



2024 Request for Applications (RFA) Hemostasis and Thrombosis Research Society (“HTRS”)

“Seed Grants for Basic Science and Translational Science Research” FINAL – 1.26.2024

Section 1: Program Overview

The HTRS 2024 “Seed Grants for Basic Science and Translational Science Research” Program (“SGBR” or the “Program”) provides one-time grants of \$7,500 USD to support basic science or translational science research projects in hemostasis and thrombosis conducted by early-stage investigators (PhDs or MD/PhDs) working at academic research institutions. Applicants must be active HTRS members at the time of application. Two grants will be available in 2024.

- Become an HTRS member [HERE](#)
- Apply for a seed grant through this Program at <https://htrs.smapply.org>
- HTRS will begin accepting applications on Thursday, February 1, 2024
- Application Deadline: **Friday, April 19, 2024, by 11:59 p.m. ET**

Section 2: About the Hemostasis and Thrombosis Research Society

Incorporated as a nonprofit organization in 1994, the Hemostasis and Thrombosis Research Society, Inc. (HTRS) is the leading North American professional society dedicated to research, mentoring, workforce development, and continuing medical education for physicians, investigators, and all health care professionals interested in advancing care for people with hemostatic and thrombotic disorders. To learn more about HTRS, visit www.htrs.org.

In April 2019, HTRS officially merged with the North American Society on Thrombosis & Hemostasis (“NASTH”). The combined organization, now operating under the HTRS name, is the result of several successful educational collaborations by HTRS and NASTH.

HTRS is offering this Program for the first time in 2024. Funding is provided exclusively by HTRS to support HTRS members who are discovery-based scientists working in academic settings.

Section 3: Program Details

a. Grant Period

The grant period for this Program is one (1) academic year, from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025.

b. Amount and Use of Grant Funds

The total grant is \$7,500 USD. This amount must be used for materials and/or supplies to support an existing, lab-based, academic research project in hemostasis and/or thrombosis.

The grant must be administered through the awardee's recipient institution. The entire grant amount is designated exclusively for direct expenses to secure materials and/or supplies to enhance the funded research project. Funds may not be designated by recipient institutions for salary support, travel support, management fees, or the rental or purchase of equipment. Payments may not be made to human subjects, though human subjects research on biorepository samples is allowed. Clinical trials, longitudinal clinical studies, and interventional human research projects are not eligible for this funding mechanism.

c. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

HTRS encourages investigators from historically excluded and underrepresented populations to apply, understanding that a diverse scientific workforce will foster scientific innovation, contribute to robust learning environments, improve the quality of the research, and advance the likelihood that underserved, or health-disparate populations will benefit from this research.

This includes individuals from racial and ethnic groups who have been shown by the National Science Foundation to be underrepresented and/or historically excluded in health-related sciences on a national basis, as well as individuals with disabilities, students from low socioeconomic (SES) status backgrounds, individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds, and women.

During the application process, applicants will be offered the opportunity to self-identify as a member of an historically excluded and/or underrepresented population and provide a brief explanation.

HTRS bases our diversity policy on that of **NIH's Interest in Diversity Notice**.

d. Program Goals

- Create a funding mechanism specifically for HTRS members who are discovery-based scientists
- Encourage early-stage investigators to pursue novel ideas
- Provide funding to enhance or expand an existing research project that has the potential to add to our shared knowledge of hemostasis and thrombosis disorders

e. Number of Awards

- HTRS will award two (2) seed grants in the amount of \$7,500 USD each for the 2024 Program cycle.
- HTRS reserves the right to: (1) determine the final number of awards made through the Program; (2) postpone decisions regarding the 2024 Program; or (3) reschedule or cancel the Program prior to selecting award recipients based on the quality of submissions.

Section 4: Applicant Eligibility Requirements

a. General Requirements

- Eligible applicants must be discovery-based, early-stage investigators (PhDs or MD/PhDs).
- Only applicants employed by academic, non-commercial institutions are eligible. Applicants must declare their intent to pursue an academic research career in hemostasis and/or thrombosis (or an academic research career that will have a substantial component of, or overlap with, hemostasis and/or thrombosis).
- U.S. or Canadian citizenship is not required to apply. However, as applicable to the applicant's institutional affiliation, award recipients must be eligible for employment in the U.S. or Canada and also agree to live and work in the U.S. or Canada for the duration of their HTRS-supported project. If award recipients must leave the U.S. or Canada (whichever is applicable) before concluding their research within the stated grant period, they must submit a request to the HTRS Scientific Review Committee explaining their circumstances, and this request will be assessed and resolved on a case-by-case basis. If the award recipients leave the U.S. or Canada (whichever is applicable), they may be required to return any remaining award funds to HTRS.
- Non-U.S. citizen applicants with a J1 Visa waiver are encouraged to apply, as are those with an equivalent Canadian visa. Please email ziegler@htrs.org before submitting a pre-proposal if you have questions about your eligibility.
- Applicants must be within 10 years of completing a graduate (PhD) degree at the time of submission (exceptions may be made for qualifying hardships, such as family/medical leave). Please email ziegler@htrs.org before submitting a pre-proposal to discuss a qualifying hardship exception.
- Applicants who have already received an NIH K-series, R-series, or other independent NIH award (or the Canadian equivalent) are not eligible.
- Applicants must be active HTRS Core members in good standing at the time of application. Awardees agree to maintain active HTRS memberships for the duration of the 12-month grant period.

