

Eligibility of the Research Project

How strict are the guidelines with respect to a specific focus on feeding, anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa and/or binge eating disorders?

Highly strict. The Program has the short-term goal of supporting research that explores the basic biology of feeding, anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa and/or binge eating disorder. Research projects in the neuro-circuitry of fear conditioning or reward behavior are eligible only if findings have direct relevance to the basic biology of feeding and/or eating disorders.

The Program also wishes to improve the lives of individuals suffering from these conditions through support of new treatment trials involving experimental therapeutics, repurposing of approved medications, or other non-psychotherapeutic interventions.

Are re-feeding approaches in the treatment of anorexia nervosa considered eligible “non-psychotherapeutic interventions”?

No, the intent of the Program is to support trials that test new compounds, repurposed medications or interventions such as deep brain stimulation that may alter the underlying biology of these disorders.

Are interventions that focus solely on weight gain in individuals with anorexia nervosa eligible for consideration?

No, interventions with medications such as olanzapine are not eligible as they do not change the underlying biology and thus do not improve fears of weight gain, anxiety, depression and body image dissatisfaction nor do such interventions improve relapse prevention.

Is research exploring the underlying causes of obesity eligible?

No, except in rare situations where applicants can justify how their findings are directly relevant to understanding the underlying biological causes of eating disorders.

Are imaging studies eligible for the Klarman research projects?

Although brain imaging using human subjects is outside the scope of the 2014 Program, animal brain imaging remains eligible.

Eligibility of the Investigator

How many applications may be submitted from one institution?

There are no institutional limitations on the number of applications.

Must the applicant be nominated by his/her institution?

No.

Is a full faculty appointment necessary or is a Visiting Professorship or Adjunct Faculty Position sufficient?

The faculty appointment must be at an academic or medical institution in the United States, Canada or Israel at the time of application. A Visiting or Adjunct Faculty Position is acceptable at an institution in the above countries as long as this appointment is in place at the time of application and will be retained throughout the Award period. The letter from the Department or Division Chair must confirm the duration of the appointment.

May I hold a faculty appointment outside the United States?

An investigator must hold a faculty appointment at a nonprofit, non-governmental academic, medical or research institution in the United States, Canada or Israel in order to qualify. If your faculty appointment is not in one of these countries, you would not be eligible to apply.

Is the position of “Research Scientist” acceptable rather than an academic faculty appointment?

As long as the position is considered a faculty position and you are an independent investigator, you are eligible for this Program.

If I am a postdoctoral fellow at the time of application but will have a faculty appointment by the grant’s start date, am I eligible to apply?

Your faculty appointment must be in place at the time of application.

I am a previous recipient of a Klarman Award. May I renew or reapply for another grant in the 2014 cycle?

You may not renew your current Award but you may submit an application which will be competitively reviewed with all other submissions.

If I apply and do not receive an Award, may I apply in future years?

Yes.

May an application be submitted by two equal Co-Principal Investigators?

No. The Klarman grants are designated for one PI only. An application may include co-investigators but there cannot be two “co-applicants” or co-PIs.

May a PI on one grant also be part of another grant submission?

Yes. A PI on one grant may be listed as personnel on someone else’s grant but we do not recognize Co-Principal Investigators.

May a PI submit proposals for both a two-year award and a one-year Pilot Study?

No. Only one application may be submitted by a PI and, therefore, s/he must decide whether to submit a Pilot Study or a two-year grant.

I am considering submitting one of several possible projects. May I speak with someone for advice and guidance?

Please submit the one that you believe has the greatest likelihood of contributing to the understanding of the basic biology of Eating Disorders.

If I am offered the Award but cannot accept it, may it be transferred to a co-investigator or other individual significantly involved in the project?

No. The grant can only be awarded to the Applicant who originally submitted the grant application.

Application Instructions

Should I include the CVs of co-investigators or collaborators?

