



Innovations in Epilepsy Care: The Blue Skies Challenge

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

EFNE is a 501 c 3 nonprofit organization dedicated to helping people and families affected by epilepsy in New England. We serve the approximately 110,000 people in Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont affected by epilepsy, as well as the people who care for them.

	<u>Date</u>
Letter of Interest Due	Oct 12, 2026
Invitation to submit proposal	Oct 16, 2026
Proposal Due (if invited to submit)	Nov 23, 2026
Notification of invitation to present	Jan 5, 2027
In-Person "Pitch" Presentation (if invited to present)	Feb 5, 2027

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 pages. 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. Content and format specifications for the proposal will follow. Up to three proposers for each Research project will be selected to provide a 5-minute live "pitch" in Cambridge on February 5, 2027 at The Hyatt Regency. 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 12, 2026 by midnight to David Searles at dsearles@epilepsynewengland.org.

Please be sure you receive a response acknowledging your submission
by end of day on October 13, 2026.

Please send questions to David Searles at dsearles@epilepsynewengland.org.



Selection Criteria

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

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

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.