Section 5: Project Eligibility Requirements

- a. Eligible research projects must be lab-based and exhibit a substantial component of, and relevance to, hemostasis and/or thrombosis. Topics may include, but are not limited to, acquired or inherited bleeding disorders, venous thromboembolism, arterial thrombosis, hemostasis/thrombosis in other diseases (such as sickle cell disease or infectious diseases), or uterine hemostasis relevant to heavy menstrual bleeding.
- b. Eligible research projects can be:
 - Basic science or laboratory projects, including, for example, molecular biology, physiology, pharmacology, biomarker, or translational studies where the primary emphasis is a laboratory component
 - Translational science projects, including, for example, epidemiological or translational studies with a secondary component of laboratory work

- Projects may involve fundamental studies with existing human biosamples. Applicants may work with human subjects' research or biorepository samples (however, no payments can be made to human subjects)
 - Clinical trials, interventional research, and observational (longitudinal) human studies are not eligible for this funding mechanism
- c. Please email jziegler@htrs.org prior to taking the time to submit an application if you have any questions regarding your project's eligibility.

Section 6: How to Apply

- a. Apply Online
- Applicants must complete the online application located at <https://htrs.smapply.org>
 - To create an account, click on "Register" and enter your email address and a password of your choice. Then, select the program "Seed Grants for Basic Science and Translational Science Research"
 - Applicants are required to upload a standard NIH Biosketch, a budget (1-page maximum), and a project description (4,000-word limit) that addresses how grant funds will be spent, how the project will advance the science, and how the project will advance the applicant's career. If applicants have already received an independent NIH award (as above), they are asked to acknowledge this and justify their request for HTRS seed grant (SGRA) funding.
 - Instructions for each of these requirements are noted on the application form

Section 7: Peer Review Criteria - How Proposals will be Evaluated

- a. Applicants must provide a narrative summary of the proposed research project addressing the integral need for funding.
- b. When preparing submissions, applicants should consider that their proposal will be evaluated based on answers to the following questions:
- How will the funds be spent?
 - How will this project advance scientific knowledge in hemostasis and/or thrombosis?
 - How will this project advance your career?

Section 7: Distribution of Award Funds

- a. Grant awards of \$7,500 USD each will be distributed by HTRS to the awardees' recipient institutions in two payments:
- The first payment of \$5,000 USD will be issued after full execution of the legal grant agreement contract between HTRS and the recipient institution
 - The second payment of \$1,500 USD will be issued after HTRS approves a formal 6-month progress report describing research conducted during the first six months of the project period
 - The final payment of \$1,000 USD is contingent upon approval by HTRS of a final, 12-month final report upon completion of the project period

- b. Instructions for required reporting are communicated to awardees in their notification letters and grant agreement contracts.

Section 8: Other Conditions and Responsibilities

Submission of an application implies acceptance of the following conditions by the applicant:

