



SCIENCE DEPARTMENT -- REQUEST FOR LETTERS OF INTEREST (LOI)

Deadline: September 30, 2014 at 5:00 PM Eastern Time

The Arthritis Foundation is requesting letters of interest (LOI) for research projects that show promise to achieve a faster cure for arthritis and related diseases. The LOI will inform the development of a new Scientific Strategy to be announced in November 2014 and a Request for Proposals (RFP) to be released in December 2014. The Arthritis Foundation is particularly interested in research regarding fact-based metrics to guide actions and policies to improve the health of people across the lifespan with arthritis and related diseases; expediting movement between basic research to patient-centered research to population-based research to point of care; and improving clinical decision-making and health outcomes at point of care through the use of new products, tools, and technologies for people across the lifespan with arthritis and related diseases.

WHO MAY SUBMIT AN LOI

The Arthritis Foundation is seeking to engage creative minds across scientific disciplines — including those who have not previously taken part in arthritis research — to work on solutions that could lead to breakthrough advances to find a faster cure for arthritis and related diseases. Receiving advisement across scientific disciplines and/or partnering across disciplines can result in research that accomplishes a specific scientific goal that otherwise would not be realized by any single discipline. Anyone or any team with a bold idea that shows great promise can submit an LOI. The Arthritis Foundation is committed to seeking out and funding not only established researchers in science and technology, but also young investigators, entrepreneurs and innovators to strengthen the pipeline of research ideas to find a faster cure for arthritis and related diseases.

LOI SUBMISSION

Briefly describe how successful completion of this research could remove barriers and/or catalyze the development of new or improved approaches for prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and/or cure for arthritis and related diseases. Briefly describe how you plan to approach this research. For planning purposes, please estimate the length of time and total budget needed to implement and complete the proposed research.

The LOI should be written in size 10 Arial font and should be no longer than 1 page, single-spaced in English. Margins must be 1" all around. LOI submissions that are incomplete, late or do not adhere to formatting requirements may not be reviewed. The Arthritis Foundation requires LOIs to be submitted electronically, through proposalCENTRAL (<https://proposalcentral.altum.com>). The proposalCENTRAL signature page is not required for the LOI submission.

For questions regarding the LOI, please contact the Arthritis Foundation Science Department at grantsupport@arthritis.org. For technical assistance with proposalCENTRAL, please call 1.800.875.2562.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE SOLICITATION

The Arthritis Foundation reserves the right to reject any and all LOI received in response to this solicitation, and is in no way bound to accept any LOI. Issuance of this request for LOI does not constitute an award commitment on the part of Arthritis Foundation, nor does it commit the Arthritis Foundation to pay for costs incurred in the preparation and submission of the LOI.