



# **About the Allergic Respiratory Disease Research Award**

The American Lung Association and the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology (AAAAI) Allergic Respiratory Diseases Research Award represents a joint effort designed to encourage and support applicants holding a primary faculty appointment in a <u>Clinical Allergy</u> and <u>Immunology Division</u> of an academic medical center and conducting research advancing the understanding of allergic respiratory disease. A primary goal of this collaboration is to fund researchers at important crossroads of their careers.

# **About the Funding Opportunity**

The Allergic Respiratory Diseases Research Award is for \$75,000 per year, for up to two years. The grant aims to increase research in academic allergy and immunology divisions in an effort to increase research that ultimately leads to improved care and outcomes for patients with allergic respiratory disease. As such, the applicant must hold a doctoral degree, be in a clinical Allergy and Immunology Division (or Clinical Immunology Division), be undertaking a project related to allergic respiratory disease, and have completed training.

No more than 75% of the requested budget may be used for an awardee's salary and fringe benefits, and no more than 30% of the total award budget may be used to fund the purchase of permanent equipment. Grant funds may be used for the salary and fringe benefit costs of personnel other than the Applicant.

Grants are subject to annual review, the second year of support is based on demonstrating satisfactory progress, as well as the availability of funding from both organizations.

Award recipients will be selected by a review panel composed of American Lung Association and American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology representatives. Awards are administered by the American Lung Association but the funding of the awards is split equally by the organizations.

# **Key Dates**

August 7, 2023 Applications accepted through proposalCENTRAL

December 15, 2023 Deadline to submit an application is Friday, December 15, 2023

(11:59 PM, Eastern Time)

January- April Peer Review Period

June, 2024 Results and outcome notifications are sent to all applicants

July 1, 2024 Research term begins





# **Important Notes**

Applicants are limited to submitting only one application per annual cycle.

An applicant can be awarded this grant only once.

It is recommended that applicants submit projects to the appropriate Institutional Animal Care and Use of Committee (IACUC) and human subjects Institutional Review Board (IRB) at the time of application or before. Copies of the approvals must be provided to the American Lung Association prior to the start of an award; otherwise, the award may be administratively withdrawn.

When applicable, researchers are encouraged to investigate hypothesis-driven research about health disparities including those that will inform evidence-based clinical practice or policy in historically underrepresented and underserved populations especially those in communities that have limited health care access. This research might improve health in diverse communities, including those with disproportionately impacted populations to reduce health inequity in healthcare. Populations with health disparities may include the following Black Americans, Hispanics/Latinos, Asian Americans, American Natives, Native Hawaiians/Other Pacific Islanders, socioeconomically disadvantaged populations, underserved populations, underserved rural populations, sexual and gender underrepresented populations, those with lack of access of health care and the uninsured/underinsured.

# **Eligibility Requirements**

## Visa Status/ Citizenship

At the time of application, candidates must be United States citizens or foreign nationals holding one of the following visa immigration statuses: permanent resident (**Green Card**), exchange visitor (**J-1**), temporary worker in a specialty occupation (**H-1B**), Canadian or Mexican citizen engaging in professional activities (**TN**), Australians in Specialty Occupation (**E-3**) or temporary worker with extraordinary abilities in the sciences (**O-1**). At the time of application and throughout the award, an applicant must be employed by a U.S. institution.

# **Education and Experience**

At the time of application, the applicant must hold a doctoral degree and have a full-time faculty or professional appointment equivalent with demonstrated institutional commitment (salary support, research space) in a Clinical Allergy and Immunology division/section of an academic institution. Applicants from outside of an Allergy and Immunology Division will not be considered. If your institution does not have a designated Allergy and Immunology Division/Section, you are not eligible to apply.

Applicants must be undertaking a project related to allergic respiratory disease, have completed training, and be independent. They should be self-directed researchers for whom their institution must provide space and other resources customary for independent investigators. The application must convey the commitment of the institution to the applicant and the proposed research activities.





Applicants may be at any level of research experience, but priority will be given to applicants below the rank of associate professor who have not received more than one NIH R series award.

#### **Peer Review**

Applications deemed eligible for funding will go through a rigorous external peer review process. Factors considered when reviewing applications include:

- Scientific merit, technical feasibility, innovation and project relevance to the mission of the American Lung Association and AAAAI.
- Applicant's education, experience and recommendation letters.
- Research environment and resources.
- Likelihood that the applicant will engage in an ongoing career in lung health research.
- Department Chair (or equivalent) letter clearly assuring faculty or professional research appointment with demonstrated institutional commitment before the start of an award.

# **Application Guide**

The American Lung Associations used the e-grantmaking website, proposalCENTRAL, to process all awards and grants applications. Please access this website at: https://proposalcentral.altum.com.

For questions about the electronic application process, e-mail: pcsupport@altum.com

## **PROPOSAL SECTIONS**

## **Section I- Title Page**

To initialize your application, enter a title for your project.

The project start and end dates are automatically entered for you as we do not allow flexible start dates. The American Lung Association award period is July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2026.

