**Spring 2025 Request for Applications**

**MOLECULAR MRI BIOMARKER PROGRAM**

APPLICATION instructions and checklist

## **HOW TO USE THIS DOCUMENT:**

1. Review the **RFA Application Instructions** document (provided separately).
2. Complete this application template. You may delete any instructional text but retain all section headings.
3. Save the final version as a PDF and upload it to your online application in the Grant Portal.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR Click here to enter text.

INSTITUTION Click here to enter text.

PROJECT TITLE Click here to enter text.

PATHWAY

Please select which pathway this application will pursue (check all that apply):

Mitochondrial

Endolysosomal

Inflammation/Immune

General FORMATTING GUIDELINES

* Use letter-size pages (8.5 x 11 inches)
* Minimum of one-inch margins on the top, bottom, and both sides of every page
* 11-point font

Scientific narrative

**REQUIRED CONTENT** – Please complete each section under the provided narrative headings in this template. You may delete instructional text, but all narrative headings must be completed for review purposes.

**Page limit:** 5 pages total, which must include:

* **Project Summary** (300 words maximum)
* **Summary of Methodology**
* **Study Plan**
* **Impact Statement**
* **Project Timeline and Milestones**

**Additional Content:** Up to 2 pages of Literature Citations may be included (not part of the 5-page limit).

### ROJECT SUMMARY

Provide a concise summary of your project’s objectives and explain how your work addresses the unmet needs highlighted in this RFA:

1. Development of novel molecular MRI strategies targeted at the pathways of interest i.e. Endolysosomal, mitochondrial, immune and inflammation.
2. Optimization and validation of identified molecular MRI strategies in relevant pre-clinical models.

### SUMMARY OF TECHNOLOGY

Outline the imaging technology being proposed, including its current development stage (ex. development, optimization, analytical validation, clinical validation). Describe key characteristics, including imaging modality and sequence design and how it is optimized for the target pathway. Provide information on the molecular probe or contrast agent used, BBB penetrance, sensitivity and spatial resolution achieved, etc. Provide details on any validation studies conducted, and the translatability of your technology into clinical studies. Include any preliminary data.

### STUDY PLAN

Summarize the study design, the proposed work and associated data analysis plan in a clear and organized manner. For pre-clinical studies, please provide the research models you plan to use based on your target pathway(s) of choice. The [ALZFORUM](https://www.alzforum.org/research-models) and [MJFF Research Tools Catalog](https://www.michaeljfox.org/research-tools-catalog) are two sites you can use for your reference.

Identify **key technical risks and go/no-go milestones** associated with the proposed work, including any considerations and/or strategies to mitigate risks.

### IMPACT STATEMENT

Explain how your project and technology address the unmet needs or challenges described in this RFA. Highlight the unique aspects and potential advantages compared to existing molecular MRI approaches. How will the proposed work accelerate clinical trials?

### PROJECT TIMELINE AND MILESTONES

Please provide a feasible timeline of milestones and their estimated completion dates demarcated in separate milestone periods. For example, list what you realistically hope to achieve within three months or within six months. Include relevant go/no-go decision points.

### LITERATURE CITATIONS

You may use number formatting in the scientific narrative section to reduce word count. Please use a citation format in the bibliography that lists **all** author last names (i.e., “Smith S, Cox A, Napolitano R, Patel R,” not “Smith et al.”).

Budget Narrative

The budget template can be downloaded from the **Attachments** tab of the online application, where it will also be uploaded. There is no page limit for this section.

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION

1. Provide a brief description of the roles and responsibilities of key personnel on the project. All individuals listed in the Team Information Grid in the grant portal must be detailed here. Consultants and sub-awardee organizations should be described as well.
2. Provide justification of key budget items, specifying their relevance to the project (for example, recruitment and retention costs). For a list of allowable and unallowable costs, refer to the [Team and Budget Guidelines document](https://app.getguru.com/card/cGq4LAki/MJFF-Team-and-Budget-Guidelines).
3. **Non-US based institutions:** the exchange rate between local currency and USD should be calculated at the time of application. Please list the exact exchange rate, the date the rate was calculated and the source of information.

OTHER FUNDING SOURCES

1. **This is required for the principal investigator and all co-principal investigators.** Include both current and pending funding sources. For each grant, include the title, funding source/ funder name, a brief abstract, annual amount of grant, funding period and percentage effort of the investigator in the chart below. You may adjust margins, add or delete lines as necessary.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Title** | **Funding Source/ Funder** | **Brief Abstract** | **Annual Amount of Grant** | **Funding Period** | **Percentage effort** |
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1. If the principal investigator and/or co-principal Investigators’ total time commitment exceeds 100% please explain in detail how this will be managed.
2. If applicable, specifically state whether there is scientific overlap with the current application; and where there is overlap, please explain.
3. If the principal investigator and/or co-principal investigators have no other funding (current or pending), a statement should be included to specify this.

Supporting materials

### FIGURES AND/OR PHOTOGRAPHS

You may insert one additional page of figures, photographs or other supporting data.

### RELEVANT ARTICLES

You may link or insert highly relevant articles referenced in the scientific narrative that are published or “in press” at the time of application submission.