



CREUTZFELDT-JAKOB DISEASE
FOUNDATION, INC.
Supporting Families Affected by Prion Disease

Request for 2025-26 Fellowship Applications for Post-Doctoral Researchers or Healthcare Professionals

The Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD) Foundation is pleased to announce a Call for Fellowship Applications for clinical and research training relating to human prion diseases.

In January 2026 the CJD Foundation may award a fellowship award for a researcher who is in the early years of their career and is working under the direct supervision of a senior investigator, healthcare, or public health professional. This award will fund a training fellowship in an established laboratory/clinical/research setting that will provide a foundation for the applicant's independent research career.

The topic of the fellow's training should relate to human prion disease and they should engage in prion disease related research projects during their training. Their work might focus on areas such as cellular and molecular mechanisms of prion disease, novel disease models, biomarkers, bioinformatic or other computational biology approaches, or emerging technologies to improve diagnosis, monitoring disease progression, treating symptoms or underlying disease, supporting caregivers, or providing palliative care specific to prion disease among other possibilities.

Award Amount: up to \$100,000

Duration: 1 year

Available fellowships: up to one award

Eligibility Criteria

You are eligible to submit an application if you have either of the following credentials:

1. For Post-Docs:
 - Work at an academic institution or eligible non-profit organization
 - Have a PhD and/or MD degree (or similar doctorate degree) and a postdoctoral appointment at an academic institution, teaching hospital, or nonprofit research institute that extends through the full 1-year funding period (approximately July 1, 2026 – July 1, 2027).
 - Have had your doctoral degree for less than 5 years
 - Do not have a faculty appointment (e.g., Instructor, Research Assistant Professor)
2. For Medical/Public Health Professionals
 - Have eligibility as a Healthcare or Public Health professional, for example, MPH, advanced degree in Nursing

Time schedule

- Application deadline is October 31, 2025
- Awards communicated to recipients by: January 16, 2026
- Awards announced by: January 23, 2026

- Training related to prion disease is expected to take place over a full year from July 1, 2026
- A progress report, including details regarding prion disease related training and research projects, is due at six months and one year from date of the award. A short video report might be requested to be shown at the CJD Foundation Family Conference.

Terms

- Only one applicant from a Senior Principal Investigator's laboratory will be eligible to apply (for either a grant or fellowship). A Senior PI can be awarded only one grant (either as PI for a grant or as mentor for a fellow).
- By accepting the grant, the applicant agrees to participate in the CJD Foundation's Annual Family Conference. The Foundation will cover the cost of the speaker's registration, lodging, and meals. The fellow will cover the cost of transportation to and from the conference from the funds awarded.
- No grants will be awarded for projects that have been funded in a preceding year, and precedence will be given to new projects.

Evaluation Criteria

1. Qualifications of fellowship applicant
2. Expertise of the supervising investigator(s) in the field of the proposed research
3. Prion disease related training opportunities available at the applicant's institution
4. Innovation and scientific excellence of proposed research projects
5. Relevance to and impact on human prion diseases

Application Process

Please submit the application via email to:

Debbie Yobs, President/Executive Director, CJD Foundation, Debbie@CJDFoundation.org

Subject line: CJDF Fellowship Application (Your Name)

Please ensure you have received a receipt within 48 hours of submitting. If you have not received a response, please verify receipt by email or phone.

Application should be **single-spaced, in Arial 11 or equivalent font, with margins not less than .5 inch. Documents MUST meet the page count restrictions indicated. No cover page.**

Fellowship Grant Application (no more than Four pages, plus documentation outlined in K-N)

- A. Project Title
- B. Applicant name, affiliation
- C. Supervisor name, affiliation
- D. Institutional resources related to prion disease and research and/or clinical training
- E. Detailed training plan
- F. Description of prion disease related research projects to be conducted during training
- G. Fellowship deliverables (at least three) and how they will be evaluated
- H. Background and Previous Training of Applicant
- I. Budget (up to \$100,000 for 1-year fellowship)

- J. List of funding from other sources must include a statement that excludes overlap with the present proposal
- K. Separate Letter of Support from post-doctoral supervisor (or other supervisor for medical/public health professional) that outlines the training/research plan
- L. Separate NIH Biosketch of applicant
- M. Separate NIH Biosketch of post-doctoral supervisor
- N. Two separate letters of support from two individuals familiar with the applicant's professional career/plans

Note: The budget may not contain administrative overhead or indirect cost and should be prepared in U.S. dollars. Postdoctoral fellowship applications should include a budget even if they are only requesting salary. Depending on the total available budget and based on reviews and rankings of grant applications and fellowship applications, the CJD Foundation reserves the right to fund a grant in lieu of a fellowship.