If you are resubmitting the same or similar proposal previously reviewed by the American Lung Association complete the information requested. (You will be asked to select the appropriate application from a list of prior submissions, submitted through ProposalCentral to the American Lung Association.)

**Resubmissions:** A resubmission is considered an application previously reviewed and not funded in prior application cycles. An applicant who is unsuccessful in a competition may resubmit the same or similar application once.





#### **Section II- Download Templates & Instructions**

#### Section III- Enable Other Users to Access this Proposal

This section allows you to give other users access to your grant application. When you give a person access to your grant application, you can give them one of three levels of permissions: View (cannot change any details), Edit (can view and change information in the grant application, but cannot submit or view the access permission page), or Administrator (can view, edit and submit the application, as well as give access rights to others).

# **Section IV- Applicant Contact Information**

The person who creates the application is the default Applicant. Contact information from this person's Professional Profile, including primary institution affiliation, is automatically loaded to this section of the application. As all American Lung Association correspondence occurs with the Applicant, please provide the correct contact information for the applicant. The Sponsored Research Program Office is NOT acceptable.

To change the Applicant and the institution affiliation, choose from the list of available names and institutions. For privacy reasons, the list contains only the following: the name and institution of the person who created the application and the names of individuals included in the Access Permissions section of their Professional Profile (such as administrators at the institution). If, after changing the Applicant you need to update the contact information that appears below it, you can click 'EDIT PROFESSIONAL PROFILE' to go directly to your Professional Profile. You can exit this screen and select the 'PROFESSIONAL PROFILE' tab from the proposalCENTRAL management window and changes will be automatically uploaded to the Applicant screen.

Complete all the required fields that are marked with a red asterisk. If the required fields are incomplete or incorrect, changes must be made in the Applicant's Professional Profile. You can go directly to the selected Applicant's Professional Profile by clicking the button 'EDIT ACCOUNT INFORMATION.' Alternatively, you may exit the Applicant's section and use the Professional Profile tab in your proposalCENTRAL management window which is usually located in a different proposalCENTRAL browser window than the application. The percent of Applicant's total effort currently devoted to each of the listed activities must be indicated before going on to the next section.

# Section V- Citizenship and Optional Demographics

The American Lung Association is committed to diversity, equity and inclusion as core values. As part of that commitment, we aim to access whether the Association is providing grant opportunities to lung researchers and providers of all backgrounds, track the effectiveness of our application recruitment efforts, and ensure we consider the needs of all applicants. To assist in these efforts, we invite you to provide certain demographic information. You have the option of selecting "prefer not to disclose" in response to the questions. However, the demographic information is critical to helping us measure the validity of our selection procedures. The information you provide will be kept confidential. Aggregate data will only be used to identify gaps and opportunities for engaging a diverse group of applicants in the future. No identifying demographic data will be shared with reviewers or Association staff.





## **Required Citizenship**

At the time of application, candidates must be United States citizens or foreign nationals holding one of the following visa immigration statuses: permanent resident (**Green Card**), exchange visitor (**J-1**), temporary worker in a specialty occupation (**H-1B**), Canadian or Mexican citizen engaging in professional activities (**TN**), Australians in Specialty Occupation (**E-3**) or temporary worker with extraordinary abilities in the sciences (**O-1**). At the time of application and throughout the award, an applicant must be employed by a U.S. institution.

### Section VI-Institution and Contacts

The institution of the Applicant will be as selected as the default Institution and will have primary contractual responsibility for the grant if awarded. Institution information is pre-loaded to this section of the application. NOTE: If the required fields marked by a red asterisk are incomplete or incorrect, changes must be made in the Institution Profile. To change the Institution, choose from the list of institutions and press the button 'CHANGE INSTITUTION'. Initially, the list contains only the following: the current institution, the institutions that you listed in your Professional Profile, and any other institutions that include your UserlD in their Access list. Use the 'SEARCH' option to search the other institution profiles available in proposalCENTRAL. Results of the Search will be added to the list of institutions. To change the Institution choose from the new list of institutions and press the button 'Change Institution'. If, after changing the Institution you need to update the contact information that appears below it, contact the Grants and Contracts office of your institution to update the Institution Profile or call Customer Service at proposalCENTRAL at 1-800-875-2562 or email pcsupport@altum.com for assistance.

Next, choose the appropriate institutional officials for the particular grant program; (\*) indicates a required contact. There are two ways to enter contact information for the requested contact - you can select from the list of Institutional Officials from the Institution Profile of the Institution selected at the top of this page OR enter an email for the appropriate contact and complete and save the form. When you have selected the appropriate institution officials, click the red 'ADD' button. The contact information is loaded into your proposal and the contact will be shown in the table below. Be advised that the contact form may be pre-filled with some information if the email you entered is already associated with a proposalCENTRAL user.

## **Section VII- Key Personnel**

The applicant is responsible for listing all personnel who will have a significant role with the research project (i.e., will have impact on project content, data collection, data interpretation).

#### Section VIII- Letters of Recommendation

All applicants must provide three letters of recommendation. Duplicate letters from the same person are not accepted and may be grounds for an application to be administratively withdrawn.

