

CARRA-PReS Collaborative Research Award

Grant Project Period Length: 2 Years

Grant Funding Amount: €50,000 EUR or USD equivalent

Grant Availability: 1 award

Application Deadline: April 20, 2026

Project Period Start Date: August, September or October 1, 2026

This funding mechanism aims to support collaborative research activities between CARRA and PReS early career investigators. Early career investigators are defined as faculty (not fellows) who have completed their training/education in the past 10 years. This funding mechanism aims to provide seed funding that allows CARRA and PReS investigators to successfully plan and apply for other grants that could support large-scale collaborative research activities. Grant funds may be used to convene meetings, generate preliminary data, and/or support collaborative pilot studies.

Grant applications should show how the applicants will leverage the infrastructure of CARRA and PReS, address priority research topics for both communities, engage patients, and extend expertise that would otherwise not be possible working with either group alone.

Eligibility

- The application must name two co-PIs, one current CARRA member from North America and one current PReS member from outside North America.
- To be eligible, MD applicants must also be faculty as defined above
- Applicants must be CARRA or PReS members who are up to date on membership dues and have current and accurate membership information (location, contact information, and membership status).

Online Submission

CARRA uses an electronic grant submission process. All applicants must submit their full application packages through the Proposal Central 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](#).

For more information, please email grants@carragroup.org

Grant Application Materials

- Project Summary/Abstract (300 words max)
- Lay Summary (150 words max)
- Specific Aims (1-page limit)
- Project Timeline (3-page limit)
- Research Plan - Plan should include any plans/goals for larger initiatives and potential future funding mechanisms. (can be uploaded to PC as one document)
 1. **Background**

Describe/Include the following:

 - *Establish current status of the field/significance of problem*
 - *Describe the rationale for conducting this project through a CARRA-PReS collaboration*

- *Indicate how the project will advance knowledge in the field*
- *Discuss prior work, if applicable.*
- 2. Impact and Significance**
Describe the impact and wider implications of the project. Specifically, discuss address the following:
 - *How does this project leverage the CARRA-PreS collaboration?*
 - *How does this project positively impact the pediatric rheumatology scientific community?*
 - *How will this project advance both organizations' missions?*
- 3. Methods/Activities**
Describe the proposed activities and deliverables, including the following if applicable:
 - *Study population*
 - *Study design*
 - *Sample size*
 - *Study sites*
 - *Study schedule*
 - *Primary and secondary outcomes*
 - *Thoroughly describe the project activities and feasibility*
 - *Methods for solving the problem and possible pitfalls*
 - *Timeline for the project activities and deliverables*
- 4. Analysis and Statistical Plan**
Describe/Include the following:
 - *Qualitative and quantitative analysis plan for project*
 - *Provide justification for sample size if appropriate*
- 5. Environment**
Describe/Include the following:
 - *Scientific environment*
 - *Institutional support*
 - *Physical and other resources available to complete the project*
- 6. Dissemination & Data Sharing Plan**
Describe/Include the following:
 - *Present a plan for sharing the results of the project through a variety of mediums*
 - *Describe how/when data sets will be shared with CARRA and PreS to be available for future research*
- 7. Sustainability Plan**
 - *Describe your plan for continuing the project beyond the period of the award and future funding plans. Describe how this project will be used to apply for future funding opportunities.*
- References (no page limit)
- Budget Table
 - All Principal Investigators (PI) are required to dedicate effort to their projects, which must be noted on the budget table. Requesting salary support is optional. For budgets that include investigator salary/effort, a letter of support is required from the division chief of the applicant, documenting that the % effort is available and confirming the investigator's salary. If the PI is the division chief, a letter from the Department Chairperson is required.
 - Budgets may not include travel to present abstracts.
 - Publication, poster printing, and presentation costs are not allowed.

