



Mission Connect 2021 Funding Announcement

Mission Connect requests proposals for consideration for funding in the area of treatments for acute, subacute and/or chronic conditions associated with SCI or TBI/concussion. Applicants must be active members of Mission Connect for at least one year. Inter- and/or intra-institutional collaborations between Mission Connect members are highly encouraged. For the 2021-2023 cycle, Mission Connect anticipates funding up to eight meritorious two-year grants.

Individual projects may request up to \$60,000 (\$30,000 per year) total cost for up to two years. Second-year funding is based on progress determined by peer review and thus is not guaranteed. **Mission Connect does not pay indirect costs.** Tuition remission is not an allowable expense. **Deadline for electronic proposal submission is April 22, 2021.**

Instructions for Submission of Proposals:

1. Use the PHS 398 Face Page (available from the NIH)
2. The Office of Sponsored Projects must approve and sign the proposal before submission.
3. An investigator may submit one individual grant application as the PI and/or multiple applications as a Co-PI. We encourage the co-submission as an R21.
4. Submit proposal to Mission Connect and NIH as R21. (Design as an R21 to submit to both NIH and Mission Connect. In the event both projects are selected, only one may receive funding.) We recognize the scope of an R21 will be greater than what can be supported by Mission Connect funding. You may limit what aspects of the proposal you plan to complete with Mission Connect funding in the budget justification.
5. All proposals must include the following components:
 - Technical and Public Abstracts (one page)
 - Specific Aims, Significance, Innovation, Study Design, and Collaboration (a total of 5 pages)
 - Use additional pages for references.
 - Budget: List the budget in the following general categories: total salary (not Individual salaries), fringe benefits, equipment, supplies, patient recruitment costs, and travel.
 - NIH style Biographical Sketch of PI and Co-Is
 - Letters of Support/Collaboration

6. Progress reports are due at the end of ten months after receipt of initial funding. Final progress reports are due at the end of the two-year funding period.
7. No-cost extensions are not granted.
8. Email a PDF version of your proposal to Carol Garibay, Program Coordinator at garibayc@tirrfoundation.org before the end of day April 22, 2021.
9. Questions regarding proposals should be directed to Matt Rasband, Ph.D., rasband@bcm.edu, 713-798-4494.

Review Process:

Each application will be reviewed and assigned a priority score by three members of the Mission Connect External Review Committee. The applicant's participation in Mission Connect sponsored activities is taken into consideration. Top applications will undergo a second tier review by the Mission Connect Internal Review Committee. A vote to approve funding for the selected proposals is made by TIRR Foundation's Board of Directors.