Celiac Disease Foundation/NASPGHAN Foundation Pilot Grants Deadline: July 1, 2026

Description and Objective

The Celiac Disease Foundation/NASPGHAN Celiac Disease Pilot Grants are designed to encourage and fund pilot projects in North America that address critical issues related to Celiac Disease and gluten-free diet management. The intent with this grant is to support Celiac Disease and gluten-free diet related to innovative research or education proposals focused on the following:

- New research areas that could improve the diagnosis and treatment of Celiac Disease.
- Development of innovative tools or technologies to improve Celiac Disease management.
- Research focused on understanding and improving adherence to the gluten-free diet among individuals with Celiac Disease.
- Research activities that have the potential to advance the nutrition care of patients and families of children with Celiac Disease.

Eligibility

- Be a NASPGHAN, APGNN or CPNP full member in good standing for at least one year. APGNN and CPNP members and post-doctoral fellows are invited to submit grant applications under the clinical mentorship of a NASPGHAN member.
- The primary investigator must hold a medical or postdoctoral degree (MD, PhD, or equivalent), an advanced nursing degree (BSN with an MS/PhD), or a degree in Pharmacy, Physiotherapy, Dietetics/Nutrition, or Social Work and work full or part time in a clinical or academic setting.
- Investigators at all career stages are encouraged to apply. For individuals with independent funding such as R01, P01 or similar, or recipients of K08, K23 or similar, this pilot funding must represent a departure from current areas of funding.

Grant Term and Stipulation

- Individual projects requesting up to $25,000 for one year will be considered. Grant range expected can be from $5,000 to $25,000. The following expenses are allowable:
    * Salary and benefits of the principal investigator.
    * Salary and benefits of research assistants, laboratory technicians, and/or other key personnel.
    * Biostatistics support.
    * Supplies, equipment or other materials necessary for the proposed research.
    * Incentives for research participants.
- The following expenses are **not** allowed:
    * Salary and benefits of the mentor.
    * Indirect costs.
    * Travel costs.
- A complete end-of-year financial statement and summary report are required.
- Funds for grants awarded in 2026 will be disbursed in mid-December 2026 following submission of Final Protocol, documentation of IRB/IEC approval, regulatory approval (if applicable), exemption or waiver.

- All publications resulting from work supported by the Celiac Foundation and NASPGHAN Foundation must acknowledge support from the relevant funding mechanism.
- All publicity relating to this award will acknowledge the Celiac Disease Foundation. Awardee(s) will affirm the Celiac Disease Foundation has their permission to use their name, likeness, progress reports, and other materials they supply, in promotion of their work and that they agree to be videoed annually regarding their work (with prior approval and not-withstanding infringement upon IP laws and confidential scientific findings/information).
- The awardee must attend the 2026 NASPGHAN Annual Meeting to accept the award.

Review Procedures

Primary emphasis will be given to scientific strength and innovation of the proposed work and qualifications of the applicant and how the principal investigator will use the pilot data as an extension of their work that will allow them to apply for additional funding through another agency.

The NASPGHAN Research Committee, Celiac SIG members and invited *ad hoc* experts (as invited by the Research Committee Study Section Chair) will review the applications and score proposals using the National Institutes of Health scoring system. This scoring system uses a 9-point scale for the overall impact score and individual scores for (at least) five scored criteria (significance, innovation, approach, investigator, and environment).

Members of the review panel will follow strict conflict of interest guidelines. Contact between the applicant or sponsors with committee members regarding applications is strictly prohibited prior to grant review and will lead to potential disqualification.

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APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:

Completed applications must include the following:

1) Biographical sketch of the principal investigator, key personnel, co-investigators, and/or mentor (if applicable) The 2025 or 2026 NIH biosketch format is required and instructions (non-fellowship) are posted at https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm. The biosketch should list specific aims of all active research funding to permit an assessment of scientific overlap with the investigator's existing extramural funding.

2) Research Plan (No application of more than THREE single spaced pages will be reviewed) including:
   - Specific aims
     - Explain the rationale for the study, overall hypothesis, aims, and significance if successful.
   - Background and significance
     - Explain the importance of the problem or critical barrier to progress in the field that the proposed project addresses.
     - Explain how the proposed project will improve scientific knowledge, technical capability, and/or clinical practice in one or more broad fields.
   - Innovation
     - Explain how the application challenges and seeks to shift current research or clinical practice paradigms.
     - Describe any novel theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation or interventions to be developed or used, and any advantage over existing methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions.
   - Approach
     - Describe the overall strategy, methodology, and analyses to be used to accomplish the specific aims of the project. Include how the data will be collected, analyzed including statistical or other relevant analytic plan, and interpreted as well as any resource sharing plans as appropriate.
     - Discuss expected results, potential problems, alternative strategies, feasibility, timeline, and benchmarks for success anticipated to achieve the aims. A power calculation is encouraged where relevant to underscore feasibility.
     - If the project is in the early stages of development, describe strategies both to enhance feasibility and address the management of any high-risk aspects of the proposed work.
   - Future directions, as the application must indicate how the principal investigator will use the pilot data as an extension of their work that will allow them to apply for additional funding through another agency.
3) Detailed Budget and Budget Justification (one page maximum). Salary, equipment, supplies and costs may

be budgeted. In accordance with the National Institutes of Health (NIH) policy, salary requests may not use an institutional base salary in excess of the current federal salary cap at the time of submission (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/salcap_summary.htm). Fringe benefits may be requested if they are treated consistently by the applicant institution as a direct cost to all funding agencies and foundations.
Indirect costs are not allowed.