

**RICHARD H. ADLER ATTORNEY AT LAW & ADLER GIERSCH LAW FIRM'S  
ENDOWED PROFESSORSHIP FUND FOR TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY  
RESEARCH**

**Purpose:** The purpose of this Endowed Professorship Fund is to provide support for efforts to find more effective evaluation and treatment protocols for those with traumatic brain injuries given the long term cognitive, behavioral, and physical consequences and impairments which may result from the underlying trauma. The fund is also intended to provide seed money and/or bridge funding for innovative, collaborative, interdisciplinary, and novel research or quality improvement projects with the potential to create leaps in knowledge to further the evaluation and treatment of traumatic brain injuries.

This Endowed Professorship Fund honors both Harborview Medical Center and the University of Washington Medical Center for evaluating and treating past and present clients of Richard H. Adler Attorney at Law and the law firm of Adler Giersch, PS who have sustained and survived a traumatic brain injury and those who lost their lives from this type of trauma. In addition, this fund is a means for the donors of the fund to give back and 'pay it forward' for future clients and others with traumatic brain injuries.

Grants typically fund one-to-two-year studies with the option of no-cost extension(s). All reasonable and necessary expenses that meet the stated "Purpose" in the above first paragraph will be considered for funding. **Please note that funds must be used internally via a UW budget number. They cannot be used to establish contracts or sub-contracts with non-UW entities.** If working with a group outside of the Department of Rehabilitation Medicine, please submit a letter of support from that group.

In the upcoming cycle, the committee has the ability to fund up to two one-year research or quality improvement projects with a budget of up to \$10,000 each.

Awardees are expected to: (1) submit a yearly report to the Chair of the Selection Committee and (2) present a poster on funded project at the annual Department of Rehabilitation Medicine Justus F. Lehmann Symposium in May of each year where funds are used. Fund donors will be invited to all formal presentations of the funded project. Awardees will also have the opportunity to meet with all or some of the fund donors to learn about their interest in TBI evaluation and treatment at a mutually agreeable time and place at least once during the award period. We also highly recommend budgeting for presenting final results at a relevant conference with funds included for travel and per diem, along with conference registration. We also expect applicants to include a plan for dissemination and next-steps.

**Eligibility:** Faculty, residents, fellows, and graduate students within the University of Washington Rehabilitation Medicine, Neurosurgery, Neurology, or other UW Medicine departments and facilities who are engaged in the evaluation and treatment of those surviving traumatic brain injuries. Award recipients shall have demonstrated a commitment to traumatic brain injury research or clinical care in accordance with the purpose outlined above. Preference will be given to (1) those early in their careers (i.e., graduate student through Assistant Professor), but not excluding those beyond the early phase of their career, (2) those who include

a multidisciplinary focus to their project, especially those engage in cross-department collaboration including addition of a biostatistician, and (3) those with a position/appointment in the UW Department of Rehabilitation Medicine, but not excluding those in other UW Medicine affiliated entities working in the area of traumatic brain injuries. Applicants who are early in their career must identify a mentor for the project who is also expected to include a letter detailing their plan for support of the proposed project.

**Deadline:** Proposals are due on **November 1, 2024 by 5:00PM**. Awards will be announced before the end of the calendar year.

**Review:** A multidisciplinary faculty Selection Committee will review the proposals and recommend funding priorities to the Chair of the Department of Rehabilitation Medicine. The selection criteria for evaluation will be a combination of the following criteria:

- (1) the scientific merit of the proposal;
- (2) the degree of innovation and novelty of the proposed research or quality improvement (QI) project in improving the evaluation and treatment of survivors of traumatic brain injuries; and
- (3) the feasibility of the proposed research/QI project given the available resources (all other resources available to the project should be detailed in the budget).

Applicants are advised to write their proposal at a level accessible to a generalist reviewer, who will not necessarily be an expert in the specific area of study. Consultants may also be enlisted to review the proposals should the Selection Committee deem this to be necessary.

**Budgets:** A one-to-two year proposal for an award up to \$10,000 will be reviewed. Awarded budgets may be adjusted based on merit and availability of funds. Selected proposals involving human subjects or animals must provide evidence of the necessary institutional review board approvals before funds can be released

**Questions:** Questions regarding the application procedure should be directed to the Chair of the Selection Committee (Jeanne Hoffman, PhD, email: [jeanneh@uw.edu](mailto:jeanneh@uw.edu); phone: 206 221-6511).

**Application Procedure:** Please submit your proposal via email to the Chair of the Selection Committee (Jeanne Hoffman, PhD, email: [jeanneh@uw.edu](mailto:jeanneh@uw.edu)). Send a single .pdf file containing all sections below. Title the file as follows: YOUR NAME\_TBI Research Grant 2024. Late applications will not be accepted.

The proposal should include the following. All page limits refer to single-sided, single-spaced, Arial font size 11, and ¾" margins.

a. **Cover letter** (1 page maximum)

Include (a) the title of the project, (b) the applicant's Department affiliation(s) and position/appointment, (c) a description of the applicant's engagement in clinical care of survivors of the full range of traumatic brain injuries, (d) the relationship between the applicant and any mentors (if applicable), and (e) signatures of the applicant and mentor (if applicable).

- b. Letter from Mentor(s) outlining their mentoring plan and relationship (1 page maximum)
- c. CV of both applicant(s) and Mentor(s)
- d. **Description of the Research Plan** (3 pages maximum)
  - 1) An introduction and rationale, including a statement regarding the applicant's experience with and commitment to the evaluation and treatment of TBI.
  - 2) Objectives (including specific hypotheses to be tested, if appropriate).
  - 3) Procedures, including a time schedule.
  - 4) Plan for analysis of results.
- e. **Budget and Budget Justification** (1 page maximum)

If you request money for equipment, please describe where the equipment will be stored/used after your study. If you are planning to use this award to supplement another award, please describe the other funding (agency, amount, and how this award relates to the project). Please also include budget for conference attendance for dissemination of results.
- f. **Literature cited** (1 page maximum)