



2027 CARRA-Arthritis Foundation Large Grant

Grant Project Period Length: 2 years

Total Grant Funding Amount per award: \$250,000

Letter of Intent Deadline: December 11, 2026

Application Deadline: March 15, 2027

Project Period Start: July, August, or September 1, 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 unite the pediatric rheumatology community to drive research and transform the lives of children with rheumatic diseases. CARRA's peer-reviewed grant program offers funding opportunities to support investigators at all career levels and advance research that furthers our mission.

Program Description

The CARRA-Arthritis Foundation Large Grant is intended to support established investigators in initiating, advancing, or expanding innovative research projects that further basic, clinical, or translational research and align with the CARRA mission, [2026–2028 Strategic Plan](#), and Research Agenda.

Eligibility

- The project principal investigator (PI) for all grants must be a current CARRA member who is up to date on membership dues and has ensured their membership information is current and accurate.
- Previous and current CARRA awardees who wish to submit new grant applications must be up to date on all award deliverables.
- Applicants must hold an advanced degree (MD or equivalent, PhD, or MD/PhD) and must have a faculty or equivalent government appointment.
- All applications must be submitted by or include a pediatric rheumatologist named as a co-investigator (co-I).
- The following current CARRA members are eligible to serve as Principal Investigators:
 - Pediatric rheumatologists
 - Other physicians and health care professionals
 - Research professionals (e.g., research scientists, investigators, and coordinators), excluding regulatory coordinators and data coordinators
- While not eligible to serve as PIs, the following may serve as team members: medical and graduate students, research professional members who are regulatory or data coordinators, business and industry associate members, and nonprofit/government associate members.
- CARRA board members or those in executive leadership positions may not serve as study leadership.



Data and Sample Collection

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) via a data and sample request, to be submitted through the Letter of Intent (LOI).

The LOI will collect the information needed for CARRA to conduct a feasibility review of the proposed data and/or sample request as part of the LOI review process.

If the grant is funded, CARRA staff will follow up with the awardee to collect any additional information required to complete the data and/or sample request and facilitate access to CARRA resources. If the grant is not funded but the applicant still wishes to pursue access to CARRA data and/or samples, the applicant must submit a complete [Data and Sample Share Request](#) to pursue access to CARRA data and/or samples.

To learn more about who can access CARRA data and biosamples, conditions of use, and the review process, please review the Data and Sample Share Policy on the [CARRA website](#).

For more information on requesting CARRA data and/or samples, please visit the Data and Sample Request page on the [CARRA Research Portal](#).

Materials for Submission

Step 1: Letter of Intent

Letters of Intent (LOIs) are non-binding and will be used to guide reviewer selection. LOIs are due December 11, 2026, in Proposal Central and must include the following information:

- Title Page
- Enable Other Users to Access This Proposal
- Applicant/PI
- Institution and Contacts
- Use of CARRA Resources
- Abstract & Keywords
- Attachments
 - Biosketch
 - Sample Table (if applicable)
- Print LOI

Step 2: Full Application

Completed application packages, with all required attachments and supporting documentation, must be submitted through Proposal Central by 11:59 PM Eastern time on March 15, 2027.

All application text should be Arial 11 pt or Times New Roman 12 pt font. Margins should not be less than 0.5 inches on the standard letter format size (8.5 x 11 inches).

**Title Page**

Provide the project title and indicate whether this application is a new submission or a resubmission.

Download Templates and Instructions

Access and download all required templates and application instructions in this section. Refer to the downloadable documents for additional instructions and requirements.

Applicant/PI

Provide the requested information for the principal investigator (PI).

Institution and Contacts

The institution's information will be automatically populated by Proposal Central. Please ensure that the institution's information is correct. Enter the email address for institutional contacts:

- Signing official
- Financial officer
- Technology transfer officer

Other Key Personnel

Enter the names, roles, and relevant information for all key personnel involved in the project.

Abstract

Provide a lay summary (up to 2,400 characters) and a scientific project summary (up to 4800 characters). Select the relevant disease areas, research interests, diseases, program areas, and strategic/research plan priorities that align with the proposed project.

Patient Impact

Describe how the proposed CARRA-funded project will directly or indirectly benefit patients and advance outcomes for children with rheumatic diseases (up to 2,800 characters).

Project Aims

Identify two to five aims that outline the central objectives of the project within the full funding period. Explain how the aim relates to CARRA's mission and vision (up to 1,000 characters).

Milestones and Deliverables

Provide at least one milestone and one deliverable for each aim, with a brief one- to two-sentence description of each.

Budget Period Detail

Provide a detailed budget breakdown outlining how funds will be allocated across the project period.



Budget Summary and Justification

Enter budget amounts and provide a summary of the proposed budget and justify how requested funds will support the successful completion of the project (up to 8,000 characters).

Organization Assurances

Provide information on the project's regulatory compliance, including required approvals and applicable research assurances.

Application Attachments

Upload all required application documents and supporting materials in this section. Refer to the below downloadable documents for additional instructions and requirements.

- **NIH Biosketch**
 - In this section, the applicant can upload documents for the application. NIH-formatted Biosketches for all PI(s), and co-PI(s). Please limit five pages per Biosketch.
- **Research Plan**
 - Provide a detailed description of the proposed research, including the background, impact and significance, methods/activities, analysis and statistical plan, and research environment.
 - Limit is five pages.
- **References Cited**
 - Provide citations for all references included in the application.
- **Letters of Support**
 - Provide required and/or recommended letters of support.

PI Private and Demographic Information

Provide the requested demographic information for the Principal Investigator (PI).

Validate

Use this section to check for missing required information or attachments before submission. Validation does not submit your application.

Required Signature Page

The applicant and institutional official must sign the required signature page before the application can be submitted.

Submit

Review your application to ensure all required information is complete, then click Submit to finalize and send in your application.

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](mailto:proposalCENTRAL@altum.com)
pcsupport@altum.com
800-875-2562