

**Fiscal Year 2026 Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs
Multiple Sclerosis Research Program (MSRP)
Reference Table of Award Mechanisms and Submission Requirements**

Award Mechanism	Eligibility	Key Mechanism Elements	Funding	Submission Deadline
<p>Clinical Trial Award</p> <p>Go to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Announcement • General Application Instructions <p>Grants.gov Funding Opportunity Number:</p> <p>HT942526MSRPCTA</p>	<p>Independent investigators at all career levels.</p> <p>Investigators may be named on only one CTA application as a PI</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports rapid implementation of clinical trials with the potential to significantly impact multiple sclerosis. • Funding Level 1: Supports small-scale, proof-of-principle clinical trials to determine translational feasibility or inform the design of more advanced trials, or other clinical trials appropriate for this funding level. • Funding Level 2: Supports larger-scale clinical trials at phase 1 or 2 that seek to show preliminary evidence of safety or efficacy benefiting clinical or preclinical outcomes in relevant patient populations. • Applications must support clinical trials. • Applications must include scientific rationale and preliminary data. • Applications must address at least one of the following focus areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Promoting repair, neuroprotection, and remyelination in multiple sclerosis ○ Treatment of multiple sclerosis symptoms • Submission of a letter of intent is required prior to full application submission. 	<p><u>Funding Level 1</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The maximum allowable funding for the entire period of performance is \$1 million (M) for total costs.* • The maximum period of performance is 3 years. <p><u>Funding Level 2</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The maximum allowable funding for the entire period of performance is \$2M for total costs.* • The maximum period of performance is 4 years. 	<p>Pre-Application (Letter of Intent): July 30, 2026 5:00 p.m. Eastern time</p> <p>Application: August 13, 2026 11:59 p.m. Eastern time</p>

Award Mechanism	Eligibility	Key Mechanism Elements	Funding	Submission Deadline
<p>Early Investigator Research Award</p> <p>Go to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Announcement • General Application Instructions <p>Grants.gov Funding Opportunity Number:</p> <p>HT942526MSRPEIRA</p>	<p>Investigators must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possess a doctoral degree from an accredited organization. • Demonstrate involvement in a postdoctoral training or medical residency program and possess at least one and up to four years continuous postdoctoral research experience. • Commit at least 50% of their effort toward the project. <p>Investigators may be named on only one EIRA application as a PI</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports multiple sclerosis-focused research opportunities for individuals in the early stages of their careers. • Applications require mentorship. Investigators must name an experienced multiple sclerosis researcher as their designated mentor. • Applications must address at least one of the following focus areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Central nervous system repair, protection and regenerative potential in multiple sclerosis ○ Correlates of disease activity and progression in multiple sclerosis ○ Biology and measurements of multiple sclerosis symptoms ○ Mechanisms contributing to or associated with multiple sclerosis etiology, prodrome, onset and disease course • Submission of a letter of intent is required prior to full application submission. • Clinical trials are not allowed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The maximum allowable funding for the entire period of performance is \$300,000 for total costs.* • The maximum period of performance is 2 years. 	<p>Pre-Application (Letter of Intent): July 30, 2026 5:00 p.m. Eastern time</p> <p>Application: August 13, 2026 11:59 p.m. Eastern time</p>

Award Mechanism	Eligibility	Key Mechanism Elements	Funding	Submission Deadline
<p>Exploration – Hypothesis Development Award</p> <p>Go to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Announcement • General Application Instructions <p>Grants.gov Funding Opportunity Number:</p> <p>HT942526MSRPEHDA</p>	<p>Established Investigators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independent investigators at all career levels. <p>or</p> <p>New Investigators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independent investigators with no more than five years from the start of their non-mentored position. • Investigators who received more than \$300,000 in total direct costs for previous or concurrent multiple sclerosis research as an investigator of one or more non-mentored, peer-reviewed grants from any agency may not apply. <p>Investigators may be named on only one EHDA application as a PI</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports the initial exploration of innovative, high-risk, high-gain and potentially groundbreaking concepts in the multiple sclerosis research field. • While the inclusion of preliminary data is not prohibited, the strength of the application should rely on the approach. • New Investigator Option: Supports applicants early in their faculty appointments. • Applications must address at least one of the following focus areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Central nervous system repair, protection and regenerative potential in multiple sclerosis ○ Correlates of disease activity and progression in multiple sclerosis ○ Biology and measurements of multiple sclerosis symptoms ○ Mechanisms contributing to or associated with multiple sclerosis etiology, prodrome, onset and disease course • Submission of a letter of intent is required prior to full application submission. • Clinical trials are not allowed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The maximum allowable funding for the entire period of performance is \$250,000 for total costs.* • The maximum period of performance is 2 years. 	<p>Pre-Application (Letter of Intent): July 30, 2026 5:00 p.m. Eastern time</p> <p>Application: August 13, 2026 11:59 p.m. Eastern time</p>

Award Mechanism	Eligibility	Key Mechanism Elements	Funding	Submission Deadline
<p>Investigator-Initiated Research Award</p> <p>Go to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Announcement • General Application Instructions <p>Grants.gov Funding Opportunity Number:</p> <p>HT942526MSRPIIRA</p>	<p>Established Investigators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independent investigators at all career levels. <p>or</p> <p>New Investigators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independent investigators with no more than 5 years from the start of their non-mentored position. • Investigators who received more than \$300,000 in total direct costs for previous or concurrent multiple sclerosis research as an investigator of one or more non-mentored, peer-reviewed grants from any agency may not apply. <p>Investigators may be named on only one IIRA application as a PI</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports highly rigorous, high-impact research with the potential to make an important contribution to multiple sclerosis research and/or patient care. • Applications must include preliminary data. • New Investigator Option: Supports applicants early in their faculty appointments. • Applications must address at least one of the following focus areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Central nervous system repair, protection and regenerative potential in multiple sclerosis ○ Correlates of disease activity and progression in multiple sclerosis ○ Biology and measurements of multiple sclerosis symptoms ○ Mechanisms contributing to or associated with multiple sclerosis etiology, prodrome, onset and disease course • Submission of a letter of intent is required prior to full application submission. • Clinical trials are not allowed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The maximum allowable funding for the entire period of performance is \$1M for total costs.* • The maximum period of performance is 3 years. 	<p>Pre-Application (Letter of Intent): July 30, 2026 5:00 p.m. Eastern time</p> <p>Application: August 13, 2026 11:59 p.m. Eastern time</p>

*Total costs include direct and indirect costs.