



UNLOCKING THE SECRETS OF BRAIN DISEASE®

## Pathway and Pipeline Grant Application

Through the Pathway and Pipeline Grant program, CurePSP provides *seed funding* to investigators who have innovative ideas that need *proof of concept or pilot* studies in order to qualify for larger funding sources. CurePSP provides grants to scientists of up to \$100,000 for one- or two-year studies. Proposals are carefully evaluated by our Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) in collaboration with our Executive Director and the Board of Directors.

CurePSP will fund studies on PSP and CBD through two avenues, the pathway grants or pipeline grants program.

**Pathway grants** support projects studying the fundamental neurobiology of PSP and CBD. A more complete understanding of the underlying basic science and mechanisms of PSP and CBD will improve understanding of the diseases and provide foundational knowledge for future treatments. Studies focusing on mechanisms common to multiple neurodegenerative are encouraged.

Examples of pathway grant topics include (but are not limited to) tau biology and pathobiology, epigenetics and epigenomics, synaptic dysfunction/loss and pruning, neuroinflammation, new preclinical models (organoids), or approaches that elucidate other underlying molecular or cellular mechanisms of PSP or CBD.

**Pipeline grants** support translational projects focusing on new therapeutics and biomarkers for PSP and CBD. These projects will accelerate the development of therapeutics that can prevent, treat, or cure PSP and CBD by accelerating the translation of basic science discoveries into disease modifying treatments.

Examples of pipeline grant topics include (but are not limited to) symptomatic drug trials, the development of diagnostic biomarkers or other biomarkers with clear *context of use*, or rehabilitation strategies for motor and nonmotor deficits.

Read more about our 2023-2024 research priorities [here](#).

Please email Jennifer Brummet, CurePSP's Associate Director of Scientific Affairs and Partnerships, at [brummet@curepsp.org](mailto:brummet@curepsp.org) to confirm your proposed submission is a fit for our grant program.

**Title of Research Grant for which Funding is Sought**

*The title should not exceed 75 characters in length (including spaces).*

<b>Please select which program:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Pathway grant <input type="checkbox"/> Pipeline grant	<b>Grant Number (for Office Use Only)</b>	
<b>Submission Date</b>			
<b>Is this a re-submission?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<b>If yes, date of previous submission</b>	
<b>Application is hereby made for a research grant from CurePSP in the total amount of</b>			
<b>The amount requested is for a period of</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> One Year <input type="checkbox"/> Two Years	

Principal Investigator*					
<b>First Name</b>		<b>Middle Initial(s)</b>		<b>Last Name</b>	
<b>Title</b>	<i>Dr/Professor/etc.</i>		<b>Gender</b>	<i>male/female/nonbinary/prefer not to disclose</i>	
<b>Institution Information</b>					
<b>**Official Name of Institution:</b>					
<b>Department</b>					
<b>Federal Identification Number:</b>			<i>If applicable</i>		
<b>Address 1</b>					
<b>Address 2</b>					
<b>City</b>		<b>State/ Province</b>		<b>Zip/ Postal Code</b>	
<b>Country</b>					
<b>Phone/Fax</b>		<b>E-mail</b>			
<p><i>* The PI (not the co-PI) is responsible for honoring their obligations to CurePSP, executing the proposed research plan, communicating with CurePSP, and fulfilling the reporting requirements.</i></p> <p><i>**If a grant is awarded, checks will be made payable and mailed to the institution as indicated here.</i></p>					

**Co-Principal Investigator**

<b>First Name</b>		<b>Middle Initial(s)</b>		<b>Last Name</b>	
<b>Title</b>	<i>Dr/Professor/etc.</i>		<b>Gender</b>	<i>male/female/nonbinary/prefer not to disclose</i>	
<b>Institution Information</b>					
<b>Official Name of Institution:</b>					
<b>Department</b>					
<b>Federal Identification Number:</b>	<i>If applicable</i>				
<b>Address 1</b>					
<b>Address 2</b>					
<b>City</b>		<b>State/ Province</b>		<b>Zip/ Postal Code</b>	
<b>Country</b>					
<b>Phone/Fax</b>		<b>E-mail</b>			

**Institutional Support (e.g. by the Dean)**

<b>First Name</b>		<b>Last Name</b>	
<b>Title/Role</b>	<i>Dean/CEO/etc.</i>		<b>Gender</b> <i>male/female/nonbinary/prefer not to disclose</i>
<b>Department</b>			

Check this box to confirm that you have been authorized by your host institution to apply for this grant.

