

**Transformative Neuroscience Pilot Grants 2025****Deadlines to apply:****Cycle 1 – Friday, March 7<sup>th</sup> – 11:59pm EST****Cycle 2 – Friday, September 5<sup>th</sup> – 11:59pm EDT**

The UVA Brain Institute offers a seed funding program for transformative neuroscience research projects. The purpose of the program is to tackle important questions, promote interdisciplinary collaboration, and perform groundbreaking work that will enhance our research enterprise. Proposed projects must be collaborative (at least 2 primary investigators) and may be on any subject related to neuroscience. Projects may be basic, translational, or clinical research, or a combination. Faculty from across the University are invited to apply; no more than one proposal per faculty will be accepted each cycle.

Please consult the [FAQs](#) for questions about these guidelines.

Successful proposals will have high potential for scientific impact and concrete plans for pursuing subsequent extramural funding. Priority may be given to proposals that include novel collaborations and/or proposals that align with the Grand Challenges Research Investments in Brain & Neuroscience priority areas of research.

Awards of up to **\$50,000** will be given for the duration of **one year**. Proposals that include human subjects research may be eligible for additional support or extended project periods. Cost sharing is encouraged.

After initial review, a small number of applicants may be invited for a short oral presentation to the review committee for final selection. Brief written feedback may be returned to applicants.

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**Required Proposal Components:**

1. **Project description** (2 pages) should include the following:
  - i. Title of project
  - ii. Investigators
  - iii. Significance
  - iv. Innovation & potential scientific impact
  - v. Approach
  - vi. Project milestones at 6 months
2. **References Cited** (not in above page limit)
3. **Biographical Sketches** for Key Personnel (NIH-style)
  - i. List engagement in UVA neuroscience community.
4. **Budget** (up to 1 page per PI)
  - i. Detailed budget, including costs categorized as personnel and OTPS (equipment, supplies, travel, other). This will be used for account set up and central fiscal oversight if awarded.
  - ii. Each PI is required to submit a separate budget; funds will be allocated accordingly if awarded.
  - iii. Faculty salaries are not permitted; refer to FAQs for additional budget information.
5. **Other Support**
  - i. Provide a list of funding sources, amounts, and timelines.
6. **Lab/team Impact Statement** (up to 1 page)
  - i. Describe the impact that this award will have on the trajectory of your team.
  - ii. Plans for Extramural Support: Provide a list of planned future proposals including agency/foundation and submission dates.

*\*Additional information regarding the proposal may be requested following initial review.*

**Criteria for Evaluation Include:**

- a) Scientific merit – Significance, Innovation, Approach
- b) Potential for scientific impact and future extramural funding
- c) Potential impact that the pilot award will have on this project and team

**Proposal Submission Format:**

- a) Assemble entire application as a single PDF file titled: "Lastname\_Firstname\_2025PilotGrant.pdf"
- b) Upload your application via our [online application form](#).  
As part of the online application, you will be asked to provide the names and departments of up to three UVA-affiliated individuals well-suited to review your application.

Please [refer to our FAQs](#) for additional information.

Other questions? Email [BrainUVA@uvahealth.org](mailto:BrainUVA@uvahealth.org)