- Travel expense requests are not permitted unless required for the project. Travel expenses to attend meetings to present this work, for example, are not allowed.
- Up to 10% F&A (indirect/overhead) can be requested, and this must be incorporated into the project budget.
 - **Applicants should aim to allocate approximately one-half of the budget for CARRA member expenses and one-half for PReS member expenses or justify why this is not possible.**
- Please review CARRA's statement of direct and indirect support.
- Budget Justification
 - The budget justification provided must indicate how funds are to be allocated for each year
- NIH-formatted Biosketches for all Principal Investigator(s), Co-Principal Investigator(s), and all Co-Investigator(s) (limit 5 pages per biosketch; please combine all biosketches into one PDF with the PI(s) biosketch listed first.)
- Letters of Support
 - Required for budgets that include investigator salary/effort. A letter of support from the division chief of the applicant must be submitted documenting that the % effort is available and confirming the investigator salary. If the PI is the division chief, a letter from the Department Chairperson is required.
 - Letters of support from collaborators are required.
 - Letters of support from mentors and institution(s) are highly recommended.
- CARRA Registry & Data Use Assurances

Grant applicants who intend to utilize the CARRA Registry or CARRA-related data and/or samples must receive approval from the CARRA Data, Sample, and Publications Committee (DSPC) prior to submitting their grant applications.

Applicants will be required to provide documentation of DSPC approval. The request must match the intended use outlined in the grant proposal. Failure to receive approval of the data and/or sample request before submission of the grant application will result in the administrative decline of the application.

Data and sample requests take approximately 4-6 weeks for review and approval. If you would like to know more about who can access CARRA data and biosamples, conditions of use, and the review process, please review our data and sample share policy on the CARRA website (<https://carragroup.org/membership/policies/>). For more information on requesting CARRA data and/or samples and to access the request form, please visit the Data and Sample Request page on the CARRA wiki. (<https://wiki.carragroup.org/display/DSSC/CARRA+Data+and+Sample+Requests>).

In 2024, CARRA will only be accepting proposals that utilize the current CRFs and standard biosample collection kits. No proposals requesting supplemental data collection will be accepted.

- Research Assurances
 - Submit documentation of an Institutional Review Board (IRB) review, if applicable. Funds will not be released until either 1) IRB approval letter or 2) IRB waiver/documentation that IRB has determined your project is exempt from IRB review is received.
- Appendix (limit 1 attachment)

Enable Other Users to Access this Proposal

This section allows the PI to give other users access to the grant application. If electronic signatures are required for submission, signatories will need at least Edit access on this screen.

Applicant/PI

- The applicant information will be automatically populated by Proposal Central. Please ensure that all information is accurate and updated.
- Enter % effort proposed for PI on this project.
- Indicate whether the PI is a new or early investigator
- Enter the email address for Institution contacts:
 - Signing Official
 - Financial Officer
 - Technology Transfer Officer

Institution & Contacts

The institution information will be automatically populated by Proposal Central. Please ensure that the institution's information is correct.

Applicants must use the templates provided when submitting their final applications. CARRA Staff is available to assist with the application process and to answer questions. Contact us by emailing grants@carragroup.org.

Important Information for CARRA-PreS Collaborative Research Award Submissions

Read the CARRA-PreS Collaborative Research Award instructions carefully. Be sure to be compliant with formatting instructions and page limits. Use of the document templates provided above is REQUIRED. Submit your completed CARRA-PreS Collaborative Research Award application via the online application.

- Data and sample request deadline: March 2, 2026
- Application deadline for the CARRA-PreS Grant: April 20, 2026.
- Applicants will be notified of funding decisions in July 2026.
- Funds will be provided to the awardee's institutions to be used by the principal investigators according to the project budget. CARRA and PreS will arrange to provide funds to their respective members' institutions.
- Awardees are expected to submit an abstract(s) and ensure that the work is presented annually at the CARRA and PreS Annual Meeting(s) until the project is complete.
- For projects requesting budget support to cover Registry and Biorepository costs, requested funds will be held by CARRA and paid directly to DCRI.
- If the PI is unable to complete the project, any unexpended balance must be returned to CARRA.
- Awardees are expected to submit an abstract and attend the CARRA Annual Meeting(s) until the project is complete/final results have been presented.
 - If the project is not completed within the project period, the award recipient may request a no-cost extension (NCE) for up to 12 months. Requests for NCEs can be made up to 90 days prior, but no less than 30 days prior, to the end date of the project period. An interim progress report must be submitted with the NCE Request Form, both of which are available on www.CARRAgroup.org.
 - Awardees must submit a final progress report no later than 45 days after the end date of the project period.
 - All awardees of CARRA-PreS funding must abide by the procedures outlined in the current CARRA Publications and Presentation Guidelines when presenting/publishing findings from their

projects. This includes submitting all abstracts and manuscripts to the CARRA Publications Committee for approval prior to submission and acknowledging the support of CARRA and PReS by including the following language: "The authors wish to acknowledge CARRA and PReS for their financial support of this grant."