**Department Head**

<b>First Name</b>		<b>Last Name</b>	
<b>Title</b>		<b>Gender</b>	<i>male/female/nonbinary/prefer not to disclose</i>

Check this box to confirm that this application is supported by your head of department.

<b>Financial Officer</b>					
<b>First Name</b>			<b>Last Name</b>		
<b>Title</b>			<b>Gender</b>	<i>male/female/nonbinary/prefer not to disclose</i>	
<b>Institution</b>					
<b>Department</b>					
<b>Address 1</b>					
<b>Address 2</b>					
<b>City:</b>			<b>State/ Province</b>		<b>Zip/ Postal Code</b>
<b>Country</b>					
<b>Phone</b>		<b>Fax</b>		<b>E-mail</b>	

- Check this box to confirm that you listed all previous and current CurePSP funding and that you disclosed all current and pending sources of support indicating potential overlap or co-funding of projects. Please follow the instructions below.
- Check this box to confirm that you contacted Dr. Jennifer Brummet, CurePSP’s Associate Director of Scientific Affairs and Partnerships by email ([brummet@curepsp.org](mailto:brummet@curepsp.org)).

## GENERAL INFORMATION FOR PIPELINE AND PATHWAY GRANT APPLICATIONS

Prior to submission, applicants **must contact CurePSP's Associate Director of Scientific Affairs and Partnerships** inquiring about the current maximum grant amount available, the scientific scope of applications, and for general administrative advice. The most recent eligible budget was **\$100,000** including all costs over a period of **one or two years**. **Indirect costs are not available.**

CurePSP will fund studies on PSP and CBD; if other tauopathies or proteinopathies are used for investigation, a strong cross-disease link must be part of the project's rationale and Dr. Jennifer Brummet, CurePSP's Associate Director of Scientific Affairs and Partnerships, [brummet@curepsp.org](mailto:brummet@curepsp.org), should be contacted ahead of submission. The Pathway and Pipeline Grant program focuses on PSP and CBD.

**Application deadlines are published on our web site** depending on the availability of funds. Please check our website for the latest information. **All research applications must be submitted electronically as one PDF file to Dr. Jennifer Brummet, CurePSP's Associate Director of Scientific Affairs and Partnerships, by e-mail (brummet@curepsp.org).**

Applications are peer-reviewed by the CurePSP Scientific Advisory Board, and funding decisions are made by the Executive Director and Board of Directors. Applicants will receive an email acknowledgement upon receipt indicating that the application is complete or whether additional information is required. Once a funding decision has been finalized, the applicant will be notified by e-mail only.

**Eligibility:** CurePSP accepts proposals for research projects from international academic and non-academic institutions (including early-stage biotechnology companies). CurePSP does not accept applications from country which is subject to trade sanctions or embargos by the U.S. government or who is a "blocked person" within the meaning of U.S. Department of Treasury regulations. All PIs must have an academic degree in science, social work, engineering, or medicine such as a ScD, PhD, MD, MD/PhD, DO, DSW, and DVM degree. Early career investigators are encouraged to apply.

**Formatting the application:** For ease of review, applicants must **use this form** and adhere to the instructions in completing the proposal sections that make up the application. Failure to observe the size specifications and/or page limits may result in the return of the application without review. Please remember to insert your name and grant acronym in the header for each section of the application. Be sure to include the fully completed CurePSP cover form as the introductory pages of the application.

**Font Type/Size:** Use 11-point Times New Roman, Calibri or Arial as the minimum font size for the text of the application. 9-point Times New Roman, Calibri or 9-point Arial may be used for figures, legends, and tables. **Spacing:** Single-spaced text is acceptable, and space between paragraphs is recommended.

