



Australia and New Zealand Batten Disease Research Grant Program 2020

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST Information for Applicants

1. Program Objectives

The objective of BDSRA Australia's Batten Disease Research Grant Program is to advance local research across Australia and New Zealand that has the potential to:

- (1) further our understanding of the disease mechanisms for all or any of the Neuronal Ceroid Lipofuscinoses (NCLs);
- (2) advance therapeutic strategies; or
- (3) improve current diagnosis, treatment, education and/or management practices or family support practices (including those that improve quality of life, palliative care or other).

2. Funding & Grant Process

BDSRA Australia invites researchers to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) following the Application Requirements below no later than **5pm (AEST) Monday 22 June 2020**.

For the 2020 grant round, BDSRA Australia intends to award up to **AU\$100,000** (in total) across one or more projects. Exceptional applications may be funded beyond this. Grants will be awarded for a one-year period with potential, but no guarantee, of renewal based on progress made during the first year.

EOIs will be reviewed by the BDSRA Australia Grants Committee in consultation with our Medical & Scientific Advisory Board and will be short-listed on the basis of relative merit; alignment with objectives of the grant program; and available research funding. Chief Investigators of short-listed projects will be invited to submit a full Research Proposal using the standard application form (provided at time of invitation), which will be subject to full review by our Medical & Scientific Advisory Board.

BDSRA Australia will consider projects that pull together multiple funding sources, tertiary co-contributions (especially for PhD scholarships), cross-lab collaborations, and projects that have promise of future NHMRC or other government, or industry funding.

3. Eligibility of Applicants

Eligible applicants must hold relevant professional qualifications in the proposed field of research and hold a relevant current position at any level (clinician or other health practitioner assistant/associate/full

professor, post-doctoral research scientist, allied therapist, educator, etc.). Applicants will be considered from both Australia and New Zealand.

4. Application Requirements

Before submitting an Expression of Interest (EOI), please read the full *Research Grant Program Guidelines* accompanying this document.

Applicants are invited to submit an EOI using the below subheadings in order and must be submitted in one PDF document.

The EOI must be no more than 2 pages in total (plus 1-2 pages for accompanying figures), using single-spacing, 0.5" margins and no less than 11-point Arial fonts.

Please do not include other documentation such as cover letters, as these will not be considered.

Please include, in order:

- Project Title
- Chief Investigator: Title, Name, Position, Institution (if relevant) and Qualifications
- Full contact details (Chief Investigator only)
- Other researchers/co-investigators (please only list those playing a major role in the project)
- Introduction
- Significance of proposed research and relevance to grant program objectives
- Specific aims
- Methods
- Project timeline
- Preliminary budget

EOI submissions should be received no later than **5pm (AEST) Monday 22 June 2020**.

EOIs must be submitted by email only to: research@bdsraaustralia.org

BDSRA Australia will acknowledge receipt of all EOIs by email within two working days of receiving it. If you do not receive an Acknowledgement of Receipt, please follow up. Acknowledgements will be sent to the Chief Investigator nominated on the EOI submission.

Requests for full Research Proposals will be made by **late July 2020**. We anticipate making funding announcements in **early December 2020**.

All queries should be directed to research@bdsraaustralia.org