



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS 2015

OVERVIEW

Ring14 International has launched an international Call to solicit research projects on the Ring14 syndrome or Chromosome 14 related syndromes. The call aims to support TWO early stage projects that will be carried out over a short period of time (1 year) with a limited resources (maximum budget request 50,000 Euro). Scientists involved in basic research as well as in the pre-clinical field are allowed to submit an application. The applications will be subjected to a fast-track peer-review process. Successful applications are expected to open a path towards new ways of research on the Ring 14 syndrome that will strengthen competitive proposals for subsequent large scale funding of other organizations and entities. As such, preliminary data to apply to this present Call are not strictly required.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Only research projects submitted by either public or private non-profit research institutions are eligible. If the Applicant does not hold a permanent position, the Host Institution is required to provide a salary for him/her for the duration of the entire project.

Please note that only single center applications will be admitted and each research institution can submit only one application within the present Call.

Some priority areas have been selected as the basis of this Call:

- Studies on pathophysiological mechanisms
- Risk and/or protective multifactorial factors
- Epilepsy and other neurological aspects
- Therapeutic approaches in *in vitro* models
- Development of *in vivo* models
- Observational and palliative clinical studies.

THE APPLICATION

Steps and submission deadlines

1 - LETTER OF INTENT - The Letter of Intent (LoI) is mandatory. The form can be found on the Ring14 website (<http://www.ring14.org/eng/395/international-grant/>) from March 5th, 2015 and must be sent by March 14th, 2015 via email to: crimi.marco@ring14.org and c/ced info@ring14.org.

LoIs will be evaluated by the Ring14 Scientific Advisory Board for adherence to the Call. Applicants will be notified regarding the admittance to the Full Application within two weeks from receipt of the LoI.

2 - FULL APPLICATION (only for approved Lols) - Application forms must be downloaded and submitted by April 30th, 2015. The Full application must reflect the topic anticipated in the Lol previously approved. It is mandatory that the Applicant's Host Institution approves the Application. Please note that, besides completing the Application form, the Applicant MUST send by the submission deadline:

- his/her complete CV,
- letters of collaboration (if any),
- a cover letter with a progress report (only for former grantees of a previous Ring14 grant).

Budget

Funds are raised through small individual donations, therefore Ring14 International recognizes a special responsibility to oversee an appropriate allocation of funds and requires an accurate budget description. The maximum budget request is € 50,000 (Fifty thousand Euro).

THE EVALUATION PROCESS

Applications that are incomplete or do not comply with the requirements stated in this Call for Applications will not be accepted. Grants will be awarded on a competitive basis. All accepted applications will be peer-reviewed by the Ring14 Scientific Advisory Board (SAB); external experts could be invited for ad-hoc reviewing.

Reviewers will be asked to evaluate each application based on the following criteria:

- Significance of the research
- Originality of science
- Rationale
- Appropriateness of design and methods
- Feasibility of the proposed experiments
- Qualification and research experience of the Applicant.

The SAB will preliminarily rank the applications on the basis of the scientific competitiveness of their proposals. Top ranked Applications will undergo plenary discussion and final scoring. The awarding of funds will be formally discussed during the plenary SAB to be held on Summer 2015. Applicants will be notified of the evaluation results afterwards.

GENERAL FUNDING POLICIES; RESPONSIBILITIES AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Projects can be funded for a single one year with starting dates from the end of 2015 onwards. Funds will be awarded to the Host Institution's administrative body. An agreement signed by both parties, the Ring14 International and the Host Institution, is a requirement for the award.

Administrative and funding arrangements will be stated in the Agreement and include the right for Ring14 International to ask for a copy of the Statute of the Host Institution and to site visit the Applicant's laboratories any time during the funded time period.

The release of funds is subjected to the submission of all the necessary documentation as specified in the present Call for Applications and as requested in the Agreement. Ring14 International reserves the right to drop payments whenever a conflict arises regarding the policies contained in this Call for Applications as well as the signed Agreement.

Funding recipients must ensure that all outcomes (publications, etc.) of supported projects include a proper acknowledgement of Ring14 International and they are required to send the relative PDF file by email to info@ring14.org. A final scientific progress report on the funded project must be submitted by the awarded Applicant within 3 months of the end of the project.

For further information, please visit us on the web <http://www.ring14.org/eng/395/international-grant/> or contact the Ring14 Scientific Coordination officer: Dr. Marco Crimi at crimi.marco@ring14.org.