# Research Medical Student Grant

**Policies and Procedures** August 2026

The RSNA Research & Education Foundation is committed to creating opportunities to advance the development of a diverse future workforce. A diverse and inclusive workforce brings broad perspectives, celebrates differences and alternative viewpoints, and empowers all members to achieve their full potential. With this commitment, the RSNA encourages all interested applicants to apply for RSNA research and education grant funding.

## Statement of Intent for Funding

### Purpose

To increase the opportunities for medical students to have research experience in medical imaging and to encourage them to consider academic radiology as an important option for their future. Recipients will gain experience in defining objectives, developing research skills and testing hypotheses before making their final choices for residency training programs. Students are expected to undertake research projects requiring full-time efforts for at least 8-10 weeks under the guidance of a scientific advisor during personal/vacation time or during a research elective approved by their medical school.

### Nature of Projects

- Any area of research related to the radiologic sciences, from hypothesis-driven basic science and clinical investigations to topics such as drug, device, and therapy development; comparative effectiveness, evidence-based radiology, ethics and professionalism, quality improvement, clinical practice efficiency, and imaging informatics.

### Award amount

- $3,000 United States Dollars (USD) for a 1-year project will be awarded to be matched by the sponsoring department ($6,000 total), as a stipend intended to secure protected time for the recipient and may not be used for non-personnel research expenses.

See the Financial Management section for requirements governing the allowable use, administration, and return of award funds.

### Payment Schedule

Research Grants start June 1 of the awarded year. Grant funds will be paid to the institution in one installment. The sponsoring department is responsible for providing the $3,000 matching funds.

Release of grant funds is contingent upon satisfaction of all Award Activation and Research Compliance Approval requirements. See the applicable sections below for additional information.

### Deadline for Application

Applications must be completed online and submitted with a scanned signature page by 11:59 PM CT on February 5, 2027. If the deadline date falls on a weekend or holiday, the deadline will be extended to the next business day. Applications will not be accepted after the deadline date. Applications that are not complete, do not comply with the instructions, or do not have properly executed signatures, will not be reviewed. See the Foundation's Website for details, RSNA.org/foundation.

## Definitions

For purposes of this grant program:

- Foundation means the RSNA Research & Education Foundation.
- Grant Program Committee means the committee authorized by the Foundation to review and approve post-award requests, including award modifications, no-cost extensions, and transfers.
- Unobligated Balance means grant funds that have not been spent, committed, or otherwise legally obligated by the institution as of the reporting date.
- Award Closeout means completion of all reporting, financial, publication, and administrative requirements associated with the award.

# Applicant Eligibility and Application Requirements

### Eligibility

Applicants must meet all applicable eligibility requirements at the time of application and throughout the duration of the award.

**Applicant and Principal Investigator Designation**

For purposes of the RSNA Research Medical Student Grant, the medical student applicant should be identified as the applicant and project lead for application and review purposes. The student should complete the application as the lead applicant and be listed as the Principal Investigator (PI) or Investigator of Record where possible. If an institution requires a faculty member or other senior personnel to serve as the institutional PI or applicant of record, those arrangements may be addressed at the time of award. This institutional designation does not change RSNA's expectation that the medical student is the applicant and project lead.

**General Eligibility Requirements (Applicable to All Applicants)**

- Applicants must be RSNA members in good standing at the time of application and throughout the grant period. Medical students may join RSNA at no cost.
- If the applicant's membership category is Member-in-Training or another non-dues-paying category, the scientific advisor or at least one co-investigator must maintain an active dues-paying RSNA membership.
- Applicant must be a full-time medical student at an accredited North American medical school.
- The research project must take place in a department of radiology, radiation oncology, or nuclear medicine in a North American educational institution; however, it is not required that the research take place in the same institution where the student is enrolled.
- Applicants must not have been principal investigator on external/extramural grant/contract amounts totaling more than $60,000 in a single year. The restriction on prior funding includes support from single or combined grants or contracts from any source including government, private or industrial/commercial sources.
- Applicants /co-principal investigator(s) must not be agents of any for-profit, commercial company in the radiologic sciences.
- Applicant may not submit more than one research or education grant application to the RSNA R&E Foundation per year.
- Recipients may not have concurrent RSNA R&E Foundation grants.
- Additional and supplemental funding for the approved project from other sources must receive prior Foundation approval if not described in the original application. Applicants must disclose all overlapping support and provide a written plan demonstrating that Foundation funds will not duplicate expenses covered by another funding source.
- Applicants and their institutions must agree to comply with all RSNA Research & Education Foundation policies, reporting requirements, and award conditions throughout the grant period.

