

McPherson Eye Research Institute

2022 Expanding Our Vision Research Grant Application Guidelines

The McPherson ERI is offering one award of \$10,000 to advance vision-related research in the following areas* (listed in no particular order):

- Visual communication
- Visual cognition
- Visual perception/performance
- Data visualization
- Development of novel imaging techniques for the visual system
- Computer sciences
- Bioinformatics

**Please note, if you require further clarification with regard to these research areas, contact Chris Lacey (chris.lacey@wisc.edu), who will forward your question to the McPherson ERI Leadership Committee.*

Eligibility: Applications will be accepted from McPherson Eye Research Institute members at UW–Madison. Co-investigators may be members at other Wisconsin institutions. Applicants must be faculty or permanent principal investigators and the proposed project must not be funded through any other internal or external grant mechanism up until the time that it is awarded (thereafter, outside grant applications that utilize data obtained with EOVS funds are highly encouraged). Collaborative projects are welcomed but not required. Awardees must expend all funds within one year of issuance or remaining monies will be retained by the Institute.

Expectations: Awardees will be expected to present data obtained via EOVS funding within 1–2 years at a McPherson ERI-sponsored event such as the monthly seminar series or the Fall poster session. In addition, publications that result from the funded project should acknowledge support from a “UW–Madison McPherson Eye Research Institute Expanding Our Vision Award.”

Submission deadline: **Friday, April 1, 2022**

Submit grant applications to Chris Lacey: chris.lacey@wisc.edu

Application format:

1. **Complete the application (which includes a brief lay abstract and budget statement) on the provided fillable form** using single-spaced text, Arial font no smaller than 11 point, and page margins of 0.5 inches. The form must be signed by the principal investigator.
 - A. **PLEASE NOTE that your lay abstract should be written in language that a reviewer who is not in your field can fully understand. Your application will be judged in large part by your lay description and its overall understandability.** The review panel is comprised of researchers from several different scientific fields, including psychology, neuroscience, computer science, medical genetics, human development and family studies, biostatistics and medical informatics, engineering, ophthalmology and visual sciences, and many others. **Make sure you convey the purpose and importance of your research project**

so that a researcher from any school, college, or department can fully understand it.

2. **As a separate, single pdf file, submit the following:**
 - A. **Brief research proposal (up to 2 pages)**, including text and figures (latter not required). Include the following sections: background/rationale; significance/innovation; specific aims; research plan and methods; and anticipated results.
 - B. **Up to one page of references cited**, immediately following the research proposal on a separate page.
 - C. **For both 2A and 2B above**, use single-spaced text, Arial font no smaller than 11 point, and page margins of 0.5 inches.
3. **An NIH- or NSF-style biosketch must be submitted with your application.**
4. **A compliance form**, indicating use/non-use of human or animal subjects and biosafety protocol.

Budget statement: In a few sentences and included on the application, outline how you will use the funds—up to \$10,000—to advance your project over the one-year award period. Use can include salary, but not tuition remission. Other possible allocations include, but are not limited to, equipment, software packages, participant recruitment database, participant incentives/payment, standardized assessment tools, scanner time for imaging studies, etc. Of note, travel can only be included *if critical to conduct the research*. Do not include travel to attend meetings/conferences.

Award restrictions: An EOV award is non-transferable. Funding is available for use over a one-year period; thereafter, unused funds will be returned to the Institute (award extensions will not be granted). Award funds cannot be used for tuition remission or for meeting/conference attendance.

Proposal review: Proposals for this opportunity will be reviewed by the McPherson ERI Leadership Committee. Additional guidance may be sought from McPherson ERI Research Committee members or other UW–Madison researchers with relevant expertise. **Review criteria include (1) the understandability of the lay abstract, (2) the significance of the proposal from a eye/vision research standpoint, (3) the inclusion of innovative concepts, tools, or methods, (4) the rigor of the experimental approach, and (4) the clarity/completeness of the proposal.**

Timeline:

April 1, 2022: Submission deadline

June 2022: Grant recipients announced

Overlap with **existing funding sources** is not allowed. Please indicate whether you have funding for other aspects of this project and, if so, explain how the proposed experiments do not represent overlap. (50 words or fewer)

Checklist:

- Completed application form signed by applicant
- Research proposal (up to 2 pages) + references (no page limit) in a single pdf
- Compliance form
- NIH or NSF-style biosketch

Signature of Principal Investigator: _____

COMPLIANCE FORM: Expanding Our Vision Research Grant

Your signature on the face page attests to your compliance with the following items:

Human Subjects

- This application DOES NOT propose any activities that involve human beings, require personal data from primary or secondary sources, or use human materials.
- This application DOES propose to involve human subjects, materials, or data and is pending review or will be reviewed by the appropriate UW IRB (or applicable IRB) prior to the initiation of this project. No funds will be provided until notice of approval is received by the McPherson Eye Research Institute.
- This application DOES propose activities involving human subjects, materials, or data and has been reviewed and approved by the appropriate UW IRB (or applicable IRB):

Approval date: _____ Protocol #: _____

Protocol Title: _____

Principal Investigator: _____

Animal Subjects

- This application DOES NOT propose any activities that involve animals or animal tissue.
- This application DOES propose to involve animals or animal tissue and is pending review or will be reviewed by the appropriate Animal Care Committee prior to initiation of this project. No funds will be provided until notice of approval is received by the McPherson Eye Research Institute.
- This application DOES propose activities involving animals or animal tissue and has been reviewed and approved by the appropriate Animal Care Committee:

Approval date: _____ Protocol #: _____

Protocol Title: _____

Principal Investigator: _____

Use of Biological Materials

- This application DOES NOT involve the use of biological materials.
- This application DOES involve the use of biological materials and covers research not previously submitted to the UW–Madison Biological Safety Committee, or to another institution's Biosafety Committee. I am therefore sending a copy of the required protocol to my institution's Office of Biological Safety (OBS).
- This application DOES involve the use of biological materials. An application involving the same research has previously been submitted to the UW–Madison Biological Safety Committee or to my institution's Biosafety Committee as noted below:

Submission date: _____ SC #: _____

Principal Investigator: _____

Investigators will be responsible for advising their Office of Biological Safety of this new project, if funded.