

NMF NATIONAL MARFAN FOUNDATION

RESEARCH GRANT GUIDELINES

The National Marfan Foundation (NMF) is requesting applications for one- and two-year grants for basic or clinical research on the Marfan syndrome. The NMF's grant program is designed to provide financial support for investigators studying any or all disciplines involved in the Marfan syndrome. Three one-year grants not to exceed \$50,000 each (or two \$50,000 one-year grants and one \$100,000 two-year grant) will be made in January 2005 from the NMF Research Fund.

Special areas of interest are basic research, translational studies
and clinical studies in the following areas:
cardiovascular,
orthopedic and
ophthalmologic
issues of the Marfan syndrome.

SCHEDULE

Application Receipt Deadline:	April 2, 2004
Announcement of Awards:	September 1, 2004
Funding Available:	January 1, 2005

Please direct all questions and correspondence to:

Josephine Grima, Ph.D.
Director of Research and Legislative Affairs
National Marfan Foundation
22 Manhasset Avenue
Port Washington, NY 11050
Tel: 800-8-MARFAN or 516-883-8712 ext. 17
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NMF NATIONAL MARFAN FOUNDATION
RESEARCH GRANT GUIDELINES

**PROCEDURE FOR SUBMISSION, REVIEW AND AWARDING OF
RESEARCH GRANTS**

A. INTRODUCTION

The National Marfan Foundation awards funds to support research related to the Marfan syndrome and related connective tissue disorders. The goal of this NMF Research Program is to advance research in this area and to identify methods for earlier diagnosis, improved therapies and to find an eventual cure.

B. TYPES OF PROPOSALS SOLICITED

The National Marfan Foundation is currently accepting proposals for basic and clinical research related to the Marfan syndrome and related tissue connective tissue disorders. Each application should have the quality of an NIH proposal.

C. BUDGET

Budgets for up to, but not exceeding, \$50,000 for one year or \$100,000 for two years are acceptable.

D. QUALIFICATIONS OF THE PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR (PI).

The principal investigator must hold an MD, DO, PhD, ScD, DDS, DVM or equivalent degree. The investigator must have proven ability to pursue independent research as evidenced by original research publications in peer-reviewed journals.

E. REVIEW PROCESS

A committee of experts in basic and clinical research will review each application. The NIH peer review study section model will be followed. Each proposal will receive a priority score based on the evaluation of the committee. Priority scores will be forwarded to the National Marfan Foundation where award decisions will be made based upon relative scientific merit ranking of the submitted grants, and on priorities of the National Marfan Foundation. All applications will be held in the strictest confidence and all decisions by the National Marfan Foundation are final.

F. TERMS OF THE AWARD

1. **Duration.** One-year funding period begins January 1, 2005 and ends December 31, 2005. Two-year funding period begins January 1, 2005 and ends December 31, 2006. Requests for change in funding dates will be considered.
2. **Changes of Status of Principal Investigator.** If the named PI changes affiliations the award will follow only after approval of transfer from the NMF. If the named PI ceases research in the field for which the award was made, the award will terminate and the remaining balance will be returned to the NMF.
3. **Site of Project.** Awards are for studies at international public or private universities, colleges, hospitals and biomedical research institutions. The PI will make all arrangements for conduct of the proposed research projects.
4. **Budget.** Budgets for up to, but not exceeding, \$50,000 for one-year or \$100,000 for two-years are acceptable. Payments will be made to the PI's institution which will be responsible for administering the funds. Salaries for support personnel or current research post-doctoral fellows engaged in the project may be requested. Any unexpended funds shall be returned to the NMF upon completion of the granting period unless extension is approved by the NMF. The National Marfan Foundation does not pay for institutional overhead, construction or renovation; purchase of major capital equipment; office equipment or furniture; travel (except as required to perform the project); tuition fees; journal subscriptions, dues or memberships; equipment service contracts; salaries for secretaries. Funds will be distributed semi-annually at the beginning and middle of the funding year.
5. **Liability of National Marfan Foundation.** The NMF assumes no financial liability of any kind undertaken by the PI. The PI's institution acknowledges that NMF is not legally liable for the conduct of the PI and co-investigators.
6. **Institutional Support.** The PI assumes responsibility for conducting research projects and supervising the work co-investigators. The PI must demonstrate that access to a suitable caseload or patient population will be available for study during the funding period for clinical studies. Institutional review board (IRB) or its equivalent must approve research involving animal and human subjects and a copy of the approval or pending approval must be sent with this application. Copies of annual renewal of IRB must be forwarded to the NMF. IRB approval must be documented prior to dispensation of NMF funds. The application must include letters of support if the proposed project uses facilities not routinely available to or directly under the supervision of the

sponsoring program.