### Selection and Award Process

Applications are evaluated through a competitive peer-review process by subject matter experts for scientific merit, feasibility, applicant qualifications, institutional support, and overall alignment with the objectives of the grant program. Funding recommendations are subject to approval by the RSNA Research & Education Foundation Board of Trustees. Applicants will be notified of funding decisions by email.

### Research Compliance Approvals

Recipients are responsible for obtaining and maintaining all institutional, regulatory, ethical, and safety approvals required to conduct the proposed research.

Depending on the nature of the project, required approvals may include, but are not limited to:

- Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval for human subjects research.
- Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) approval for animal research.
- Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) approval for research involving biological agents, recombinant DNA, or other biohazardous materials.
- Radiation Safety Committee approval for projects involving the use of radioactive materials or radiation-producing equipment.
- Data privacy or compliance approvals required for access to protected health information (PHI), patient data, or other regulated data sources.
- Any other institutional, governmental, or regulatory approvals required to conduct the proposed research.

Recipients must provide documentation of all required approvals to the Foundation upon request. Projects requiring approvals must submit proof of approval to the Foundation before grant funds are released. See the Award Activation section for additional requirements related to the release of award funds. If required approvals are pending at the time of award, funding may be delayed until acceptable documentation is received and verified by the Foundation.

# Award Activation

Grant funding will not be released until all required pre-award conditions have been satisfied, and all required documentation has been received and approved by the Foundation.

The signed application, including certifications provided by the applicant, department chair, and authorized institutional official, constitutes acceptance of the award and agreement to comply with all Foundation policies, reporting requirements, and award conditions.

Prior to the release of funds, recipients may be required to provide documentation of applicable institutional, regulatory, ethical, or safety approvals, including Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval when required. Additional documentation may be requested by the Foundation to verify eligibility, institutional affiliation, or compliance with award requirements.

Failure to provide required documentation in a timely manner may delay the release of funding or result in withdrawal of the award.

### AI Disclosure Statement

Applicants are permitted to use artificial intelligence (AI) and AI-assisted technologies in the preparation of grant applications. However, applicants remain fully responsible for the accuracy, originality, integrity, and completeness of all submitted materials.

If AI or AI-assisted technologies (e.g., ChatGPT, Gemini, Claude, image-generation tools, or similar technologies) are used in preparing any portion of the application, applicants must provide a supplemental disclosure that includes:

Name and version of the AI tool(s) used.

- Date(s) of use.
- Name of the developer or provider.
- A brief description of how the technology was used.

AI-generated content must be reviewed and verified by the applicant before submission. The use of AI does not alter the applicant's responsibility for compliance with Foundation policies, ethical standards, scientific rigor, or the accuracy of information contained in the application.

Disclosure of AI use is intended to promote transparency and will not, by itself, positively or negatively influence funding decisions.

# Terms and Conditions of the Award

### Financial Management

The RSNA Research & Education Foundation does not reimburse institutional indirect costs, overhead expenses, or facilities and administrative costs. Travel expenses related to attendance at the RSNA Annual Meeting may not be charged to the award unless otherwise approved by the Foundation.

### Commercial Sponsorship

A portion of the funding for RSNA Research & Education Foundation grant programs is provided through endowments established by commercial companies and other external supporters. As a result, some awards may be designated with the name of a sponsoring organization.