**Margins:** The margins of your text should be at least 1 inch all around ("normal" setting in MS Word).

**Project Title:** The title should not exceed 75 characters in length (including spaces).

**Institutional Expenditures.** CurePSP research grants are not designed to cover the total cost of the research proposed nor the PI's entire compensation. The PI's institution is expected to provide the required physical facilities and administrative services normally available in an institution. **CurePSP's research grants do not provide money for facilities and administration costs (indirect costs),** or funds for such items as: secretarial/administrative salaries, books and periodicals, membership dues, office and laboratory furniture, office equipment and supplies, rental of office or laboratory space, recruiting and relocation expenses, personal services, or construction, renovation, or maintenance of buildings or laboratories.

**Resubmission of an Application.** Applications that are not funded may be resubmitted. The title of the project should be the same as that of the previous application. If applicable, a "Reply to Previous Review" should briefly address the points raised in the previous review. Applicants considering revising and

resubmitting a rejected application are strongly encouraged to contact Dr. Jennifer Brummet, CurePSP’s Associate Director of Scientific Affairs and Partnerships, by email ([brummet@curepsp.org](mailto:brummet@curepsp.org)).

**Changes to the Application. Withdrawal of application:** Please advise CurePSP promptly, in writing, should you decide to withdraw your application for any reason. Your letter (or email) to Dr. Jennifer Brummet should include your name, the application number, and the reason for withdrawal. **Change of address:** Notify CurePSP in writing of any changes of address, email, or phone number, following the submission of an application. Include your name and title of grant. **Change of institution:** If you are an applicant for a CurePSP grant and change your institution, contact Dr. Jennifer Brummet by e-mail ([brummet@curepsp.org](mailto:brummet@curepsp.org)) who will determine whether your application can be reviewed.

### Application Page Summary

1. Cover Pages	Complete the grant application cover form
2. Lay Abstract	300 words
3. Technical Abstract	Max. 1 page
4. Budget	Max. 1 page
5. Biosketch	Max. 5 pages per researcher
6. Other Support	Max. 1 page
7. Research Plan	Max. 4 pages
8. Milestones/Deliverables/Figures/Gantt Chart	Max. 1 page
9. References	No page limit
10. Appendix (Assurances and Certification; Support Letters)	No page limit (no figures or references)

For **administrative and scientific questions**, please contact Dr. **Jennifer Brummet**, at any time during the review cycle. Applicants considering revising and resubmitting a rejected application are strongly encouraged to contact Dr. Brummet for advice.

## Proposal Sections

### 1. Cover Pages

Please use the grant application cover form.

### 2. Lay Language Abstract

**300 words** (if funded, this abstract including the name of PI and his/her affiliation will be published on the CurePSP web site; by submitting a proposal the PI agrees to these terms). The abstract should be written for a general audience, at the level of popular news magazines. Technical terms should be minimized or explained, and Greek characters and other symbols should be avoided or spelled out.

### 3. Technical Abstract

The structured technical abstract is a summary of the proposed research or scholarly project for general scientific audiences. **It must not exceed 1 page in length.** It should provide a clear, concise overview of the proposed work by addressing the following points:

**Background:** Provide a brief statement of the ideas and reasoning behind the proposed work.

**Objective and Hypothesis:** State the objectives and hypothesis to be tested. Cite evidence or provide a rationale that supports it.

**Specific Aims:** Concisely state the specific aims of the study.

**Study Design:** Briefly describe the study design, emphasizing those elements you consider most relevant to assignment of the proposal for peer review.

**Scientific Relevance:** Provide a brief statement explaining the potential relevance to tauopathies. If this application is funded, this description will become public information. Therefore, do not include proprietary or confidential information.

