

# THE FOUNDATION OF THE ASNR



OAK BROOK, IL 60523  
630-574-0220

## **TRAINEE RESEARCH GRANT in NEURORADIOLOGY**

*Funding amount: \$5,000 for each Grant (x 4 grants)*

### **PROSPECTUS**

#### **PURPOSE**

The goal in offering multiple Trainee Research Grants in Neuroradiology is to increase trainee engagement by encouraging many applications and building a substantial pipeline of future academic investigators. Multiple grants spread resources more broadly across institutions and increase diversity, including the option for investigators to engage with mentors from institutions other than their own. These grants are intended to supplement departmental support from applicant institutions and could be used for biostatistics, software, cloud computing services, physical lab support, as well as other related needs.

#### **ELIGIBILITY**

- **A candidate must be a member of ASNR and have completed a residency in Diagnostic Radiology and/or be enrolled in or have completed an ACGME-approved fellowship in neuroradiology by the grant period.**
- **Senior residents who are enrolled in a dedicated 12-month neuroradiology training year may apply.**
- **Postdocs who are enrolled in a neuroimaging research program in radiology departments in North America may also apply.**
- Grant period is January 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Grant period must be active during neuroradiology training year.
- A senior ASNR member must serve as the mentor taking responsibility for guiding the research, executing the budget, compliance with regulations, and completion of the proposed work.
- The application must include applicant's and mentor's up to date NIH biographical sketch, two -page description of the proposed research focused in neuroradiology (hypothesis, methods, expected results, significance), budget details and budget justification explaining how the funding will be used, career goals statement describing how the Grant will benefit the applicant's career in neuroradiology, letters of support from the Chairman or Program Director and mentor.
- Results are encouraged for abstract submission to the ASNR annual meeting upon completion of work.
- Publications and abstract presentations should acknowledge the contribution of the Foundation of the ASNR in supporting this research.

#### **RESEARCH GRANT ACTIVITIES**

- A. The research proposal must have a clearly stated, testable hypothesis and well-developed specific aims.

- B. An itemized budget is required as part of the Grant proposal submission. Funds (up to \$5,000) may be apportioned as required by the investigator but must be justified in the application. Examples of fund use include: (i) salary support for associated staff (e.g. research assistants, clinical coordinator, statistical support, and/or PhD collaborators), (ii) appropriate scanner time access, (iii) processing software and other types of software, and combinations of the above, and (iv) costs related to attending conference, workshop courses or training courses (e.g. computer programming course, specialized image analysis course, or any other workshops). Salary support for the trainees, mentor or collaborators and indirect costs cannot be included. Only direct costs can be included.

## LOCATION OF STUDY

The parent institution must demonstrate adequate resources and facilities to conduct the terms of the project. Specific involvement by experts outside of Radiology or outside the medical school will be viewed favorably. A letter of support from the Department Chair or Program Director is required stating adequate support of the trainee to complete the proposed work.

## CONDITION OF APPOINTMENT

- A. The total Grant amount is up to \$5,000 (direct costs only) for a six-month term, which will be paid in one installment at the commencement of the Grant period. **Any portion of the Grant not utilized should be returned to The Foundation of the ASNR.** The proposed allocation of Grant resources (salary support and other research costs) should be specified in a detailed line-item budget submitted with the full proposal.
- B. The funding will go directly to the Institution or Department of Radiology as direct costs only. No overhead or indirect costs are provided.
- C. **Two weeks following the project termination date of June 30, 2026, a final progress report must be submitted in writing to Theresa Espinosa at [tespinosa@asnr.org](mailto:tespinosa@asnr.org)** This report is not to exceed one page. The progress report should summarize the specific aims, and the progress achieved, explain any significant changes to the specific aims, new directions to be undertaken due to those changes, and expenditures to date. Any publications, patents, or other material related to the funded research should be included on a separate page with an additional summary if a publication, patent, or grant is being or will be prepared using the results obtained from this Foundation grant. An additional page should be submitted separately describing the clinical impact of the results of the research, the strengths and weaknesses of the Foundation grant program, and the role that the Foundation or ASNR had, has, or might have in their future career. In addition, a Return-on-Investment survey will be sent to Grantees 3 and 5 years after receiving a grant.
- D. The American Journal of Neuroradiology (AJNR) welcomes the best science and encourages publication submissions to AJNR before considering other journals.
- E. Applicants who have held any of the Foundation of the ASNR Research Grants, the RSNA Research Scholar, Research Fellow, or Research Seed Grant, GERRAF, or ARRS Grant Award in the past must declare their previous Grants on the application. The applicant is

considered ineligible if they are or will concurrently be holding any of the previously mentioned grants, while applying to or holding a grant from the Foundation of the ASNR.

