



## Request for Applications in Basic or Clinical Research of Usher syndrome

Hear See Hope is now accepting applications in basic science or clinical research that address one or more of the following:

- Development of treatment strategies, including gene therapy, cell-based therapies, and other medical strategies
- Identification or development of animal models of Usher syndrome and RP
- Epidemiology of Usher syndrome
- Detection and characterization of novel genes causing Usher syndrome
- Genotype/ phenotype data collection and analysis
- Studies of the underlying pathophysiology of retinal disease, hearing loss, and vestibular dysfunction in Usher syndrome
- Improved diagnostic methods in Usher syndrome, especially with regard to vestibular dysfunction and retinal disease (RP)
- Improvement of genetic testing methods and availability for diagnosis, family planning, and preparation for gene-specific treatment trials
- Communication between scientists working in the fields of Usher syndrome and retinitis pigmentosa (RP) research and recruitment of young scientists and clinicians to enter the field
- Awareness of the significance of Usher syndrome in the Deaf and hearing impaired communities

Hear See Hope  
PO Box 84624  
Seattle, WA 98124  
[www.hearseehope.com](http://www.hearseehope.com)

**Funds Available:** Awards will be granted in single amounts of \$20,000 to \$100,000, with the possibility of renewal.

**Application Deadline:** September 15, 2008

**Eligible Institutions:** Non-profit academic institutions are eligible for support as the primary grantee.

**Eligible Applicants:** Applicants for Principal Investigator should be full-time employees of an eligible institution at the level of Assistant Professor or higher. No restriction is applied to the institutions or places of employment of qualified collaborators in the proposed projects.

**Application Evaluation Criteria:** Each proposal will be reviewed using the following criteria:

1. The applicant's past performance and competence to undertake the project.
2. The infrastructure and past performance of the institution(s) where the project and proposed collaborations will be completed.
3. The perceived importance of the project and its relevance to the stated research objectives.
4. The feasibility of the research plan including design and methods, and appropriateness of the budget.

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING GRANT APPLICATIONS

**1. Grant Application Face Page.** Include project title, total amount of money being requested, and the name, title, and contact information for both the Principal Investigator and the administrative official to be notified if grant award is made. The face page on the hard copy version of the application should be signed by both of these individuals. Certification of approval or pending approval from an Institutional Review Board is required for all projects involving patients or patient samples. Also, if animals are used for the study, appropriate animal care facilities and animal welfare assurance must be provided. Corresponding certification numbers should be provided on the application face page.

**2. Lay-language Abstract.** For publicity purposes, write a brief description in simple lay language summarizing the proposed research and its significance. If funded, this will be posted to the Hear See Hope website.

**3. Research Description.** (Not more than 10 pages, excluding budget, biosketches, and references. Concise applications are encouraged.) Please include the following subdivisions:

- a. Specific aims and goals
- b. Background, including preliminary studies, if any
- c. Methods and experimental design
- d. Significance and application of research
- e. Projected outcome and timeline for research proposed

**4. References.** Submit up to 2 pages of references. In addition, 2 relevant reprints of work completed in the last 5 years may be submitted in PDF format.

**5. Proposed Budget.** Provide itemized costs in excel spreadsheet format. Provide brief job descriptions for personnel and justifications for equipment purchases.

**Biographical Sketch.** Submit an NIH format biosketch (maximum of 4 pages) for each PI or co-investigator listed on the grant, and include current research funding and support. This form can be downloaded from the following website:

<http://grants2.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/biosketch.pdf> (PDF version)

**6. All grant materials should be submitted in Palatino or Arial, 11-point font format, with 1-inch margins.**

**7. Submit entire application electronically. In addition, please submit one hard copy version of the application, with signatures, to:**

Hear See Hope  
Attn: Grant Review  
PO Box 84624  
Seattle, WA 98124

[www.hearseehope.com](http://www.hearseehope.com)

## CONDITIONS OF AWARD

1. No institutional overhead or other indirect costs will be paid and should not be included as part of any grant request.
2. All funds awarded must be used in accordance with the submitted and approved proposal and accompanying budget. Any unused portion must be returned to the Hear See Hope foundation. Funds up to 30% of the total individual grant may be moved between budget categories.
3. Applicants may submit the same grant to multiple funding agencies to increase the chances for successful funding. However, if the grant is first funded by another organization, it is the responsibility of the applicant to inform Hear See Hope of that funding and withdraw their application.
4. Nine months following receipt of grant award payment, a progress report must be submitted to the Hear See Hope foundation. The report must also include a one-page summary in lay language to be used in Hear See Hope publications. A final financial report must be submitted within 90 days of the conclusion of the funding cycle.
5. All publications resulting from funded research must include the Hear See Hope foundation in a footnote or credit line and copies of such publications must be provided to Hear See Hope. All publicity and information disseminated about such research must acknowledge Hear See Hope support.
6. All work involving human subjects must show documented compliance with NIH guidelines for human subjects as provided by the sponsoring institution's Institutional Review Board. All work involving animal experimentation should comply with NIH guidelines for care and use of laboratory animals. The Hear See Hope Foundation is not responsible for any claim, judgment, damage, or malpractice arising from research related to the award.
7. Grants supported by the Hear See Hope foundation are awarded as single, non-continuing awards. Pending availability of funds, additional grant support may be requested with a new application in subsequent years.