Award designations are assigned only after funding decisions have been completed and approved. The designation of an award does not imply endorsement of the recipient, the research project, or the recipient's institution by the sponsoring organization. Likewise, acceptance of a named award does not imply endorsement of the sponsoring organization by the recipient or institution.

If a recipient's institution is unable to accept funding associated with a named award, the recipient's eligibility for funding will not be affected. The Foundation will work with the recipient and institution to identify an alternative funding designation when available.

### Publicity of Award Recipients

The R&E Foundation will issue a press release and publicize the award in its print and electronic properties. Information submitted in the application and subsequent reports including the recipient’s name, institution, likeness, project title, and abstract can be utilized in the promotion of the award. Other external promotional opportunities are at the discretion of the individual recipient.

### REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

A final report must be submitted to the Foundation within 60 days after completion of the project. Reports are distributed to the Foundation's Board of Trustees and cosponsoring entity if applicable, to determine the effectiveness and success of the program. Failure to submit a complete and acceptable final report may affect the institution's and/or departments' eligibility for future Foundation funding, as determined by the Foundation. A final report will be considered acceptable when all required reporting elements have been submitted and approved by the Foundation.

Final reports are to be submitted by email as a PDF file attachment with CC to the department chair and scientific advisor(s), if applicable. Completed reports should be emailed to grants@rsna.org and must address each of the following:

1. Restate the specific aims/goals of your research plan and indicate the progress made toward each aim/goal. Include relevant supporting data, tables, figures, or other documentation as appropriate.
2. Indicate any deviations you have made from the original research plan and justify these changes. If you did not reach one or more of your initial goals, explain why.
3. Indicate any problems or delays that you have encountered; for example, problems in obtaining protected time to do research, slow patient accrual in the study, etc.
4. Indicate if the results from your studies are being prepared for publication or will be prepared for publication within the next six months. Publication expectations and the Foundation's right of first refusal requirements are described in the Publications section.
5. Indicate if the results from your studies will be used as preliminary data in a grant application to another grant agency.
6. Indicate the clinical significance and future clinical impact of the results of your study.
7. Indicate the strengths and weaknesses of the grant program in which you participated.
8. Indicate the influence or role that the grant from the RSNA Research & Education Foundation had on your career or will likely have in the future.

### GRANT RECIPIENT SURVEY

As a condition of accepting this award, recipients agree to participate in Foundation-administered surveys conducted every five years. The information collected may include updated contact information, subsequent grant funding, publications, professional accomplishments, and career advancement, and will be used to evaluate the long-term impact and effectiveness of Foundation funding programs.

### PUBLICATIONS

The RSNA Research & Education Foundation invests its resources to support the development of investigators and advance the radiologic sciences for the benefit of the broader RSNA community. Accordingly, scientific and educational manuscripts resulting from Foundation-funded projects must first be submitted for consideration to the RSNA Annual Meeting, an RSNA-designated journal, or both before submission to another conference or publication venue, unless otherwise approved in writing by the Foundation.

Designated RSNA journals include Radiology, RadioGraphics, Radiology Advances, Radiology: Artificial Intelligence, Radiology: Cardiothoracic Imaging, and Radiology: Imaging Cancer.

Recipients must submit manuscripts through the applicable RSNA meeting or journal submission process before submitting the work elsewhere. Manuscripts not accepted by one of the designated journals may subsequently be submitted to the publication venue of the author's choice. The right of first refusal requirement is satisfied upon completion of the applicable RSNA review process.

Recipients who wish to bypass the right of first refusal requirement must obtain written approval from the Grant Program Committee or Board of Trustees before submitting the work to another conference or journal. A copy of each publication resulting from RSNA R&E Foundation-funded work must be provided to the Foundation. All posters, publications, and oral presentations arising from Foundation-funded projects must acknowledge the support of the RSNA Research & Education Foundation and any sponsoring commercial company, if applicable.

