CARRA-Arthritis Foundation Fellow Grant

Grant Project Period Length: 2 years
Grant Funding Amount: $25,000
Grant Availability: Up to 2 awards (at least 1 award must focus on JIA).
Letter of Intent Deadline: January 15, 2025
Application Deadline: February 28, 2025
Project period: July 1, 2025-June 30, 2027

CARRA's culture of collaboration focuses on facilitating, accelerating, funding, and performing research driven by academicians, clinicians, patients, and families to fulfill its mission: to conduct collaborative research to prevent, treat, and cure pediatric rheumatic diseases. CARRA's peer-reviewed Intramural Grant Program offers various funding opportunities to support investigators at all career levels and advance research that furthers our mission.

Program Description
Fellow Grants are intended to support fellows with a strong interest in pursuing careers in which they will devote a substantial amount of time to research. This mechanism is exclusively available for CARRA members who are fellows entering their third year.

This funding program is intended to augment the Fellow's research portfolio by supporting a project that extends, enhances, or is distinct from their primary scholarly project, as defined and required by the ABP for Board eligibility. The project must not be necessary to meet the ABP requirement for scholarly work product but may be supplemental, and it is the expectation of CARRA that applicants and programs will honor this intent.

This funding program is intended to support research that furthers the CARRA mission under the 2023-2025 strategic plan and 2023-2025 Research Agenda.

Up to 2 grants will be awarded. This grant program allows for CARRA Registry and Biosample use. At least one of the awards must focus on juvenile idiopathic arthritis (JIA) and areas identified in the 2023-2025 CARRA-Arthritis Foundation Inflammatory Arthritis Research Agenda.
Special consideration will be given to applications addressing the specific topics listed below, which were considered among patients, caregivers, and providers to be of critical importance:

- Precision Medicine
    - Biomarker identification; diagnostic and prognostic
    - Starting/stopping medication
    - Safety and the impact of use of specific medications (e.g., TNF-I in non-systemic JIA)
- Patient Outcomes and Outcome Measures
    - PROs, impact on health-related quality of life, health disparities and other related issues

- Long-term outcomes; impact on childbearing, occupation, college, marriage, delays vs. peers, growth, and reproductive health
- Transition
- Health-related quality of life (HRQOL)
- Environmental factors
- Patient-reported outcomes (PROs)
- Tools/outcome measure development, implementation, and ongoing validation
- Epidemiology
  - Use of the Registry (artificial intelligence and data science)
- Representativeness
  - Social determinants of health
  - Equitable participant representation in the Registry
- Treatment Development
  - Working with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on acceptable trial designs in pediatric patients
  - Evidence development (use of Registry and community data)
- Comparative Effectiveness Research
  - Consensus Treatment Plan (CTP) Program (development, revision, and implementation)

Eligibility
- A given investigator may receive only one Fellow Grant.
- The project primary investigator (PI) for all grants must be a Fellow who is a CARRA member and whose membership information (location, contact information, and membership status) is current and accurate.
- Fellows must be entering their third year and have a Mentor listed on their applications. The Mentor does not need to be a pediatric rheumatologist

New: Letter of Intent and Data/Sample Share Request: CARRA Registry and Biorepository
- LOIs are due in Proposal Central January 15, 2025, by 11:59PM ET
- No separate data and sample request is required when applying for a CARRA Grant in 2025.
- Grant applicants who intend to utilize the CARRA Registry or CARRA-related data and/or samples must submit a Letter of Intent (LOI) for prior approval. This year, in an effort to streamline the user experience and improve operational workflow, we are combining the LOI and data /sample requests into one process.
- If you would like to know more about conditions of use, please review our data and sample share policy on the CARRA Research Portal.
- *CARRA will only accept proposals that utilize the current Registry CRFs and standard biosample collection kit. However, with CARRA approval, the subsequent extramural funding project plan may include plans for supplemental data collection*.

Fellow Personal Statement
- Describe how the current project is expected to advance the applicants' goals of pursuing a career in research.
- Description of applicant's current and future research interests and commitment to a career in research.
- Describe any further research training the applicant plans concurrent with the proposed project's completion.
- Provide a timeline which includes research project and anticipated training benchmarks.

Mentor Personal Statement
- What will the specific role of the fellow be on this project? Be specific and, as much as possible, describe what the daily activities of the fellow will be as they relate to this project.
- What specific skills is the fellow expected to acquire by this experience? How will acquisition of these skills advance the fellow's proposed research career? How will you determine that the fellow has acquired these skills?
- Describe the research environment this project will take place in and the resources available to the fellow.
- Describe any adjustments that will be made to the fellow's other commitments (clinics, hospital coverage, teaching) if this grant is awarded.
- Describe your experience serving as a mentor.
- Describe your mentoring plan (weekly meetings, etc.) to ensure successful completion of this project.

Application instructions and other required information can be found here.

Online Submission through Proposal Central
CARRA uses an electronic grant submission process. All applicants must submit their full application packages through Proposal Central's online grants management system. Paper applications will not be accepted.
- All applicants must register as users on Proposal Central here.
- Click here for Proposal Central's guide on how to set up an account.
- Click here for Proposal Central's Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's).
- Still need help with Proposal Central? Reach out to Proposal Central's Support Desk.

Contact Information:

Program or Administrative Questions: Emily Klein, Senior Manager, Grants & Awards
grants@carragroup.org

Technical Questions: proposalCENTRAL
pcsupport@altum.com
800-875-2562