The CVs of co-investigators with significant roles on the project must be included (4-page maximum for each using the NIH R01 PHS 398/2590, Rev. 06/09 form). Bio-sketches of collaborators may not be included.

Who is considered the “Authorized Institutional Representative” when signing that portion of the Application Face Sheet?

This would be someone from the Office of Sponsored Programs (or similar entity) or other Officer responsible for research oversight within the institution. The Department Chair or other administrator within the applicant’s department may NOT sign the Face Sheet.

Do the budget pages reflect the actual cost of the project or only what is requested from The Klarman Family Foundation?

These pages indicate what is being requested from The Klarman Family Foundation Grants Program. If the project uses additional support from other sources, those amounts should be combined and noted on Form B, “Budget Summary.”

Does the text on Form C need to fit onto that one page?

If necessary, you may use one additional page.

Are subcontracts allowable costs and where do we note these expenses on the budget page?

The PI is allowed to pay subcontractors and these subcontracts can be listed as a line item under “Other Expenses.” The Klarman Family Foundation does not separately pay other personnel on someone’s grant. Note that grant funds used to support all indirect costs may not exceed 10% of the total direct costs of the Award.

In preparing the proposal section, may I use the NIH continuation pages?

Yes.

To whom should the letter of recommendation be addressed?

It should be addressed to the “Scientific Review Committee.”

My Department Chair will not be able to submit his letter to me by the deadline. Can this letter be sent later on?

No. This letter as well as any letter(s) of collaboration must be included in the one PDF upload and submitted by the online application deadline.

Are the section headings mentioned in the Research Proposal portion required or may other headings be included?

Please prepare your proposal using these headings.

May I include appendices? I am utilizing subjects from another grant and it would be relevant to include information on that study as well.

No. Additional materials will not be accepted. You may certainly report on the data from your other studies but all materials must be contained within the 9-page research proposal section.

May I include a cover letter in the uploaded PDF or with the mailed application?

No. The first page of the PDF must be the Application Face Sheet. Do not include a cover or transmittal letter.

Award Statistics

What are my chances of receiving an Award?

Last year, the Program funded 16.7% of the submissions.

Who were the successful applicants from the previous grant cycle?

Please see the listing of past Award Recipients at
<http://klarmanfoundation.org/eating-disorders-research/>.

Online Submissions

I have started and saved an application but when I try to log in, I cannot find my previous application and need to start a new one.

There is a separate log-in for “returning users.” Instead of using the link for, “Begin the online application,” click the link that states, “Return to a saved application.” After logging in, you will see the name of the application that you started. Click on that link and then continue the submission process.

Instructions for Combining Multiple PDF Documents

Please combine and convert all requested materials into ONE PDF document for upload and name this file, **LastName, FirstName.pdf**. For example, Jane Doe’s file would be named, “Doe, Jane.pdf.” This editing cannot be done with Adobe Reader or Distiller.

The following instructions apply to **Adobe Acrobat Version 8**. For instructions on combining files in other versions, please go to www.adobe.com.

To combine multiple PDF documents into one document:

1. Open Adobe Acrobat 8.0
2. Click File > Create PDF > From Multiple Files
3. Click Add Files to locate the PDF files to be combined. Double-click a PDF file to add it to the list, or use the [Ctrl]-click combination to select multiple files in the same directory and then click Add Files.
4. To change the order of the files in the list, select the appropriate PDF and click Move Up or Move Down as needed.
5. Select Default File Size for the file size and conversion setting. If the PDF document is over the 3MB size limitation, then try using the Smaller File Size setting.
6. Click Next once all of the files to be combined have been added and are in the desired sequence.
7. Select “Merge Files into a Single PDF” and then click Create.
8. Review the results to ensure accuracy and then click Save.
9. Browse to the location on your computer where you wish to save the document, name the file, and then click Save.

Additional Questions

For answers to any issues not covered in the Program guidelines or the FAQs, please contact the Klarman Family Foundation at MedicalResearch@klarmanfoundation.org.