National **Kidney** Foundation®

of Illinois

Innovations Grant 2022

The National Kidney Foundation of Illinois (NKFI) improves the health and well-being of people at risk for or affected by kidney disease through prevention, education, and empowerment. In keeping with NKFI's mission, the **Innovations Grant supports and funds new, innovative applications, research, technologies, and other novel processes that lead to more effective, equitable, and sustainable solutions to improve the lives of those at risk for kidney disease and transplantation-related diseases, and/or improve the prevention, management and treatment or cure of these diseases.**

You define the issue
All projects addressing all kidney and transplant community needs will be considered.

Projects can be at various stages of the innovation process including identifying the need, increasing collective understanding of the issue, generating ideas or testing and implementing solutions. Proposals can focus on one area or span multiple stages.

Grant Selection Criteria

The NKFI Research Grant Committee selection criteria include:

- The project uses inclusive, collaborative and resourceful processes to pursue an innovative solution to a challenge
    - Inclusive: meaningfully engage key stakeholders – thoughtfully identifying those needed to create the intended change and, whenever possible, including those directly affected by the problem.
    - Collaborative: a true joint effort, with a team willing to share ownership and decision-making as they pursue an innovation together.
    - Resourceful: using new resources and assets creatively to make the most of the proposal.
- The project must focus on an innovation – a potential breakthrough in addressing these issues that is more effective, equitable or sustainable than existing approaches.
- The project must be thoughtful, realistic and address the identified need.
- The applicant must have the capacity to execute the work effectively or have a plan to meet the needed capacity.
- The project must be likely to make a significant, sustainable difference, now or in the future.
- Projects must be conducted within Illinois for at least 75% duration of funding period.

- Research project must lead to more effective, equitable, and sustainable solutions to improve the lives of those at risk for kidney disease and transplantation-related diseases, and/or improve the prevention, management and treatment or cure of these diseases.
- Total amount funded is $60,000.

General Policies

I.   **Progress, Final and Financial Reports**

1. A non-technical final report, written for a lay audience, must be filed with the NKFI no later than 60 days after the end of the entire funded period. A report showing the final disposition of funds must be submitted at the same time. The format for these reports is devised by the award recipient. All unexpended funds must be returned to the NKFI. Additional funds beyond the original award may not be requested for any reason. Please note that this report may be published in the NKFI public materials.
2. Applicants who receive funding through this grant program must agree to present an update on their projects at one or more NKFI events or programs within the same 12-month period of the grant. Applicants who received funding **must** attribute any successful projects in part to the NKFI and may be asked for informal updates for social media.

II. **Extensions/Absences**

1. No-cost extensions must be requested in writing and are at the discretion of the National Kidney Foundation of Illinois.

III. **Publications**

Acknowledgement of support from the National Kidney Foundation of Illinois must be made when findings are reported, published or publicity is given to the work. Acknowledgement such as "Supported by a grant from the National Kidney Foundation of Illinois" is suggested. Two hard copies of any such publication should be sent to the NKFI Office. One PDF also should be e-mailed to research@nkfi.org.

IV. **Patents**

Awards are made with the understanding that the NKFI will receive written notification of the filing of any letters patent for any discovery made based on work funded by the NKFI.

V.   **Cancellation/Termination**

When a funding recipient has failed to comply with terms and conditions of an award, the NKFI, at its sole discretion, may cancel/terminate the award. In the event that the NKFI determines that funds are not being used as approved, the NKFI may immediately terminate any further installments. The funding recipient may cancel/terminate the award in writing to NKFI. In the event of cancellation/termination by the NKFI or the recipient, unexpended funds must be returned to the NKFI.

Deliverables Timeline

Applicants seeking and receiving NKFI funds must meet certain deadlines to fulfill requirements of this grant.

- **Completed Application Due:** April 22, 2022 by 5 pm CST
- **Notification of Award:** June 30, 2022
- **Funds Disseminated:** July 1, 2022
- **Final Report Due**: June 16, 2023

Selection Process and Timeline

Questions

Members of the National Kidney Foundation of Illinois Research Committee may be available to provide feedback on your application or answer any questions you may have about your grant application. Questions about the Innovations Grant can be submitted to research@nkfi.org.

Application Review

Your application will be reviewed and evaluated by several members of the National Kidney Foundation of Illinois' Research Committee. All applications will be reviewed following the application deadline and we will communicate all decisions by e-mail.

Finalist Review

You may be invited to participate in a finalist review Zoom meeting with committee members to discuss the application. All meetings are at the discretion of the NKFI Research Committee. We may also request additional information during the finalist review stage.

Additional Review Considerations

Reviewers will consider each of the following items but will not give scores for these items. Addressing these items in your application may help to strengthen your application.

- Is a multidisciplinary team engaged in the research?
- How is Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) addressed?
- Are members of the kidney community engaged in the research?
- Does the research increase access to care, especially for people from disproportionate backgrounds?
- Is the research patient focused?

Directions

As you prepare your application for funding from the National Kidney Foundation of Illinois, please read these instructions carefully.

