



Innovations in Epilepsy Care: The Blue Sky Challenge

Epilepsy Foundation New England (EFNE) is pleased to announce the following grant competitions to the Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island communities:

<u>Grant Project</u>	<u>Grant Award</u>
Research in Epilepsy: Innovations in Diagnosis or Treatment	\$75,000 (1)
Research in Epilepsy: Innovations to Improve Quality of Life	\$75,000 (1)
Community Engagement: Bringing Our Community's Ideas to Life	\$1,000- \$5,000 (1-3)

EFNE is a 501 c 3 nonprofit organization dedicated to helping people and families affected by epilepsy in New England. It is an independent affiliate of Epilepsy Foundation of America, whose mission is to lead the fight to overcome the challenges of living with epilepsy and to accelerate therapies to stop seizures, find cures, and save lives. We serve the approximately 104,000 people in Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island affected by epilepsy, as well as the people who care for them.

	<u>Deadline</u>
Letter of Interest	October 1, 2021
Proposal (if invited to submit)	January 18, 2022
In-Person "Pitch" Presentation (if invited to present)	March 22, 2022

The Letter of Interest should be no more than two pages using a 12 point font or equivalent and should include the following:

- Research Project Title + brief description of aims and means.
- PI to be used as primary contact and affiliated institution. Contact information, indicating easiest means to reach the PI.
- Additional team members and institutions.
- Timeline.
- Proposed use of grant funds.

Letters will be evaluated on the extent to which they address the selection criteria located on the following page. Letters longer than two pages will not be considered.

After submitting the Letter of Interest, 2-5 projects will be invited to submit a formal proposal for each research grant and up to 6 for the Community Engagement awards. Content and format specifications for the proposal will follow. Up to three proposers for each Research project and up to six for the Community Engagement awards will be selected to provide a 3- minute live "pitch" in Boston on March 22, 2022 (evolving coronavirus protocols might impact in-person vs. virtual pitch opportunities). The judges at the Pitch Contest will include health care providers, researchers, and people living with epilepsy. More information forthcoming.

Letters of Interest are due October 1, 2021, midnight to Susan Linn at slinn@epilepsynewengland.org. Please be sure you receive a response acknowledging your submission by October 2, 2021.

Please send questions to Susan Linn at slinn@epilepsynewengland.org



Selection Criteria

(additional criteria will be provided for projects selected to submit a full proposal)

The Principle Investigator or Team Leader must reside or work in MA, NH, RI, or ME.

Research in Epilepsy: Innovations in Diagnosis or Treatment \$75,000 (1)

- Extent to which the award will accelerate development of an innovative and important product, technology, or therapeutic concept to help people with epilepsy.
- Extent to which the project, if funded, will have the backing necessary to be successfully implemented beyond the EFNE grant funding.
- Qualifications of the principal investigator and team if applicable.
- Scientific merit of the proposed project.

Research in Epilepsy: Innovations to Improve Quality of Life \$75,000 (1)

- Extent to which the award will accelerate development of an innovative and important approach to helping people living with epilepsy.
- Extent to which the project, if funded, will have the backing to be successfully implemented beyond the EFNE grant funding.
- Qualifications of the principal investigator and their team if applicable.
- Scientific merit of the proposed project.

Community Engagement: Bringing Our Community's Ideas to Life \$1,000-\$5,000 (1-3)

- Extent to which the award will support innovation in the delivery of service, advocacy, education, support, or community engagement in helping people living with epilepsy.
- Extent to which the person or group proposing the idea have demonstrated commitment to the epilepsy community.
- Likelihood the project will meet an important need in the epilepsy community in MA, ME, NH, or RI.