

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

Fichtenbaum Charitable Trust Research Award

The O'Donnell Jr. Brain Institute (OBI) requests applications for the **Fichtenbaum Charitable Trust Research Award** that supports investigators with a focused interest in transformative research in the areas of **neuromuscular and/or visual diseases**. In the neuromuscular category, there is a preference for projects on myasthenia gravis, but research on all neuromuscular disorders will be considered.

Laboratory or clinical researchers dedicated to leveraging diverse and novel research concepts to advance diagnosis, prognosis, treatment, or fundamental understanding of these disorders are encouraged to apply. Proposals for laboratory science or clinical research will be considered, as will requests for equipment.

Award Information

- Funding: \$250,000
- OBI aims to award no more than two projects; therefore, budgets should total either \$125,000 or \$250,000 for one year of support.
- Awardees are required to submit research findings for scientific presentation and publication, citing OBI in each instance.
- Awardees must be willing to present their research findings at the annual OBI Research Day, if requested.
- For clinical research, OBI may be willing to provide, at the applicant's request, resources to create a study record monitoring and auditing plan to maximize human subject safety and data quality assurance throughout the entirety of the project, as well as ensure compliance with UT Southwestern policies as they relate to clinical research. OBI may also assist with protocol readiness for IRB submission and assistance with database preparation and creation. The awardee will be expected to maintain the database, perform data entry, and identify statistical support resources.

Award Timeline

- Call for Applications: October 2026
- Application Due Date: December 1, 2026, at midnight
- Funding Period: February 2027-January 2027

Eligibility

- All UT Southwestern faculty members are eligible to apply.

Application Components

- The application should include a project summary, specific aims, and a one-year project budget (suggested 2-page submission with an additional budget page). Please include a total salary rather than the NIH salary cap.

APPLY NOW