

CARRA-PReS Collaborative Research Award

Grant Project Period Length: 2 Years

Grant Funding Amount: €50,000 EUR or USD equivalent

Grant Availability: 1 award

Application Deadline: April 20, 2026

Project Period Start Date: August, September or October 1, 2026

This funding mechanism aims to support collaborative research activities between CARRA and PReS early career investigators. Early career investigators are defined as faculty (not fellows) who have completed their training/education in the past 10 years. This funding mechanism aims to provide seed funding that allows CARRA and PReS investigators to successfully plan and apply for other grants that could support large-scale collaborative research activities. Grant funds may be used to convene meetings, generate preliminary data, and/or support collaborative pilot studies.

Grant applications should show how the applicants will leverage the infrastructure of CARRA and PReS, address priority research topics for both communities, engage patients, and extend expertise that would otherwise not be possible working with either group alone.

Eligibility

- The application must name two co-PIs, one current CARRA member from North America and one current PReS member from outside North America.
- To be eligible, MD applicants must also be faculty as defined above
- Applicants must be CARRA or PReS members who are up to date on membership dues and have current and accurate membership information (location, contact information, and membership status).

Online Submission

CARRA uses an electronic grant submission process. All applicants must submit their full application packages through the Proposal Central online grants management system. Paper applications will not be accepted.

- All applicants must register as users on Proposal Central [here](#).
- Click [here](#) for Proposal Central's guide on how to set up an account.
- Click [here](#) for Proposal Central's Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's).
- Still need help with Proposal Central? Reach out to [Proposal Central's Support Desk](#).

For more information, please email grants@carragroup.org

Grant Application Materials

- Project Summary/Abstract (300 words max)
- Lay Summary (150 words max)
- Specific Aims (1-page limit)
- Project Timeline (3-page limit)
- Research Plan - Plan should include any plans/goals for larger initiatives and potential future funding mechanisms. (can be uploaded to PC as one document)
 1. **Background**

Describe/Include the following:

 - *Establish current status of the field/significance of problem*
 - *Describe the rationale for conducting this project through a CARRA-PReS collaboration*

- *Indicate how the project will advance knowledge in the field*
- *Discuss prior work, if applicable.*
- 2. Impact and Significance**
Describe the impact and wider implications of the project. Specifically, discuss address the following:
 - *How does this project leverage the CARRA-PreS collaboration?*
 - *How does this project positively impact the pediatric rheumatology scientific community?*
 - *How will this project advance both organizations' missions?*
- 3. Methods/Activities**
Describe the proposed activities and deliverables, including the following if applicable:
 - *Study population*
 - *Study design*
 - *Sample size*
 - *Study sites*
 - *Study schedule*
 - *Primary and secondary outcomes*
 - *Thoroughly describe the project activities and feasibility*
 - *Methods for solving the problem and possible pitfalls*
 - *Timeline for the project activities and deliverables*
- 4. Analysis and Statistical Plan**
Describe/Include the following:
 - *Qualitative and quantitative analysis plan for project*
 - *Provide justification for sample size if appropriate*
- 5. Environment**
Describe/Include the following:
 - *Scientific environment*
 - *Institutional support*
 - *Physical and other resources available to complete the project*
- 6. Dissemination & Data Sharing Plan**
Describe/Include the following:
 - *Present a plan for sharing the results of the project through a variety of mediums*
 - *Describe how/when data sets will be shared with CARRA and PreS to be available for future research*
- 7. Sustainability Plan**
 - *Describe your plan for continuing the project beyond the period of the award and future funding plans. Describe how this project will be used to apply for future funding opportunities.*
- References (no page limit)
- Budget Table
 - All Principal Investigators (PI) are required to dedicate effort to their projects, which must be noted on the budget table. Requesting salary support is optional. For budgets that include investigator salary/effort, a letter of support is required from the division chief of the applicant, documenting that the % effort is available and confirming the investigator's salary. If the PI is the division chief, a letter from the Department Chairperson is required.
 - Budgets may not include travel to present abstracts.
 - Publication, poster printing, and presentation costs are not allowed.

- Travel expense requests are not permitted unless required for the project. Travel expenses to attend meetings to present this work, for example, are not allowed.
- Up to 10% F&A (indirect/overhead) can be requested, and this must be incorporated into the project budget.
 - **Applicants should aim to allocate approximately one-half of the budget for CARRA member expenses and one-half for PReS member expenses or justify why this is not possible.**
- Please review CARRA's statement of direct and indirect support.
- Budget Justification
 - The budget justification provided must indicate how funds are to be allocated for each year
- NIH-formatted Biosketches for all Principal Investigator(s), Co-Principal Investigator(s), and all Co-Investigator(s) (limit 5 pages per biosketch; please combine all biosketches into one PDF with the PI(s) biosketch listed first.)
- Letters of Support
 - Required for budgets that include investigator salary/effort. A letter of support from the division chief of the applicant must be submitted documenting that the % effort is available and confirming the investigator salary. If the PI is the division chief, a letter from the Department Chairperson is required.
 - Letters of support from collaborators are required.
 - Letters of support from mentors and institution(s) are highly recommended.
- CARRA Registry & Data Use Assurances

Grant applicants who intend to utilize the CARRA Registry or CARRA-related data and/or samples must receive approval from the CARRA Data, Sample, and Publications Committee (DSPC) prior to submitting their grant applications.

Applicants will be required to provide documentation of DSPC approval. The request must match the intended use outlined in the grant proposal. Failure to receive approval of the data and/or sample request before submission of the grant application will result in the administrative decline of the application.

Data and sample requests take approximately 4-6 weeks for review and approval. If you would like to know more about who can access CARRA data and biosamples, conditions of use, and the review process, please review our data and sample share policy on the CARRA website (<https://carragroup.org/membership/policies/>). For more information on requesting CARRA data and/or samples and to access the request form, please visit the Data and Sample Request page on the CARRA wiki. (<https://wiki.carragroup.org/display/DSSC/CARRA+Data+and+Sample+Requests>).

In 2024, CARRA will only be accepting proposals that utilize the current CRFs and standard biosample collection kits. No proposals requesting supplemental data collection will be accepted.

- Research Assurances
 - Submit documentation of an Institutional Review Board (IRB) review, if applicable. Funds will not be released until either 1) IRB approval letter or 2) IRB waiver/documentation that IRB has determined your project is exempt from IRB review is received.
- Appendix (limit 1 attachment)