



2026 Postdoctoral Research Fellowships

Request for Applications

Purpose

The Dystonia Medical Research Foundation (DMRF) is seeking applications for postdoctoral research fellowships to conduct basic or translational research into the causes and mechanisms of dystonia.

Background

Dystonia is a movement disorder characterized by sustained or intermittent abnormal movements, postures, or both. Despite substantial progress in understanding various aspects of dystonia, there has been limited success in both understanding the causes and basic mechanisms of dystonia. To accelerate development of novel approaches and transformative research, the DMRF intends to support postdoctoral fellows who will undertake studies to fundamentally change our understanding of brain dysfunction and molecular mechanisms underlying dystonia.

Objectives

A two-year fellowship is designed to assist post-doctoral scientists establish careers in basic or translational research focusing on dystonia.

Conditions of Award

Individuals with appropriate scientific credentials employed by a non-profit or for-profit, domestic or foreign institution as postdoctoral fellows, or equivalent, are eligible to apply. ***Only individually prepared research proposals that address basic or translational research aspects of dystonia at any level of analysis will be considered. Clinical research is NOT eligible.***

The awards will provide support for up to ***two (2) years*** with a budget not exceeding **\$75,000/year**. Applicants should demonstrate commitment to dystonia research and potential to obtain a major grant to support their research project after it is completed. A **letter of intent** is required and should be submitted electronically to DMRF by end of day on **October 21, 2025**. Letters should be no more than one (1) page and include a descriptive title and summary of proposed research. If invited to submit a full proposal, applications will be due **December 5, 2025**. Applicants will be notified with funding decisions in March, 2026.

Mentorship

If desired, DMRF will facilitate mentoring for applicants that may include professional advice provided by established dystonia investigators as well as fellowship application writing/preparation help.

Address for Submissions and Inquiries

Geena Fritzmann at research@dystonia-foundation.org or 312.755.0198

DMRF's commitment to support the award is conditional on the availability of funds