



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS 2016

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 ONE early stage project 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 application is 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.

The holder of an ongoing grant supported by Ring14 International is not eligible for 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 April 29th, 2016 and must be sent by May 31st, 2016 via email to: crimi.marco@ring14.org and c/ced info@ring14.org.

Lols will be evaluated by Ring14 International 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 July 29th, 2016. The Full application must reflect the topic anticipated in the LoI 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 recipients of a previous Ring14 grant or researchers proposing a revised application submitted in a past Ring14 Call).

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 by the SAB. The successful Applicant (Grantee) shall be selected and confirmed by the Ring14 International Board of Directors meeting to be held within October 2016. Applicants will be notified of the evaluation results afterwards.

GENERAL FUNDING POLICIES

Project can be funded for a single one year with starting dates from the beginning of 2017 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 or onwards.

Any funds not used in the manner specified in the application must be returned to Ring14 International and any budget change that is greater than 5% must be submitted in writing for approval. The Grantee may apply for an extension of time to use remaining funds at the end of the grant period for 6 months at the most.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

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.

The Grantee will be required to present his/her work at each Ring14 workshop.

The Grantee is required to ensure that any patentable results is registered and duly protected by a patent application to facilitate the circulation and the availability to the public of such results. The Grantee shall

promptly notify and agree in writing with Ring14 International about any decision or other action connected with the filing of a patent application or the execution of any agreements with other entities in relation to any discoveries or inventions deriving from or connected with the grant sponsored by Ring14 International. The Grantee 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.

PRIVACY

Ring14 International, as holder of the information, is legally bound to obtain the consent of the Applicant regarding the use of his/her personal data included in the application form. The Host Institution shall ensure that the project will be conducted in compliance with any applicable privacy regulation or legislation concerning the processing of personal data.

For further information, please visit us on the web <http://www.ring14.org/eng/researcher> or contact us by email: info@ring14.org