



# The **BRIGHT** Awards



## Supporting Investigator Research

Bayer is proud to announce the launch of the **Bayer Research and Innovation Grant for Heart and kidney disease sTudies (BRIGHT)** Awards.

The BRIGHT Awards aim to support investigator research in the areas of heart and kidney diseases. All investigators, clinicians, and allied healthcare providers currently working within heart and kidney diseases in the United States may apply.

### The objectives of the BRIGHT Awards are to:

- Support investigator research with the hopes of creating advancements in cardiovascular and kidney disease research
- Contribute to the growing body of cardiovascular and kidney disease research seeking to improve patient outcomes

### Research focus

The research focus for the 2023 cycle will be the following areas. Applicants may also apply outside these areas.

- Management of chronic kidney disease (CKD) associated with type 2 diabetes (T2D)
- Underserved or underrepresented populations with CKD associated with T2D
- The role of aldosterone in disease biology
- CKD in a cardiovascular disease (CVD) setting
- Implementation science
- Patient-reported outcomes (PROs) in CKD and T2D

### Awards are available in three categories

The BRIGHT review criteria will be modeled after the National Institutes of Health (NIH) system; entries will be graded on significance, investigator(s), innovation, and research approach. There are three award categories available.

#### Category 1

**Duration of award:** 1–2 years

**Award:** Up to US \$25,000 in total

#### Category 2

**Duration of award:** 2 years

**Award:** Up to US \$50,000 in total

#### Category 3

**Duration of award:** 2 years

**Award:** Up to US \$100,000 in total

Applicants will be required to describe how their proposed research will translate into clinical benefits for patients with cardiovascular and renal conditions. The applications that offer the most compelling translational opportunities will be given greater weight during the review process.



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### **The Grant Review Committee – bringing external scrutiny to the Program**

In order to ensure that the program is completely independent, the appraisal process is overseen by a group of eminent healthcare experts working within heart and kidney disease research and care. The role of the Grant Review Committee is to fully review each Letter of Intent (LOI) Proposal and Research Protocol, and to determine the suitability of each application for funding.

### **Guide to the application process**

If you have any queries about the BRIGHT Awards, email the program administrator at [BRIGHTawards@bayer.com](mailto:BRIGHTawards@bayer.com). Application materials should also be sent to this email address.

### **Letter of Intent (LOI) Proposal**

After deciding which category to apply for, there are two key steps in the application process. The first is the completion and submission of a LOI Proposal. The LOI Proposal is a short form that asks for key information, including biographical details of the applicant and their mentor. The proposed project, program, or activity should also be described in 500 words or fewer.

**For the 2023 cycle, LOI Proposals can be submitted up to Thursday 30 November. The LOI Proposal form can be downloaded from the BRIGHT Awards website.**

The Grant Review Committee reviews each LOI Proposal and assigns a numeric score. LOI Proposals are then ranked by score, and for those exceeding the threshold score, applicants will be asked to submit a Research Protocol.

### **Research Protocol**

The second key step in the process is submission of a Research Protocol. Research Protocols are reviewed by at least two members of the Grant Review Committee, who will be selected for their familiarity with the subject matter of the application. As well as providing a numeric score for each Research Protocol, Committee members will provide written comments, which are available to applicants if they wish to see them.

The Committee looks favorably on applications that are accurately budgeted. Proposed equipment purchases and time allocations should be commensurate with the scope of the project. A detailed budget should be provided with an explanation of all associated costs. We strongly advise applicants to include letters of support from their mentors and letters of agreement from their co-investigators.

Funding decisions are taken at a yearly meeting of the Grant Review Committee, and the results of the review process and funding decisions are communicated to applicants after the meeting. The decision of the Committee is final and is not subject to appeal or discussion.

### **The timelines for the 2023 cycle are shown below:**

**Deadline for submission of LOI Proposals:** 30 November 2023

**Applicants informed of decision:** 10 December 2023

**Deadline for submission of Research Protocols:** 10 January 2024

**Applicants notified of decision:** 1 February 2024