TESS Research Foundation 2018-19 Grant Program

Background and Purpose:
TESS Research Foundation’s mission is to find the best treatment options and ultimately a cure for citrate transporter disorder (SLC13A5), accompanied by a severe form of epilepsy beginning in infancy. The TESS Research Foundation Grant Program funds research related to the epileptic encephalopathies caused by mutations in the SLC13A5 gene.

Research plans should directly or indirectly address one of the following high-priority areas:

- Defining the neurobiological and neurophysiological basis of the citrate transporter disorder (SLC13A5) using cellular or animal model systems.
- Improving the citrate transporter disorder (SLC13A5) disease models, whether IPSCs, organoids or animal models to make them relevant for drug screening/therapy efficacy studies.
- Developing clinical biomarkers or surrogate endpoints or patient-reported outcome measures for citrate transporter disorder (SLC13A5), that can be used to assess disease burden or efficacy of a therapy in a clinical trial.
- Potential treatment modalities:
  a. Pre-clinical/ clinical screening of small molecules/ repurposed drug libraries
  b. Gene therapy
  c. Other treatment approaches

Eligibility:
Research grant award is intended to provide funding for an independent researcher, whether tenure-track faculty, non-tenure-track faculty or staff, or an equivalent level at a research institution or a biotechnology/ pharmaceutical company. The
award may support laboratory supplies, personnel costs, services, or equipment necessary to conduct the proposed research. The TESS Research Foundation encourages collaborative projects between co-investigators, but only one investigator may be considered the “Principal Investigator” for the application purpose. U.S. citizenship is not required. Researchers outside the U.S. are also encouraged to apply. Preference will be given to projects that address more than one priority areas. Smaller budgets for shorter focused projects are welcome.

If the research involves patient care or direct involvement with patients, applicant must be licensed to practice their profession at their institution and must obtain Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval. Research involving animals must obtain Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) approval.

**Guidelines:**

Duration: One or two years

Budget limits: Maximum total costs of $100,000

Applications that do not include the following materials and meet the specified page limitations will be returned unprocessed, or will be deferred until a subsequent granting cycle:

- Face Page (attached)
- Scientific Abstract and Lay Abstract – 1 page or less
- Budget Sheet including budget for personnel, consumables, and other efforts (No indirect costs are permitted)
- Hypothesis and Specific Aims – 1 page
- Research Design – 4 pages, including background, preliminary data, experimental plan, methods and time line
- A statement on how the research will advance the understanding and treatment of people with SLC13A5 mutations – ½ page
- Citations – no limit
- CV – maximum 5 pages (NIH Biosketch format is acceptable)
- Current /Past (3 years) /Pending Funding – 1 page

Formatting requirements: Use at least 11 point font and ½ inch
margins. Email the complete application as one file in PDF format.

**Important Dates for 2018-19 funding cycle:**

**Deadline for Applications:** December 1st, 2018  
**Award Announcement:** January 15th, 2019  
**Earliest Project Start Date:** February 1st, 2019

Completed applications should be submitted via email to [grants@tessfoundation.org](mailto:grants@tessfoundation.org) on or before December 1, 2018

For any enquiries related to TESS Research Foundation Grant Program, Contact Kim Nye: [kim@tessfoundation.org](mailto:kim@tessfoundation.org)
## Research Grant Application

**Title of Project:**

**Applicant Name:**

**Highest Degree:**

**Position Title:**

**Email ID:**

**Telephone No:**

**Fax No:**

**Applicant’s Current Institution Name:**

**Address:**

**Institution Representative Name:**

**Address:**

**Email ID:**

**Telephone No:**

**Dates of proposed project:**

**From**

**Through**

**Proposed Budget:**

**Human Subjects:**

- Yes
- No

**IRB Status:**

- Yes
- No

**IRB Date:**

**Vertebrate Animals:**

- Yes
- No

**IACUC Status:**

- Yes
- No

**IACUC Date:**

**Institution Representative Assurance:** I certify that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and accept the obligation to comply with the grantor’s terms and conditions if a grant is awarded as a result of this application.

**Institution Representative Signature and Date:**

**Applicant’s Assurance:** I certify that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I agree to take responsibility for the scientific conduct of the project.

**Applicant’s Signature and Date:**