



## ANNOUNCING THE 2009 AAN FOUNDATION-ALS ASSOCIATION CLINICIAN-SCIENTIST DEVELOPMENT THREE-YEAR AWARD Cospnsored by The ALS Association and American Academy of Neurology Foundation APPLICATION DEADLINE: OCTOBER 1, 2008

The Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) Association and the American Academy of Neurology Foundation are pleased to announce a three-year Clinician-Scientist Development Award to support research into drug discovery and development of therapies that will effectively treat ALS.

Developed as part of The ALS Association's research program TREAT ALS (Translational Research Advancing Therapy for ALS), the award aims to recognize the importance of good clinical research and encourage young investigators in clinical studies. The three-year award will consist of an annual salary of \$75,000 plus a \$5,000 institutional award.

### ELIGIBILITY

1. Must be a neurologist interested in an academic career in clinical research.\*  
Applicants must hold an MD, DO, or equivalent clinical degree from an accredited institution, and must be licensed to practice medicine in the United States.
2. Applicants must have completed residency training but be less than seven years from completion of residency when funding begins.
3. There is no citizenship requirement; however, the individual applying for the award must be licensed to practice medicine in the United States at the time of application.
4. An institution may only submit one application per department. The applicant department is considered to be the one at which the fellow's training and research program will occur.
5. If academic departments encompass more than one residency training program, specific request for exemption from this restriction should be made in writing by the program chair or director of the applicant program prior to application submission.

### MATERIALS FOR APPLICATION

Please submit two copies of all of the following application materials:

1. Letter of nomination from the chair of the Department of Neurology, including assurance that clinical service responsibilities will be restricted to no more than 20 percent of the awardee's time.
2. Letter of intent to pursue a three-year program indicating the specific clinical focus, the proposed institution and preceptor, and the applicant's future goals.
3. Three-page research plan, including brief statement of aims, background, and the contemplated approaches to methodology and data. The research plan should be written by the applicant and should represent his/her original work. However, the applicant is expected and encouraged to develop this plan based on discussion with the proposed mentor. It is appropriate for the proposed work to be specifically related to the mentor's ongoing research.
4. Copy of a current curriculum vitae.
5. Three letters of reference supporting the applicant's potential for a clinical academic research career and qualifications for the fellowship.
6. Listing of the applicant's and mentor's current and pending support, other than this fellowship, using NIH format.
7. Letter from proposed mentor detailing his/her support of and commitment to the applicant and the proposed research and training plan. The letter should specifically indicate the mentor's role in the development and preparation of the applicant's research plan.

Mentor's letter should describe:

- How the proposed research fits into the mentor's research program
- Expertise and experience in the area of research proposed and the nature of the mentor's proposed time commitment to the supervision and training of the applicant
- Mentor's prior experience in the supervision, training, and successful mentoring of clinician-scientists
- Potential for applicant's future research career and comparison of applicant amongst other residents

8. A copy of mentor's NIH Biosketch.

9. Document describing arrangements for formal course work to include: quantitative clinical epidemiology, biostatistics, study design, data analysis, and ethics.

Documentation must outline:

- Hours and content of the proposed formal instruction
- Availability of tutorial assistance for the research project
- Computer approaches to statistical analysis at the host institution

10. Document describing level of interaction between the applicant and subjects in your research project.

### EVALUATION AND SELECTION

Applications are evaluated by the Clinical Research Subcommittee of the Science Committee of the AAN based on the following criteria:

- Applicant's ability and promise as a clinician-scientist based on previous training and career plan, letters of reference, and curriculum vitae (30 percent)
- Quality and nature of the training to be provided and the institutional, departmental, and mentor-specific training environment (30 percent)
- Quality and originality of the research plan (40 percent)

Evaluations will be forwarded to the AAN Foundation Research Council for final determination of the award.

### ANNUAL AND FINAL PROGRESS REPORTS

An annual progress report is due in May of the first year. Renewal of the award in year two and three is contingent upon review and approval of the progress report. Additionally, a final research report and a final expenditure report are due within 60 days following the close of the grant term. The institution must prepare the final expenditure report.

### DEADLINE AND ADDRESS

All applications and supporting materials must be received by October 1, 2008.  
Notification of recipients: February 2009.

\* Clinical research is defined as "patient-oriented research conducted with human subjects, or translational research specifically designed to develop treatments or enhance diagnosis of neurological disease. These areas of research include epidemiologic or behavioral studies, clinical trials, studies of disease mechanisms, the development of new technologies, and health services and outcomes research." Disease-related studies not directly involving humans or human tissue also are encouraged if the primary goal is the development of therapies, diagnostic tests, or other tools to prevent or mitigate neurological disease.

APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE SENT TO:  
AAN Foundation/ALS Association Clinician-Scientist Development Award  
American Academy of Neurology Foundation  
Attn: Terry Heinz  
1080 Montreal Avenue • St. Paul, MN 55116  
Phone: (651) 695-2746 • Fax: (651) 361-4846  
theinz@aan.com