### 4. Research Project Budget

**Max. 1 page;** including a table and a short justification of costs. **CurePSP agrees to pay all direct but no indirect costs for this project.**

**Needs:** Research Grants are intended to fit a variety of needs in scientific investigations related to PSP and/or CBD. A grant is generally made to cover the cost of such items as salaries and benefits for professional and technical personnel, special equipment, supplies, and other miscellaneous items required to conduct the proposed research. Budgets submitted must be realistic estimates of the funds required for the proposed research. Because of its limited resources, CurePSP and its SAB Peer Review Process expect applicants to exercise considerable budget restraint.

**Flexibility:** It is the intent of CurePSP to be flexible in response to the changing needs of a research program. The PI may make minor alterations within the approved budget except where such expenditures



conflict with the policies of CurePSP. Major changes e.g. change of milestones and deliverables) require written approval from Dr. Jennifer Brummet, CurePSP's Associate Director of Scientific Affairs and Partnerships, by email ([brummet@curepsp.org](mailto:brummet@curepsp.org)).

**Personnel:** Names and positions of all personnel must be individually listed and the percentage of time to be devoted to the project by each person should be noted, even when salary is not requested. If the individual has not been selected, please list as "vacancy." The costs to the institution of employee fringe benefits should be indicated as a percentage of the employee's salary. The amount of fringe benefits requested must be prorated to the salary requested. (For example, if 50% of an individual's annual salary is requested then no more than 50% of that individual's annual cost for fringe benefits can be requested.) The costs for overheads are not covered by funds from CurePSP.

**Permanent Equipment:** Defined as all items costing over \$500 with a useful life of 2 or more years. List separately and justify the need for each item of equipment. The maximum allowable for durable equipment is \$8,000.

**Consumables:** Group into major categories (e.g. glassware, chemicals, radioisotopes, survey materials, animals).

**Miscellaneous Expenditures:** List specific amounts for each item; examples of expenditures allowed include: publication costs, special fees (e.g., publication costs, pathology, computer time and scientific software, and equipment maintenance).

**Subcontracts:** If any portion of the proposed research is to be carried out at another institution, enter the total costs and provide a categorical breakdown on a continuation budget page.

**Travel.** PIs are expected to present their results at CurePSP's annual research symposium following completion of the award. Travel and lodging expenses for this meeting can be requested here. A list of all planned travel should be provided here. Please note that CurePSP funds shall not be used for travel costs not approved in the budget as awarded.

**Total Amount Requested:** Budget totals should reflect a maximum duration of 2 years.

**Justification of Budget:** Justify all items of equipment costing over \$500, and the need for personnel, supplies, travel, and other miscellaneous items.

## 5. NIH-style Biosketches

**Max. 5 pages per researcher (including your bibliography). Please find a template for download here:**

- <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm>
- Template: <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch-blank-format-rev-10-2021.docx>

Submit biosketches for the PI, CoPI, and collaborators/consultants, even if no salary support is requested. Do not provide biosketches for individuals who provide only technical assistance. **Collaborators** are defined as individuals who will participate actively in the design and execution of the studies whereas **consultants** are defined as individuals who will provide any combination of advice, guidance, and reagents without "hands-on" involvement in the project). Include **letters of intent to collaborate or consult** in the Appendix. Details of contractual arrangements with collaborators or consultants should be provided in the Justification of Budget section of the application.

**A. Personal Statement.** Briefly describe why you are well-suited for your role in the project described in this application. The relevant factors may include aspects of your training; your previous experimental work on this specific topic or related topics; your technical expertise; your collaborators or scientific environment; and your past performance in this or related fields (you may mention specific contributions to science that are not included in Section C). Also, you may identify up to four peer reviewed publications that specifically highlight your experience and qualifications for this project. If you wish to explain impediments to your past productivity, you may include a description of factors such as family care responsibilities, illness, disability, and active-duty military service.

**B. Positions and Honors.** List in chronological order previous positions, concluding with the present position. List any honors. Include present membership on any Federal Government public advisory committee.

