

GEORGE BLANTON RESEARCH GRANT

Nebraska Foundation for Physical Therapy

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

PURPOSE

The Nebraska Foundation for Physical Therapy supports members of the Nebraska Physical Therapy Association. The purpose of the George Blanton Research Grant Program is to promote and support research studies that will enhance the profession of physical therapy.

TARGETED RECIPIENTS OF THE GRANT PROGRAM

The grant program is designed to provide funding to any Nebraska Physical Therapy Association member who has the resources to examine a well-defined issue within physical therapy, but who needs some external funding to facilitate completion of the research project. Priority will be given to research study proposals that seek to expand the clinical and scientific knowledge base that serves as the underpinnings for physical therapy.

GUIDELINES

Eligibility

1. The principal investigator must be a member of the Nebraska Physical Therapy Association and the American Physical Therapy Association.
2. The research study must relate to physical therapy.
3. Requests for grant funds for research studies that have been completed prior to the application deadline date for which the request is submitted are ineligible for funding. Research studies will be considered completed if data collection and data analysis are complete by the application deadline date.
4. An individual is eligible to receive funding as the principal investigator up to a maximum of two times in his or her lifetime. Prior receipt of funding as a principal investigator does not preclude that individual from collaborating (for example, as a co-investigator or consultant) with others who receive funding through this grant program.

Funding

Individual grant applications are limited to a maximum 2-year funding period. Applicants may request up to \$10,000 total and request a 1 year no cost extension (see PROGRESS/NO COST EXTENSION FORM). Projects with funding from other sources are eligible for funding; however, the applicant must justify the need for additional funding and must provide assurances to avoid overlap in funding.

Allowable use of funds is specific as defined:

- The grant may be used to purchase equipment, pay consultation fees, recruit patients or fund clinicians to collect data.
 - Salary support for the investigators is allowed and includes principal investigators, co-investigators, and support personnel such as a data technician or research assistant.
- The use of grant funds is restricted to actual expenses of the research study and may not be used for administrative overhead of the sponsoring institution or used for preparation of grant application.
- A maximum of 10% of the grant funds can be designated to support travel and conference fees associated with presenting findings from the funded research study at a national conference.

If the grant is funded, monies will be released only after evidence of approval from the investigator's Institutional Review Board. If a study is exempt from institutional review board approval, documentation supporting exemption must be provided. Recipients shall agree to return grant funds if the research study is not completed or is substantially changed from the research study as described in the application.

Funds granted for research of students enrolled in a physical therapist professional education program will be made payable only to the educational institution. When a grant is awarded to a student enrolled in a physical therapy professional education program, the student's faculty advisor must also sign the application and in signing agrees to facilitate the transfer of the grant to another student (or become principal investigator) if the student who was awarded the grant completes the education program before the research study is completed.

Requirements if Funded

A progress report is due 1 year after the start date of the project (see PROGRESS/NO COST EXTENSION FORM).

Upon completion of the research project, a final report is due (see FINAL REPORT FORM). The deadline for receipt of the final report shall be 60 days following the projected completion date listed in the application. If the recipient is unable to complete the research study, he/she may request a transfer of the grant to another principal investigator who is willing to meet all requirements of the Nebraska Foundation for Physical Therapy when the grant was made.

All abstracts or manuscripts resulting from this funding should have copies of materials provided to the Nebraska Foundation for Physical Therapy. The following credit line should appear on any report, abstract, publication, or presentation regarding the research study: "Supported by a grant (or 'in part') from (or 'by') the Nebraska Foundation for Physical Therapy."

GRANT APPLICATION FORMAT

- Cover Sheet
- Abstract (1-page maximum)
 - Background, Purpose, Design, Methods, Data Analysis, Significance
- Research Plan (6-page maximum)
 - Specific Aims/Hypotheses (1-page maximum)
 - Significance
 - Innovation
 - Approach
 - This should include: design, participants, methods, variables, data analysis, power analysis, limitations, potential problems and risks, future direction, and plans for dissemination
- Bibliography
- Appendices
 - Appendix A: Timeline (2-year funding period)
 - Appendix B: Budget and Budget Justification
 - Appendix C: Role of each investigator and Biosketches
 - Role of each investigator (1-page total)
 - Indicate specific role/function
 - Biosketches: Use current NIH Format (3-page maximum each investigator)
 - Appendix D: Facilities
 - Appendix E: Letter of IRB approval. If IRB approval has not yet been received, please indicate IRB approval is pending. Proof of IRB approval will be required before funds are disbursed.
 - Appendix F: Other: Data collection forms, surveys, etc.
 - Appendix G: Letters of support from supervisor, clinical partners, and/or referring sources to indicate resources are available to support and perform study.

- Appendix H: Has the principal investigator been previously funded by the Nebraska Foundation for Physical Therapy?
 - Include a brief summary to include: title of the funded project, date of funding, results of previous funding, and number abstracts and publications as a direct result of funding
- Appendix I: Resubmission. Was this grant previously submitted to the Nebraska Foundation for Physical Therapy? (limit to 1 page)
 - Indicate major differences between the current and previous grant application. Address the reviewer's comments and clearly identify how comments were addressed in the current grant application. Indicate section where review comments were addressed.

Formatting: Margins must be at least 0.5 inches. Font must be either Times New Roman 12 point or Arial Regular 11 point. The applicant's last name and page number should appear at the top of every page, starting with page 1 with the first page of the research plan (Specific Aims and Hypotheses).

SUBMISSION DEADLINES

The deadline for submission of materials occurs October 1. The entire application packet should be submitted as a PDF and e-mailed to info@aptanebraska.org by midnight the date of the submission deadline. Applications received after the deadline will be reviewed during the next application cycle. Applications will be reviewed by December 1, with an earliest start date of January 1.

APPLICATION REVIEW

Criteria

The following criteria will be examined to determine an overall impact score

- Significance
- Approach
- Innovation
- Investigative Team
- Environment / Facilities

Priority will be given to applications that also meet the following criteria:

- The first and foremost criterion is scientific merit.
- Have a specific and well-designed purpose.
- The sample to be studied includes patients/clients
- Inclusion of physical therapists or physical therapist assistants who are involved in the delivery of physical therapy.
- Projects that examine the effectiveness of physical therapy.
- Studies that have evidence of preliminary work.

Review Process

The Research Committee of the Nebraska Foundation for Physical Therapy or its designee will review and rate each eligible application, using the criteria for review stated above. The highest rated applications will be selected for funding. The Research Committee of the Nebraska Foundation for Physical Therapy shall have the final approval of all grant applications. A maximum of 2 grants will be funded each calendar year. Prior to applying, potential applicants can inquire if this maximum has already been reached by emailing info@aptanebraska.org.