- F. Applicants who have held any trainee Grant from any foundation in the past must declare their previous Grants on the application. The applicant is considered ineligible if they are or will concurrently be holding any of the previously mentioned grants, while applying to or holding a grant from the Foundation of the ASNR.
- G. **Note: while institutional IRB approval is not required at the time of Grant proposal submission, IRB approval must be submitted to ASNR before the grant recipients can be announced.**
- H. No Grant will be made without prior confirmation from the Program Director or Department Chair that the applicant's proposal will be supported in full by the host institution. Such documentation will be requested by the ASNR office after proposal review.
- I. The Grant is not transferable to another individual.

#### **SELECTION METHOD**

- A. Grants will be designated and administered by The Foundation of the ASNR.
- B. The Research Committee of ASNR, or its designate, will provide review and recommendations to the Foundation of the ASNR for the recipient of the Grant.
- C. **\*The Trainee Grant Review Scoring Scale can be found at the end of this prospectus.**

#### **APPLICATION SCHEDULE**

**The deadline for receipt of applications is 9:00 AM *Central Standard Time (CST)*, Monday, September 15, 2025.** Applications should be submitted via <https://asnr.smapply.io/>

**Selection of Grant recipients will be in October, with subsequent notification of the recipients and institutions in November.** All those with interests in the Grant, or employees of an institution that may be involved in the Grant, shall recuse themselves from voting on such applications. If applications are received from the institutions of the Research Committee Co-chair(s), the Co-chair(s) will recuse themselves of coordinating review of the applications from their home institution.

In December 2025, the Foundation Trainee Research Grants announcement will be made on the Foundation of the ASNR website and via E-News to ASNR membership. The recipient will receive an invitation to the President's Gala during the ASNR 64th Annual Meeting in May 2026.

### \*Foundation of the ASNR Trainee Grant Review Scoring

Reviewers will critically assess the scientific quality of the proposed research plan, the applicant's history and their trajectory towards independence, the applicant's environment, and the support from their mentor. The items below will be considered when reviewing proposals.

<b>Applicant &amp; Trajectory (30% of Overall Score)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Do the applicant's career plan, proposal, and the mentors' letter indicate a sound scientific research project?</i></li><li>• <i>Does the applicant propose to learn important skills during the grant?</i></li><li>• <i>Does the applicant propose to participate in relevant courses/classes during the grant?</i></li><li>• <i>Does the applicant have an appropriate number of abstracts/publications for the stage of his/her career?</i></li></ul>
Reviewer Comments
<b>Mentor and Environment (40% of Overall Score)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Does the applicant have staunch support from their mentor? Does the mentor have a track record relevant to the proposed research?</i></li><li>• <i>Does the mentor provide a comprehensive training plan for the applicant, including opportunities to gain experience new techniques, present their research data, and interact with other researchers? Does the training plan fit with the applicant's career goals?</i></li><li>• <i>Has the mentor successfully trained other mentees?</i></li><li>• <i>Is there sufficient facility, resources, and collaborators to ensure success for the applicant and the proposed study?</i></li><li>• <i>Is the applicant given sufficient time to perform the proposed research?</i></li></ul>
Reviewer Comments
<b>Scientific quality (30% of Overall Score)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Are the hypotheses or aims designed to address an important question and is strong justification provided for the proposal (e.g., literature review, preliminary data)?</i></li><li>• <i>Is the proposal innovative?</i></li><li>• <i>Is the experimental design and statistical plan appropriate for the research proposed?</i></li><li>• <i>Can the work be done within a year?</i></li><li>• <i>Are pitfalls and alternative approaches adequately considered?</i></li><li>• <i>Is the proposal professionally written and clearly organized?</i></li></ul>
Reviewer Comments
<b>Overall impact score (1-9):</b>
<i>The overall impact score should be between 1 and 9, with one as the best possible score and nine as the lowest possible score. Please use the scoring rubric below and weigh your score approximately 30% for the applicant and trajectory, 40% for the mentor and environment, and 30% for scientific quality.</i>
Reviewer Comments

## FOUNDATION OF THE ASNR SCORING RUBRIC

Impact	Score	Descriptor	Additional Guidance on Strengths/Weaknesses
High	1	Exceptional	Exceptionally strong with essentially no weaknesses
	2	Outstanding	Extremely strong with negligible weaknesses
	3	Excellent	Very strong with only some minor weaknesses
Medium	4	Very Good	Strong but with numerous minor weaknesses
	5	Good	Strong but with at least one moderate weaknesses
	6	Satisfactory	Some strengths but also some moderate weaknesses
Low	7	Fair	Some strengths but with at least one major weakness
	8	Marginal	A few strengths and a few major weaknesses
	9	Poor	Very few strengths and numerous major weaknesses
<p><b>Minor Weakness:</b> An easily addressable weakness that does not substantially lessen impact.</p> <p><b>Moderate Weakness:</b> A weakness that lessens impact.</p> <p><b>Major Weakness:</b> A weakness that severely limits impact</p>			