**C. Contribution to Science.** Briefly describe up to five of your most significant contributions to science. For each contribution, indicate the historical background that frames the scientific problem; the central finding(s); the influence of the finding(s) on the progress of science or the application of those finding(s) to health or technology; and your specific role in the described work. For each of these contributions, reference your peer-reviewed publications or other non-publication research products (can include audio or video products; patents; data and research materials; databases; educational aids or curricula; instruments or equipment; models; protocols; and software or netware) that are relevant to the described contribution. The description of each contribution including figures and citations should be within the four-page limit. Also provide a URL to a full list of your published work as found in a publicly available digital database such as SciENcv or My Bibliography, which are maintained by the US National Library of Medicine.

**D. Research Support.** List both selected ongoing and completed research projects for the past three years (Federal or non-Federally-supported). *Begin with the projects that are most relevant to the research proposed in the application.* Briefly indicate the overall goals of the projects and responsibilities of the key person identified on the Biographical Sketch. Do not include number of person months or direct costs.

## 6. Other Support

**Max. 1 page.** CurePSP will not provide funding that is redundant with that from other sources, but recognizes that some projects will require funding from multiple sources to cover expenses. Indicate overlap with proposed project.

**Current Support:** List all current awards; give the source of funds, grant number, title of project, period of time covered by the grant, the amount of direct cost support for current year and total grant period, and percent effort. Outline the goals of the project in a brief two or three sentence paragraph. If necessary, an explanatory letter should be included in the appendix to clarify the differences between the present application to the CurePSP and currently funded projects.

**Pending Support:** List all pending applications to other funding sources for research support; identify those applications to be considered on an either/or basis with the CurePSP application. For pending support that is either/or with the CurePSP application, only one award can be accepted if both are approved for funding.

## 7. Research Plan

Limit research plan to **max. 4 pages**. There is no need to discuss PSP or CBD fundamentals. Proposals should be realistic in terms of work to be accomplished in the period of time for which support is requested. Although it is permissible to submit applications on an "either/or" basis with other agencies, proposals should be adjusted to fit CurePSP's term and budget constraints.

- **Specific Aims:** List the objectives and goal of the research proposed and describe the specific aims briefly in order of priority.
- **Background and Significance:** Concisely summarize and critically evaluate related work done by others and specifically state how the successful completion of the work proposed the in specific aims of the application will advance scientific knowledge or aspects of clinical practice.
- **Research Design and Methods:** Describe your proposed methods and procedures in sufficient detail to permit evaluation by other scientists. Discuss potential difficulties and imitations of the methods and procedures, and provide alternative approaches. Order your priorities, and estimate the length of time that you believe will be required to complete each specific aim. Although the time estimated should not exceed the term for which support is requested, it is helpful to state how this project fits in with your long term research goals.

## 8. Milestones/Deliverables/Figures/Gantt Chart

**Max. 1 page.** Create a comprehensive list of milestones and deliverables including a timeline when those are due. It is recommended to visualize the timeline using e.g. a Gantt chart. You can insert figures here.

## 9. References

Each literature citation should include the author names, title, book or journal, volume number, page numbers, and year of publication. There is **no page limitation** for the list of references.

## 10. Appendix

**Use only for support letters and assurances and certificates - no page limit;** no figures or references should be included in the Appendix.

**Assurances and Certification.** All activities involving human subjects or vertebrate animals must be approved by an appropriate institutional committee before the application will be funded by the CurePSP. Furthermore, compliance with current US Department of Health and Human Services guidelines for financial conflict of interest, recombinant DNA, research misconduct, and vertebrate animals is required. The assurances and certifications are made and verified by the signature of the institutional official signing the application. Assurances and certificates may be included into the Appendix.

**Vertebrate Animals.** Every proposed research project involving vertebrate animals must be approved, by an appropriate Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC), in accordance with Public Health Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, before the application will be funded by the CurePSP. IACUC approvals are valid for a maximum of three years.

All research supported by the CurePSP (including subcontracted activities) involving vertebrate animals must be conducted at performance sites which are covered under an approved Animal Welfare Assurance.

**Human Subjects.** All proposed research projects involving human subjects must be approved by the appropriate Institutional Review Board (IRB). The review date should be recent; certification is invalid if the review date precedes the submission date by more than one year.