 and GBA genes

Format for research grants proposal – [use this template](#)

The proposal must be submitted in the template form and include:

1. Scientific background
2. Research aims:
 - Research hypothesis & research question
 - Goal and specific objectives
 - Potential for a major breakthrough (resulting from this study, or from a successive one)
3. Methodology, Materials and Methods *
4. Preliminary data (optional)
5. Milestones and budget justification

Include letter of endorsement from Dean/Head of School

Limit up to 5 pages (includes figures), font Arial or Times New Roman 11, 1.5 space. References can be beyond 5 pages.

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Application for \$25,000 grant

Application for \$25,000 seed grant

Format for research grants proposal – [use this template](#)

The proposal must be submitted in the template form and include:

1. Scientific background
2. Research aims:
 - Research hypothesis & research question
 - Goal and specific objectives
 - Potential for a major breakthrough (resulting from this study, or from a successive one)
3. Methodology, Materials and Methods *
4. Milestones and budget justification

Include letter of endorsement from Dean/Head of School

Limit up to 3 pages (includes figures), font Arial or Times New Roman 11, 1.5 space. References can be beyond 3 pages.

Add CV of each applicant – NIH Biosketch or similar format

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