CRN 2025 Technical Track FAQs

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2025 CRN Funding Opportunity

1. **What is the Technical Track?**
   This track will be focused on supporting the development of novel, sustainable tools to accelerate validation and therapeutic R&D for emerging targets identified through ASAP discoveries. Tools for emerging targets could include:
   - Generation of **preclinical models** to support in vivo or in vitro assessments of target of interest
   - Generation of **detection reagents** such as antibodies, nanobodies, or probes to support improved measurement or visualization of the target or target activity
   - Generation of **modulation agents** such as viral vectors, compounds, or antisense oligonucleotides to understand expression or activity levels needed for gain of function/loss of function observed in a target of interest

   The list of emerging targets will be made available at a later time

2. **What is the timeline for this RFA?**

MARCH 5, 2025	Online application portal opens for LOI submission
MAY 5, 2025	LOI deadline (6 PM ET)
WEEK OF JULY 7, 2025	Notification of invitation to submit full proposals
SEPTEMBER 8, 2025	Full proposal deadline (6 PM ET)
FEBRUARY 2026	Funding decisions made
JULY 2026	Anticipated project start date

Scope

1. **What is the scope of this RFA?**

Preclinical tools generated, validated and distributed through this track should support research for at least 5 of the targets listed in Table 1 of the RFA Overview, be tailored to meet key gaps in the existing commercial laboratory reagent/model landscape, and help address critical research questions for these selected targets.

Teams must focus on a **tool type** (e.g., antibodies, viral vectors, mouse models) to ensure depth of expertise and quality of tools created for the panel of targets selected.

Note that hypothesis-driven research is out of scope for this proposal. Once the tools have been developed and validated, there may be opportunities for additional funding support at that time to test target biology, but this is not the scope of the current call.

For more information, reference the In scope vs. Out of Scope section of the ⬛ ASAP CRN 2025 RFA Overview (Technical Track).docx .

2. **What if I want to develop reagents/models for targets that are not included in Table 1?**

We acknowledge that this list is not comprehensive and that some important targets that require tools are not included at this round of the Technical Track. If you are interested in developing reagents/models for targets that are not included in this list, those would fall outside the current scope of the Technical Track. We welcome you to submit these out-of-scope ideas to the MJFF Research Tools Program for discussion by emailing tools@michaeljfox.org.

Funding Details

1. **What is the total amount of funding available?**
   Applicant teams may request funds up to $2 million USD total costs per year to support up to a three-year research plan, for a total of up to $6 million USD in total costs. Total costs are inclusive of a maximum 15% indirect cost rate for all entities.

Eligibility

1. **Who is eligible for this funding?**
   This RFA is open to international organizations including public and private non-profit groups, agencies of the U.S. federal government, and for-profit entities. Applications must be submitted by multidisciplinary, multi-institutional research Teams.

2. **Are private companies or industry researchers allowed to apply?**
   Yes, private companies and industry research are allowed and encouraged to apply. All awardees must adhere to ASAP data sharing and open access policies.

3. **Can currently funded teams apply for this funding?**

![ASAP logo] Aligning Science Across Parkinson's

Currently funded ASAP teams are encouraged to apply, but please keep in mind the requirements listed for currently funded teams in the Team Composition section.

Team Composition

1. **What are the team composition requirements?**

   An ASAP team is made up of a Primary Institution and subawardee institutions and may be comprised of the following roles:

   - Core Leadership:
     - 1 Coordinating Lead PI *required*
     - 1 Core/Repository Co-Investigator *required*
     - Additional Co-Investigators *optional*
   - Project Manager *required*
   - Key Personnel *optional*
   - Collaborators (Paid and/or Unpaid) *optional*

   Core Leadership should include 2-3 Lead Principal Investigators with expertise in the following:

   - Expertise in PD and target biology of interest
   - Expertise in tool characterization and development (dependent on tool type proposed)
   - Representation from academic core or company (CRO) to design, generate, and distribute the proposed tool that can demonstrate global distribution capabilities to non-profit and for-profit customers through click-to-order e-commerce system

   For a more detailed description of ASAP Team roles and a summary of Institutional and Core Leadership eligibility criteria, please see
   W ASAP CRN 2025 Team Application and Budget Guidelines (Technic…

2. **Are partnerships with industry or other institutions required?**
   Partnership with other institutions is required. Partnership with industry is welcomed but not required.

