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Knight ADRC
Alzheimer Disease Research Center

Call for Developmental Project Grant Applications

$100,000/year for up to 2 years

Letter of Intent with Specific Aims due October 1st, 2025

The Knight Alzheimer Disease Research Center (Knight ADRC) at Washington University supports clinical, biomedical, behavioral, and translational research on aging and dementia. Applications proposing patient-oriented research (e.g., risk factors, diagnosis, disease course, and treatment and management) and basic studies (including topics such as neurodegeneration, genetic factors, and cellular and molecular mechanisms) are both welcome.

The Knight ADRC Developmental Project grant program aims to encourage investigators new to Alzheimer disease, both those early in their career development and those who are more senior but new to this area, to initiate research in dementia and aging. Investigators previously funded by the Knight ADRC are ineligible unless the Project represents a major departure from earlier work (consult with Knight ADRC leadership). **The Principal Investigator (PI) must be a full-time Washington University faculty member (Instructor or above) at time of award.** Typically, 2 to 3 Developmental Projects will be funded for one year at $100,000 direct costs each; a 2nd year of funding (also at $100,000 direct costs) will be awarded upon receipt of an approved progress report near the end of Year One. We are grateful that the McDonnell Center for Systems Neuroscience (https://sites.wustl.edu/systemsneuroscience/) and the McDonnell Center for Cellular and Molecular Neurobiology (https://sites.wustl.edu/cellularmolecularneurobiology/) will be partnering with us to fund half of one award each; applications in line with their mission statements are encouraged.

Developmental Project grant proposals undergo competitive peer review. Proposals to use Knight ADRC resources (e.g., Knight ADRC participants; clinical, cognitive, and biomarker data; brain or other biospecimens) are encouraged. Potential applicants should discuss their proposals with appropriate Core Leaders (https://knightadrc.wustl.edu/about-the-knight-adrc/organization/cores/) in advance of submission. Projects that utilize data from the National Alzheimer's Coordinating Center (NACC; https://www.alz.washington.edu/) or biospecimens from the National Centralized Repository for Alzheimer Disease and Related Dementias (NCRAD; https://ncrad.iu.edu/) also are encouraged. The potential for the applicant to build successfully on the proposed Project (published papers and additional grants) will be considered in review.

- To apply, please submit 1) a Letter of Intent and 2) an NIH-style Specific Aims page by email to Dr. Krista Moulder (moulderk@wustl.edu) **no later than Wednesday, October 1st, 2025.** The Letter of Intent should contain the following: name, job title, department, Project title, and list of any collaborators on the Project. The Project may only have one person as the PI.
- All Letters of Intent will be reviewed and ranked by the Knight ADRC Executive Committee. The most promising proposals will be invited to submit a full application (including a 4-page research strategy, budget, budget justification, and biosketch), to be due Friday, November 14th, 2025.
- Notice of approved Developmental Project proposals will be on or before January 14th, 2026. Funding for the 2026 Developmental Project grants is part of the ADRC grant award from the National Institute on Aging and should commence April 1st, 2026.

PLEASE ADDRESS LETTERS OF INTENT AND ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS CALL FOR PROPOSALS TO Dr. Krista Moulder (moulderk@wustl.edu; 314-286-2012).