# Edward N. & Della L. Thome Memorial Foundation
# Awards Program in Age-RelatedApplication Instructions

|  |  |
|---|---|
|  | _____ |

## Award Summary

| **Award Amount and Duration:** | **$500,000 ($ 250,000 per year) for 2 years ; awards do not cover indirect costs.** |
|---|---|
| **Award Dates:** | **April 1, 202 5 – March 31, 202 7** |
| **Eligibility:** | **Independent investigators working in non - profit academic, medical or research institutions within the United States.** |
| **Research Focus:** | **Research along the preclinical research spectrum that aims to move basic science insights toward solutions, techniques, and tools that can be transferred to clinical practice in the near term. Research may be carried out using cell or animal models of disease, samples of human or animal tissues, or computer- assisted simulations of drug, device or diagnostic interactions within living systems.** <br><br> **Exclusions: Basic research and clinical trials** |

**The Thome Foundation Awards Program in Age - Related Macular Degeneration Research is a two- step proposal process. After the Initial Proposal phase, selected applicants are invited to submit a Full Proposal.**

**The Full Proposal process requires an online submission. The Full Proposal consists of an Online Application, Application Cover Sheet (with signatures) , Research Project Summary and Performance Sites, Non- Technical Overview and Summary, Promotion of Positive Research Culture, Disclosure of Potential Conflicts of Interest, ten- page Research Proposal, Project Milestones and Research Plan Table, Budget and Justification Forms, Applicant Biosketch, Co- Investigator Biosketch(es) (if applicable) Department or Division Head Letter, and Letter(s) of Collaboration (if applicable).**

# Table of Contents

## Eligibility Criteria

1. Applicants must submit an Initial Proposal and be invited to submit a Full Proposal.
2. The administrative lead applicant must hold a faculty appointment at a non-profit academic, medical, or research institution in the United States.
3. PIs must be independent investigators with demonstrated institutional support and specialized space and facilities needed to conduct the proposed research.
4. Applicants and key personnel may not have funding for a similar project.
5. Individuals who are current Thome Foundation Awards Program in Age-Related Macular Degeneration Research awardees at the time of Initial Proposal deadline are not eligible to apply for the 2025 grant cycle.
6. Each PI may only submit one application.
7. Institutional nomination is not required.
8.

- Funding via non-governmental agencies should be tailored. Make sure the proposal is reflective of the program goals and review criteria;
- Tell the story and ___ the proposed work. Make sure the background outlines why the proposed questions are important to answer and why the proposed approach is promising;
- The language should be understandable to a general scientific audience. When jargon must be used, it is clearly explained, and complex technical points are put in context;
- Any other personnel included in the project should be clearly justified;
- Don't fall victim to proposing to complete too much work. Reflect on the timeline of the work to ensure it can be feasibly completed;
- Provide enough time to obtain feedback and allow for proofreading prior to submission.

Applicants are encouraged to seek feedback on their proposals within their institutions and externally. Examples of successful proposals can be found in the grant-writing tip sheets for NIH research grants. Institutions and colleagues may also be willing to provide examples of well-written and successful grant applications.

**Suggested Resources**
Secrets to Writing a Winning Grant: https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-019-03914-5
NIH grant writing tips:
https://www.nlm.nih.gov/ep/Tutorial.html
https://www.nimh.nih.gov/funding/grant-writing-and

## Instructions for Invited Full Proposal Application

*NOTE:* v                                              v              w
                .                    [ThomeAwards@hria.org](mailto:ThomeAwards@hria.org)    y        v                                      .
 ap51ID -bs 0 168 11 ( 13.)-903se ℉@?ᗺcP♯pO 0 168 1(c.)-0.7 (3se)pe (85)-b-4n/-ETQd(if)Tf0 1 Tf09005 T13 -0.

<u>Online Portal:</u>

Include all items in the following order:

1. **Application Cover Sheet**: The Cover Sheet is the first template provided in the Application Forms. It must be completed and signed by the Applicant and the Office of Sponsored Programs or the Institutional Officer administratively responsible for the oversight of the project.

   The signature of the Applicant on the Cover Sheet will confirm their responsibility for obtaining any required human subjects (IRB), animal use (IACUC), or institutional equivalent approvals. In addition, the Institutional Officer's signature will confirm that all eligibility requirements have been met. Endorsement by the Institutional Officer confirms that the Institution will commit to appropriate oversight if the project is funded.

2. **Table of Contents**: Follow the order of the Table of Contents provided in the Application Forms and fill in the page numbers for each section.

3. **Research Project Summary & Performance Sites:** Complete the form according to the instructions. The Research Project Summary will be posted on our website if the project if funded (     x            300 w     —                                  ,        ,     -              v                        ).

4. **Non-Technical Overview and Non-Technical Summary:** Prepare a lay-language description of the proposed research that can be understood by the general public.
     x                                                          .

5. **Promotion of Positive Research Culture:** Include a description of your commitment and approach to improving research culture.                                        x
        .

6. **Disclosure of Potential Conflicts of Interest:** Applicants must disclose potential conflicts of interest, including the nature of the conflict.

7. **Research Proposal (maximum of ten pages, not including references cited):** Outline succinctly the nature of your proposed project and its relevance to AMD.

   Proposal Format:
   - Include at the top of each page the Principal Investigator's full name, degree(s) and Institution.
   - Arial size 11 font must be used in the text of the research proposal section.
   - Any figures, graphs, tables, or pictures must be included within the ten pages. For these visuals, the minimum is an 8 point-font size.
   - Use single spacing within paragraphs, double spacing between paragraphs. Margins on all 4 sides must be at least ½ inch wide.
   - Appendices are not permitted. However, References Cited should be added to the Proposal (
                    10 -              ).

   Proposal Components:
   1) Background and significance (discuss project impact on AMD and how the project contributes to improving current therapeutic strategies or revealing new therapeutic approaches for individuals suffering from AMD);
   2) Specific aims;
   3) Preliminary data (if available);
   4) Research design, experimental methods, and analytical plan;

5) Research limitations and contingencies;
6) References cited (not part of page count).

8. **Project Milestones and Research Plan Table** (Use provided Word template - maximum 1 page): Create a summary table, based on the specific aims of the project which describes the proposed milestones and benchmarks. The successful completion of these activities will form the basis of measuring achievement of the project goals. Please include specific data, methods, and benchmarks

Email: