



UH-NEOMED Neurodegenerative Disease and Aging Research Center: Brain Health Intramural Funding Program Call for Proposals

Application Deadline: Monday, November 3, 2025

The UH-NEOMED Neurodegenerative Disease and Aging Research Center is now accepting applications for pilot projects focused on innovative Brain Health research. This program aims to support collaborative research relationships between University Hospitals (UH) and Northeast Ohio Medical University (NEOMED) faculty related to Neurodegenerative Disease and Aging. The goal is to promote high-impact, synergistic science that will lead to improved patient health outcomes. Pilot funding for one year will be awarded to projects that establish or strengthen new collaborative efforts and demonstrate potential for securing future funding from foundations and federal agencies.

2025 Funding Opportunity

- Up to three competitive grants for a 12-month period starting January 1, 2026.
- Each award provides direct costs up to \$40,000 per year.

Eligibility & Expectation

- Principal investigators (PI) must hold active faculty appointments. Each team must comprise at least one PI from UH and one from NEOMED. Collaborative teams may involve established researchers, junior faculty, clinicians, students, and trainees.
- The award is intended to contribute to the collection of preliminary data that can be leveraged for subsequent applications for federal and foundation funding for innovative research that will improve patient brain health outcomes. As such, PIs must commit to submitting federal or non-federal grant applications in 2027 or 2028 based on the pilot work supported through this mechanism.
- If multiple applications with the same PI team qualify, only one will be funded.
- A Progress report is required at 6 months and continued funding for the remaining 6 months depends on satisfactory progress.
- Research findings are expected to be presented at UH-NEOMED-affiliated events.

Application Requirements (submit as a single PDF in this order)

- Cover Page (no page limit)
 - Project title
 - Project site
 - Name, terminal degree, academic appointment of principal investigators
 - Name, terminal degree and affiliation of co-investigators and other team members.
- Description of the Research Proposal (**3-page limit**)
 - Significance and Innovation
 - Specific aims
 - Background and preliminary studies
 - Research design and methods
- Collaborative Research Statement (**0.5-page limit**)
 - Describe how this project will catalyze team science between UH and NEOMED investigators and lead to extramural funding opportunities.
- Project Timeline and Milestone (**1 page limit**)
- Extramural Funding Plan (**0.5-page limit**)

- Identify at least three potential extramural funding mechanisms for 2027 and/or 2028.
- Justify how the current project proposal will support extramural funding applications.
- Budget and Budget Justification (no page limit)
 - Up to \$40,000 total over the 12-month project period.
 - Major equipment and faculty salary are not allowed
 - Allowable expenses: supplies cost, non-faculty personnel efforts, conference attendance (must present research project), open-access publication fees if not available through other sources, and other expenses associated with the project proposal.
- Biosketch of key personnels (no page limit)
- IACUC or IRB approval status (no page limit)
- Figure and Table (no page limit): Include key figures/tables that are critical to the proposal
- Literature cited (no page limit)

Submission Guidelines

Submit the full application via email as **a single PDF** into format specified below to UH-NEOMED@UHhospitals.org by **11:59p.m., Monday, November 3, 2025.**

- Font: Arial Font 11
- Margins: 0.5-inch margins on all sides.
- Paper Size: US letter (8.5 x 11-inch).
- Line Spacing: Single.
- Figures/Tables: Do not need to follow font guidelines but must be readable as printed on an 8.5 x 11-inch page at normal (100%) scale.
- Filename: 50 characters or less including spaces in the format **PI LASTNAME_ BRAIN HEALTH_ Pilot 2025.pdf**

For questions and submissions please contact [Aasef Shaikh](#) (UH) or [Sheila Fleming](#) (NEOMED)