- a. Grant Agreement Contract. Upon notification of funding, awardees are responsible for providing HTRS with the name and contact information of the appropriate financial or legal representative at their institution who will receive the official grant agreement contract prepared by HTRS. The awardee, his/her primary mentor, any co-mentors, a representative of the recipient institution, and the HTRS Executive Director are required to sign the grant agreement before award funds can be dispersed.
- b. Change in Status. The awardee is responsible for providing HTRS with written notice of any changes in status related to their project or career path at any time during the course of the project period. Change in status notification letters are subject to review and approval by HTRS. While most change requests are negotiable, it should be noted that a change in career direction from an academic research institution to a commercial research company or laboratory is not permitted per this Program's eligibility requirements and will result in the awardee forfeiting the grant and the recipient institution returning the balance of unspent funds to HTRS. Exact conditions and instructions for submitting a change in status request are outlined in the Grant Agreement contract.
- c. Award Administration. The day-to-day administration of grant funds is the responsibility of the recipient institution's OSR or hospital research department. As such, the recipient institution issues award funds as outlined in the approved project budget according to its own procedures and payment schedules. Funds are never sent to awardees directly.
- d. Requirements Regarding Rights of Human Subjects. The recipient institution is responsible for protecting the rights and welfare of all human subjects participating in the SGRA-funded research activity. Awardees requesting SGRA funds for research involving human subjects are required to submit written evidence to HTRS of Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval, along with written evidence of their institution's Federalwide Assurance (FWA) number (for U.S. investigators) and its renewal date before funding can be awarded. Written approvals must be in place for the duration of the project period in order to receive SGRA funding from HTRS, and copies must be appended to the fully executed grant agreement contract.
- e. Requirements Regarding Animal Studies. The recipient institution is responsible for protecting the welfare of animals involved in the funded research activity. Awardees requesting funds for research involving animals are required to submit written evidence to HTRS of Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) approval (or equivalent), along with a copy of their institution's Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care (AAALAC) International accreditation (or equivalent) before funding can be awarded. These approvals must remain in place for the duration of the project period to continue to receive funding from HTRS.
- f. Acknowledgment of Support. Any review articles (published or in progress), abstracts, manuscripts, or oral and poster presentations resulting from an awardee's research supported by this Program must acknowledge the support of HTRS as outlined in the applicant's award notification letter and the fully executed grant agreement contract. Awardees are required to provide HTRS with copies of any articles (published and in progress), abstracts, manuscripts, or oral and poster presentations resulting from their

funded research during and after the project period with appropriate acknowledgments listed.

- g. **Required Reports.** Award recipients are required to submit two formal reports to HTRS using the templates provided by HTRS: 1) a progress report describing the first six months of the funded research, and 2) a final report to be submitted within three (3) months of the completion of the project period. Awardees accept primary responsibility for understanding when reports are due and for following submission instructions provided by HTRS. Required reports must include a list of any articles (published and in progress), abstracts, or oral and poster presentations resulting from the funded research, with copies of articles (published and in progress), abstracts, or oral and poster presentations appended. Awardees accept primary responsibility for understanding when reports are due and for following submission instructions provided by HTRS. Complete instructions for reporting are outlined in awardees' notification letters and grant agreement contracts.

Section 9: Submitting an Application

Applicants must submit all required materials by the deadline to be considered for a grant award. Please follow all formatting instructions and submit your application to the HTRS online grant submission site at <https://htrs.smapply.org> on or before April 19, 2024, at 11:59 p.m. ET.

On the HTRS grant application site, applicants should click on "Register" and create an account with their email address for a username and password of choice. The application site will confirm receipt via email. **If you do not receive a confirmation email within 24 hours, contact jziegler@htrs.org for confirmation of receipt.**

- a. Required Components of an Application (to be uploaded with the online application):
- **Application Form:** Applicants are required to complete the Application Form available in the HTRS online grant submission site (<https://htrs.smapply.org>). HTRS will begin accepting applications as of February 1, 2024.
 - **Research Project Description** (4,000 words maximum, excluding references): The Research Project Description must be written in the applicant's own words. It should be clear, concise, and well-written and should address:
 - a. Research aims or objectives
 - b. The applicant's specific role in the project
 - c. The experimental approach(es) and method(s) of data analysis to be used to address the research objectives; and expected results from the experimental approach(es) and method(s) of data analysis
 - **Standard NIH Biosketch of the applicant**
 - **One-page Project Budget**, including a clear outline of direct expenses covering only materials and supplies. The expenses listed here are permitted by HTRS as part of the project budget, which may not exceed a total of \$7,500 USD:
 - a. Direct project costs that include materials and/or supplies necessary to fulfill the project's specific aims or objectives
 - b. No human subject payments are allowed
 - c. No equipment, salary support, or travel support expenses are allowed

- d. No institutional management fees are allowed
- e. **No indirect project costs are allowed**

Section 10: Application Review

Applications submitted on or before April 19, 2024, at 11:59 p.m. ET will be reviewed by the HTRS Program Review Committee. Any reviewer with a direct conflict of interest (such as serving as a current mentor to one of the applicants) is recused from the entire review process. Any reviewer with an indirect conflict of interest (such as a close personal or professional relationship with any applicant, or previous involvement in any applicant's proposed project) is recused from reviewing the specific application in question.

Section 11: Notification and Announcement of Award Recipients

Individual award notifications and the official announcement of grant recipients will be made no later than May 2024 for projects beginning on July 1, 2024 and extending through June 30, 2025.

HTRS will make every effort to disperse funds for approved projects within 30 days (about 4 and a half weeks) of the date of execution of the legal grant agreement contract between HTRS and the recipient institution.

Questions?

Questions about this Program or applying for a grant should be directed to Jennifer Ziegler at jziegler@htrs.org or admin@htrs.org.