3. **Who do we need to include at the LOI stage?**
   Only the Core Leadership is required to be named at the LOI stage. If invited to full proposal, you will be asked to name a Project Manager, any Key Personnel (optional) and collaborators (optional).

4. **Do I need to complete the Early Career investigator questions in the MJFF Grant Portal application?**
   No, an early career investigator is not required for this RFA call therefore these questions are not applicable.

5. **Can I apply with international collaborators?**
   Yes, you may apply with international collaborators**.**

6. **What is the expectation for the role of Project Manager?**
   The Project Manager must meet the **100% FTE requirement** to ensure dedicated inter-team communication and coordination. The project manager is required to have the appropriate background and training to monitor tool status, liaise with other funded teams, and register tools   This team member will monitor team milestones, manage data, liaise with other funded teams, track progress towards commercializing the resulting preclinical reagents/models, and ensure compliance. The project manager must be named no later than three months after the award start date.

   The Project Manager is not required to be from the same institution as the Lead PI.

5. **What is the role of the Core/Repository Co-Investigator?**
   To ensure open access to the tools developed within this program, the Technical Track has the unique requirement of a **Core/Repository Co-Investigator**. This Core/Repository Co-Investigator must be a representative from a commercial repository or academic core that has existing infrastructure, ability, and commitment to licensing and commercializing the resulting models/reagents generated within the program according to the following principles:

   - Available to non-profit and for-profit researchers at commercially reasonable prices
   - No additional licensing requirements for for-profit researcher access
   - Global distribution
   - Reagents/models easily findable on repository/core website with simple request/order processes (online click-to-order commercial platforms preferred)

7. **Can one person be part of Core leadership (i.e., Co-I) on more than two submitted LOIs responding to CRN 2025 RFAs?**
   The maximum number of letters of intent (LOI) that any single investigator can be named as a member of the Core Leadership team on is <u>**two, across both the Sci Track and Tech Track**</u>.

   There are no limits on how many teams that an investigator can apply with as a Collaborator, provided that <u>total</u> % of full-time effort (if salary is supported) does not exceed 100%.

   A PI can only serve as a Lead PI on one CRN award.

Application Process
1. **What is the application deadline?**

LOIs will open on March 5, 2025. LOIs will be due May 5th, 2025.

2. **What documents or materials are required for submission?**
   Materials for submission can be found on [our website](#).

3. **How do I submit my application?**
   All applications will be submitted via the MJFF grants portal.

4. **Can I submit more than one application?**
   No, the Lead Principal Investigator can submit only one application. Co-investigators may serve on a maximum of two teams to ensure meaningful contribution.

5. **Are there guidelines for preparing the application?**
   Guidelines for the Technical Track can be found here:
   W ASAP CRN 2025 Team Application and Budget Guidelines (Technical Track).docx

6. **Do I need to submit a budget at the LOI stage?**
   No, the budget template and institutional approval letter will be due if invited to full proposal.

Post-Award Considerations

1. **What are the conditions for publication and data sharing?**
   All awards must adhere to the ASAP data sharing and open access policies outlined [here](#).

2. **How will the funding be disbursed?**
   Funding will be disbursed on an annual basis.

Contact Us

1. **Who can I contact if I have questions during the application process?**
   Please do not hesitate to reach out to grants@parkinsonsroadmap.org with questions throughout the application process.

2. **Sign up for email updates!** [Sign Up - Aligning Science Across Parkinson's (parkinsonsroadmap.org)](#)