## CHANGES TO AWARD TERMS

### AWARD MODIFICATIONS

Material changes to the approved project or budget require prior written approval from the Grant Program Committee. Material changes include, but are not limited to, modifications affecting project aims, methodology, timeline, budget allocation, scientific advisor, institutional affiliation, recipient effort, or scope of work. Such changes may include modifications to project aims, scope of work, methodology, timeline, scientific advisor, institutional support, or budget allocations. Requests must be submitted in writing and include a description of the proposed change, the reason for the request, and any supporting documentation. The Foundation reserves the right to approve or deny modification requests.

### No-Cost Extensions (NCE)

A no-cost extension (NCE) may be approved for up to 12 months beyond the original grant end date. Approval of an NCE does not include additional funding.

Requests for a no-cost extension must be submitted to the Foundation at least 60 days prior to the grant expiration date. To request an NCE form, recipients should email grants@rsna.org.

A completed NCE request form must be submitted and include:

- The reason for the extension request.
- The length of the extension requested.
- A summary of progress made to date.
- A description of the work remaining to be completed during the extension period.
- A financial statement itemizing expenditures incurred to date, the unobligated balance remaining, and a brief justification for how the remaining funds will support completion of the project during the extension period.

Extension requests are subject to review and approval by the Grant Program Committee. Requests submitted after the grant expiration date will not be considered except under extraordinary circumstances approved by the Foundation. Recipients approved for an extension must continue to submit progress reports every six months during the extension period and remain in compliance with all other grant terms and conditions.

### Institution and Principal Investigator (PI) Transfers

Transfers of a grant award to another institution or to a new Principal Investigator are considered modifications to the terms of an award and require prior approval from the Grant Program Committee.
Requests for a transfer must be submitted at least 60 days prior to the proposed transfer date. To request a transfer form, recipients should contact grants@rsna.org.
A completed transfer request form must be submitted and include:

- A description of the proposed transfer and the reason for the request.
- Written approval from the current institution, the receiving institution (if applicable), and the Principal Investigator.
- An expenditure statement from the current institution detailing all grant expenditures incurred to date.
- The remaining unobligated balance of grant funds available for transfer.
- A brief plan describing how the remaining funds will be used to complete the approved project.

As part of the transfer process, the current institution must return all remaining unobligated grant funds to the RSNA Research & Education Foundation. Upon approval of the transfer request and receipt of the returned funds, the Foundation will coordinate the transfer of the approved remaining balance to the receiving institution.

Transfer requests are subject to review and approval by the Grant Program Committee. No transfer may occur until written approval has been provided by the Foundation.

Following approval of the transfer, the recipient and receiving institution remain responsible for complying with all grant terms, conditions, reporting requirements, and award obligations.

## Award Closeout

To close an award, recipients must submit:

- Final narrative report
- Final financial statement
- Any required publications information
- Any required surveys or follow-up documentation

Award closeout will not occur until all required reports and documentation have been received and accepted by the Foundation.

### Modification or Termination of Support

The RSNA Research & Education Foundation Board of Trustees reserves the right to modify, suspend, or terminate grant funding at any time if it determines that continuation of the award is no longer consistent with Foundation policies, available funding, program requirements, or the approved scope of work.

If the Foundation determines that grant support must be modified or discontinued, the recipient and institution will be notified in writing. Whenever practicable, the Foundation will provide at least 90 days' advance notice of funding modification or termination.

Upon notification, the recipient may be required to submit a revised project plan, revised budget, final progress report, financial statement, and any other documentation necessary to facilitate the orderly modification, closeout, or termination of the award.

In the event of termination, any unexpended or unallowable award funds must be returned to the RSNA Research & Education Foundation in accordance with Foundation instructions.

## ADMINISTRATION OF GRANT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The RSNA Research & Education Foundation reserves the right to interpret, administer, and apply these policies and procedures. The Foundation may revise these policies at any time and will notify recipients of material changes that affect active awards. Questions regarding interpretation of these policies should be directed to the Foundation at grants@rsna.org.