



MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH FOUNDATION (MSSRF)

MULTI-CENTRE, COLLABORATIVE TEAM GRANT (Team Grant)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

Revised April 2017

1. How many grants will be funded in this competition round?

Funding is available for up to one (1) team grant.

2. Is there a requirement to integrate other types of non-academic stakeholders, such as patient organizations, as co-applicants?

Non-academic stakeholders are not eligible to apply as Co-Principal Investigators (Co-PIs), although there may be an opportunity to be included as Collaborators, particularly to satisfy knowledge translation criteria, if deemed appropriate for the proposal.

3. Applicants can request up to \$4,500,000 for up to three to five years. Will proposals be at a competitive disadvantage if the budget request is well below the allowable maximum?

Proposals are evaluated first and foremost on the basis of scientific merit. The budget for the proposal should be appropriate for the scale and scope of the study, and must be properly justified. If the scope and budget of the proposal is closer to the scale of an operating grant, the applicant should consider applying instead to the [Annual Research Competition for Operating Grants](#).

4. How many different study sites are required to be represented by the team grant?

It is the responsibility of the Lead PI and Co-PIs to assemble a team composition that is suitable to addressing the aims and hypotheses of the proposal and that best leverages resources available at different research centres. In order to truly encourage collaboration, the Lead PI and Co-PIs are advised to be from different institutions; however, there is no limit to the number of Co-PIs from the same home institution. The team composition must be properly justified in the proposal.

5. Is there a requirement to have new/young investigators as Lead PI or Co-PIs on the application?

No, new/young investigators are not a required eligibility requirement for this collaborative team grant competition. However, proposals are strongly encouraged to provide adequate research training opportunities for trainees (Postdoctoral Fellows, Doctoral and Masters' candidates) that are explicitly outlined in the proposal.

6. Will the review process include both scientific/clinical researchers and community representatives?

Yes, the inclusion of community representatives (individuals affected by MS) is an integral component of MS Society and MSSRF-reviewed grant competitions. For the Letter of Intent (LOI) stage, the LOI will be reviewed by non-conflicted members of the MS Society Medical Advisory Committee, including one or more community representatives. Invited Full Applications will be reviewed by a committee of international scientific reviewers and community representatives assembled specifically for this team grant competition.

7. Will applications be evaluated by external reviewers?

Generally, external reviewers are not part of the review process in practice. Due to the staged-format of the application process, review of the LOIs will allow the MSSRF the opportunity to assemble an appropriate combination of non-conflicted reviewers with the appropriate expertise.