

Request for Proposals

2022 New Investigator Pilot Study Award

Objective: The Lewy Body Dementia Association (LBDA) New Investigator Pilot Study Award is intended to support young investigators and new investigators in Lewy body dementias (LBD) who have not yet received an R01 award from the National Institutes of Health, to gather preliminary data for projects proposed in future LBD grant applications.

Aim: The aim of the program is to drive advances in diagnosis, management and support of individuals with LBD and family caregivers through clinical research.

Funding Period: 1 year

Number of Awards Planned: 1 Award

Amount of Award: Up to \$50,000 total cost (including up to a 10% indirect rate).

Key Dates:

- Letter of Intent due: **Feb. 18, 2022**, 11:59 p.m. Eastern time
- Application deadline: **April 22, 2022**, 11:59 p.m. Eastern time
- Scientific review: **June, 2022**
- Announcement of award: **July, 2022**
- Earliest start date: **September, 2022**

Who Can Apply: [New or Early-Stage Investigators](#) in the United States with a faculty appointment of assistant professor or lower and who have not yet received an R01 award from the National Institutes of Health.

Description: Lewy body dementias is an umbrella term for two progressive disorders: dementia with Lewy bodies and Parkinson's disease dementia. LBD symptoms include changes in cognition, movement, behavior, sleep and autonomic function. National research priorities for LBD were first developed in 2013 at the Alzheimer's Disease-Related Dementias (ADRD) Summit organized by the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Updated in 2019, the top 4 clinical priorities identified for Lewy body dementias were:

- Prepare for and initiate clinical trials that aim to alleviate or slow the course of LBD symptoms, and delay or prevent the onset of disease,
- Longitudinal antemortem LBD characterization,
- Neuroimaging characterization of LBD, and
- Neuropathologic characterization of LBD and use of LBD pathology cohorts

The Dementia Care Summit also identified [gaps and opportunities](#) to identify evidence-based programs, strategies, approaches, and other research that can be used to improve the care, services, and supports of persons with dementia and their caregivers. There is little known about the unique impact of LBD on individuals and family caregivers to inform tailored interventions to meet the unique needs of a



population affected by cognitive, motor, behavioral, sleep and autonomic symptoms. Further, there is a paucity of data on the impact of LBD on individuals and family caregivers by race and ethnicity, socioeconomic status, health disparities, gender identity, sexual orientation and geography.

LBDA is seeking proposals for translational or clinical research studies using human subjects, biofluid/tissue samples, or existing clinical data sets to answer questions about LBD diagnosis, clinical management, and well-being of persons with LBD and family caregivers. Basic science applications will not be accepted.

Application Procedure: The online [Letter of Intent \(LOI\)](#) form must be completed by **February 18, 2022** 11:59 p.m. Eastern. All completed Letters of Intent are invited to submit [a full application](#). Receipt of LOIs will be acknowledged via email by LBDA.

The grant application is due by **April 22, 2022**, 11:59 p.m. Eastern. Download and email a completed, signed copy to Angela Taylor, ataylor@lbda.org. Receipt of applications will be acknowledged via email by LBDA.

Review of Proposals: Proposals will be reviewed based on the [NIH scoring system](#) which involves a 9-point scale (1-9). Key areas to be scored are:

- Impact of the study
- Significance, Impact, and Innovation
- Research Plan and Approach (include feasibility to complete within 1 year)
- Environment and suitability to the aims of the New Investigator Pilot Award
- Investigator track record

Applications will be reviewed confidentially by LBDA and a Scientific Review Panel selected from the LBDA Scientific Advisory Council and external advisors where appropriate. The LBDA Board of Directors, upon recommendation from the Review Panel, reserves the right to make the final award decision.

Application Inquiries: All candidates are encouraged to contact LBDA with any questions. Please contact:

Angela Taylor
Senior Director, Research and Advocacy
ataylor@lbda.org
814-826-4150