An emailed submission of your application is due to research@nkfi.org by 5 pm on the day of the deadline. **Application materials submitted after the deadline will not be considered.**

Only emailed submissions of applications, and only one submission per person, are accepted. The total funding of the grant is up to $60,000, without possibility of increase over that amount. The $60,000 is to be considered a source of funding for exactly one year of the project**.** If the applicant does not provide a final report by the deadline above, the applicant will be required to return all funds.

Only one applicant from each project may apply.

Five separate components are required to apply for National Kidney Foundation of Illinois (NKFI) funding:

☐ Applicant information
☐ Narrative question attachments
☐ Resume/CV
☐ Budget
☐ Assurance statement

Applicant Information

First Name:

Last Name:

Email Address:

Current employer:

Current job title:

What issue area does your project address? :

Will at least 75% of the project be completed in Illinois?:

Project Information – Narrative Questions

General

- **Project Title:**

- **Provide a brief introduction to yourself and any people or organizations working closely with you on this project. As the applicant, describe why you are well positioned to lead this work.** Maximum of 3,000 characters (approximately 500 words)

- **What is the problem that you're trying to solve with the work proposed in this application? How did you decide to focus on this problem? Who informed, or was involved in, identifying the problem that you are working on solving**? Maximum of 900 characters (approximately 150 words)

- **Why is it important to address this problem? How is the identified problem typically addressed? Describe the current "status quo" approach and why something different is needed**. Maximum of 900 characters (approximately 150 words)

- **What is your timeline for completing your research? How do you plan to accomplish your project in the one-year funding period?** Maximum of 900 characters (approximately 150 words)

The Problem-Solving Process

- **Provide a short overview of the problem-solving process you will use to pursue a potential breakthrough (two or three sentences). Provide a numbered list of key activities you are proposing during the grant term.** Maximum of 1,800 characters or less (approximately 300 words)

- **Describe the work that brought you to this point and how it has informed the activities you have proposed for this grant.** Maximum of 900 characters (approximately 150 words).

- **WHO will you engage in the problem-solving? We are looking for processes that are meaningful and engage key players – thoughtfully identifying those needed to**

create the intended change and, whenever possible, including those directly affected by the problem. Maximum of 900 characters (approximately 150 words).

- **HOW will you work with others through the problem-solving process? Describe the group that has come together to work on this project, the various roles of the people and organizations involved and how you will make decisions together.** Maximum of 900 characters (approximately 150 words).

- **WHAT assets and resources will you build on as you pursue a solution to this problem? We are looking for processes that are resourceful: use existing and new resources and assets creatively.** Maximum of 900 characters (approximately 150 words).

Outcomes and Innovation

We know that innovation takes time. In the questions below, we want to learn about both the progress you will make during this grant term and the innovation you ultimately imagine.

Progress during grant term

- **Provide a numbered list of key outcomes you anticipate achieving by the end of the grant term. What will increase, decrease, improve, etc. because of the work you've proposed? How will these key outcomes be measured? This is the place to be practical about what you hope to accomplish during this grant period.** Maximum of 1,800 characters (approximately 300 words).

Your long-term vision

- **This is the place to dream. You're building toward innovation – a breakthrough in addressing a high need that is more effective, equitable or sustainable than existing approaches. What is the breakthrough you imagine one day? What will become different because of it? How will this change things?** Maximum of 1,800 characters (approximately 300 words).

Attachments

Your resume or CV (required) – An application without a resume or CV of the lead on this project is not considered complete and will not be reviewed or considered.

Project budget (required) – An application without a project budget is not considered complete and will not be reviewed or considered. A sample budget is listed at the end of this application.

We will not review or consider any documents besides those listed above.

Assurance Statement

NOTE: **This section is required for your application to be considered**. It must be signed by the applicant applying for funds.

I hereby certify: (1) that the information submitted within the application, and during the award period, is true, complete, and accurate to the best of my knowledge; (2) that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties; and (3) that I agree to accept responsibility for the conduct of the project and to provide the required reports if a grant is awarded as a result of this application.

Signature:

Print or type name:

Date:

Sample Project Budget

This sample project budget is provided for reference. If you have a project budget in an existing format, please feel free to use it.

The line items below are examples of sources of support and expenses which may or may not apply to your particular project. They are provided solely as a guide to the type of information we're looking for from applicants.

Here are a few things that we would recommend you keep in mind when creating your budget:

- Clearly identify funding status (ex. Pledged, committed, received, pending, under review).
- If the proposed project will be for more than one year, include a column showing funding and expenses for each year, as shown below.

<u>**Applicant Name**</u>
<u>**Project Title**</u>

	Amount	Notes/Funding Status
SOURCES OF SUPPORT		
National Kidney Foundation of Illinois	$ -	
In-kind contributions		
Other funding		
TOTAL SOURCES		
EXPENSES		
Resources/Assets	$ -	
Rentals		
Technology		
Materials		
Consultant		
Operating Expenses/Overhead		
Staff positions		
Rent		
Travel		
Pilot/Implementation Expenses		
Other Expenses		
TOTAL EXPENSES	$ -	