7. **Publications.** All discoveries resulting from work supported in part by the NMF should be made available to the public and scientific community through approved scientific channels such as national meetings and peer reviewed publications. Publications will acknowledge the support of the NMF. Two reprints of each publication must be forwarded to the NMF.
8. **Progress and Financial Reports.** One-year grants will be required to submit a brief progress report at 8 months (due August 1) and 3 months after the end of the granting period. Financial reports will also be required at these times. An additional and final questionnaire will forwarded to the grant recipient 12 months after the completion of the grant to describe any publications and subsequent funding received based on research performed using NMF's funds. Consideration for future funding will be dependent upon completion of these progress reports.

Two-year grants will be required to submit a progress and financial reports at 9-month intervals throughout the granting period. An additional and final questionnaire will forwarded to the grant recipient 12 months after the completion of the grant to describe any publications and subsequent funding received based on research performed using NMF's funds. Consideration for future funding will be dependent upon completion of these progress reports.

G. ADDRESS FOR MAILING APPLICATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE

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National Marfan Foundation
22 Manhasset Avenue
Port Washington, NY 11050
Tel: 800-8-MARFAN or 516-883-8712 ext. 17
Fax: 516-883-8040
Email: research@marfan.org

H. DETAILS OF PROPOSAL

The application is to be submitted using the enclosed forms. Number the pages consecutively at the bottom throughout the application. Type the application single-spaced, with 1 inch margins using at least a 10-pt font. Please submit twelve (12) copies of the completed application and appendices, including figures, photomicrographs, and videotapes, etc. Appendices should not be used to subvert the page limitation on the grant. Please present them in the following order according to the following instructions:

1. Title Page (Application form provided - 1 page)

2. Table of Contents (Application form provided –1 page)

3. Project Abstract and Lay Person Summary (1 page each)

On a single separate page, describe precisely and clearly the nature, objective, methods of procedure and significance of the proposed research project, and how it relates to the goal of providing a better understanding of the Marfan syndrome or related disorders and/or improving the treatment or diagnosis of the Marfan syndrome or related disorders (limit 300 words).

Rewrite the abstract in abbreviated form in terms suitable for presentation to lay persons (limit 500 words).

4. Research Plan (3 pages):

- a. Include Goals and Objectives; Rationale; Methodology; Evaluation.
- b. Please comment upon the importance of NMF funding:
 1. Will this funding allow you to pursue studies that would otherwise not be performed?
Is funding meant to supplement other sources of support?
 2. Do you anticipate that this funding will increase your competitiveness for other funding sources?
- c. Please comment upon the significance of the work that you propose:
 1. Is it similar to or a direct extension of work that has been or is being performed elsewhere?
 2. Does the work complement or extend other studies that are being performed at your institution?
 3. How novel are the studies that you describe?
 4. Would such a proposal be competitive for NIH funding in its current form, or would you require additional preliminary data?
 5. Do you anticipate that the support would lead to the generation of physical resources that might be useful to other investigators in the field?
 6. If so, would you be willing to make them widely available?

5. Budget

List full budget with amount requested from the National Marfan Foundation (NMF). No overhead or indirect costs will be considered. List additional sources of funding if budget exceeds NMF grant amount. Include:

- a. Names, titles, time/percentage effort of all participants, requested salaries and fringe benefits and total amount required.
- b. Statement that the institution or other funding sources will absorb indirect costs.
- c. A written budget justification.

6. Other Support (2 pages)

List other support received by Principal and Co-Investigators for any projects (include yearly

and total budget and duration of any grants):

- a. Current
- b. Pending
- c. Description (in a paragraph, describe each current or pending grant and whether it has scientific or budgetary overlap with the present proposal).

7. Biographical Sketches (3 pages each)

Using the supplied form, please provide biographical sketches for key personnel. Indicate the total number of publications in each of the (2) categories: referenced articles and invited works.

8. Facilities Description (1 page)

Describe the research facilities (laboratory space, clinical population, etc) available for the project.

9. Appendix

- a. literature cited
- b. human subjects experimental approval
- c. vertebrate animal experimental approval
- d. letters of support

NATIONAL MARFAN FOUNDATION
Research Grant Application
2004

Principal Investigator, Degree: Position Division Address Phone # Fax # Email	
Institution Name: Address Phone # Fax # Email	
Title of Proposed Project:	
Amount of Funding Requested:	
Dates of Proposed Project Period:	
Site of Project:	
PI Signature and Date	
Name and Address of Department Receiving Funds:	
Financial Officer Name Phone #; Fax# Email	
Financial Officer Signature & Date	

PI - _____

NATIONAL MARFAN FOUNDATION
RESEARCH GRANT PROGRAM

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_____ Research Plan

_____ Budget

_____ Other Support

_____ Biographical Sketches

_____ Facilities Description

Appendix

_____ Literature Cited

_____ Animal and Human Subject Approvals

_____ Letters of Support

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Provide the following information for key personnel. Photocopy this page for each person.

NAME	POSITION TITLE
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EDUCATION/TRAINING (Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, and include postdoctoral training.)

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE (if applicable)	YEAR (s)	FIELD OF STUDY

Research and Professional Experience: Concluding with present position, list, in chronological order, previous employment, experience, and honors. List research projects completed during last three years. List selected publications and invited works. Do not exceed 3 pages.