Letters of Recommendation are critically important and should address the candidate's competence and potential to develop into an independent investigator. The recommendation letters should be from individuals not directly involved in the application, but who are familiar with the applicant's qualifications, training, and interests. Only individuals who can make the most meaningful comments about the candidate's professional training and qualifications for a





research career should be used as referees.

Steps for the Applicant to Contact the Referee:

- Enter the email address of the referee in the text box provided and click '+' to add.
- A small window will open; enter the Last Name and First Name of the referee. If the
  referee is already registered in proposalCENTRAL, the name will automatically display in
  the window.
- Click the red 'SEND EMAIL' button and 'CLOSE WINDOW.' An email will be sent to the
  referee from proposalCENTRAL requesting a Letter of Recommendation. The email will
  include instructions and a link for the referee to upload the completed Letter of
  Recommendation, directly to your grant application.

You will see that once the email has been sent, referee information will be displayed in the accompanying table. You can refer to this table to check on the status of the letters that have been uploaded to your application. When each of the letters is uploaded, the status will display as 'SUBMITTED.' You may want to check periodically on the status of the referee letters. Letters of Recommendation are to be completed and signed on institutional letterhead and 'UPLOADED' to the applicant's application in proposalCENTRAL by the Referee. Electronic signature is permitted. After the applicant submits the application, letters of recommendation cannot be changed. The referee will not have access to any portion of your grant application in the upload process.

Please note: Recommendation letters are separate from the Department Head Statement required as part of the Research Plan. An application must have a total of four letters (three recommendations and one Department head statement).

### **Section IX- Application Questions**

## Significance to the American Lung Association Mission

Describe how your proposed research project will help support the American Lung Association's mission "To Save Lives by Improving Lung Health and Preventing Lung Disease."

If your application is a resubmission, explain how this application differs from past submissions. Indicate how you incorporated previously received critiques into your research plan.

### **Section X- Project Summary**

# General Audience Summary

Provide a succinct and accurate description of the research project in non-scientific terms that could be clearly understood by a general audience. Do not include any proprietary or confidential information.

#### **Technical Audience Summary**

Provide an abstract of the research project in technical terms that would be appropriate for experts in the field. Do not include any proprietary or confidential information.





# **Scientific and Research Categories**

Select the most appropriate category(s) for your proposed project in order of relevance. Select choices carefully as they will partially be used to facilitate selection of scientific peer reviewers.

### **Section XI- Resources**

Facilities: Specify the facilities and how they will be used for the conduct of the proposed research.

## **Section XII- Budget Period Details**

Please enter a detailed budget for your project. The second year of funding is contingent on the successful completion of first year reporting. Indirect Costs are not allowed for any American Lung Association Award.

No more than 75% of the requested budget may be used for an awardee's salary and fringe benefits, and no more than 30% of the total award budget may be used to fund the purchase of permanent equipment. Grant funds may be used for the salary and fringe benefit costs of personnel other than the Applicant.

Permanent equipment is defined as an item whose primary function is related to research project and ordinarily has a usable expectancy of one year or greater.

#### Section XIII - Budget Summary and Justification

Submit a budget and justification for your research project. Awards are only given in one-year increments but all awardees will be given the opportunity to renew their project for a second year of funding. Funding is contingent on individual progress during the award year and the availability of funds. Applicants must request an amount appropriate for the specific award.

**Personnel:** For awards there is an institutional salary limitation of \$212,000. Fringe benefits may be requested provided such are treated consistently by the applicant's organization as a direct cost. No more than 75% of funds may be used for an awardee's salary and/or fringe benefits. There are no salary caps for other personnel.

**Equipment:** Itemize equipment with costs. Permanent equipment is defined as an item whose primary function is related to the research project, and ordinarily has a usable life expectancy of one year or greater. No more than 30% of the total award budget may be used to the purchase of permanent equipment.

**Supplies:** Itemize supplies with costs. For example, indicate the number of experimental animals to be used, unit cost per animal, and cost for daily use.

**Discretionary Funds:** No more than \$2,500 per annum may be used for travel or publication costs directly related to the American Lung Association- funded project and within the scope of the award terms and conditions.





Other Project Support Expenses: No award shall be used for the purchase of furniture, computers, the construction or renovation of facilities, payment of honoraria, membership dues or tuition, purchase of textbooks or periodicals or payment for secretarial support.

Total Costs may not exceed allowable award amounts. Correct arithmetic is the applicant's responsibility.

**Resources:** Describe the institutional resources available for the project.

**Facilities:** Specify the facilities to be used for the conduct of the proposed research. Indicate the performance sites and describe capacities, pertinent capabilities, relative proximity, and extent of availability to the project. Under "Other," identify support services such as machine shop, electronics shop, and specify the extent to which they will be available to the project. Use continuation pages if necessary.

**Equipment:** List the most important equipment items already available for this project, noting the location and pertinent capabilities of each.

## **Section XIV- Other Support**

Using the template provided, list any and all active and pending support for each key personnel. No page limit applies to the Other Support information.

Other Support includes all financial resources, whether Federal, non-Federal, commercial or institutional, available in direct support of an individual's research endeavors, including but not limited to research grants, cooperative agreements, contracts, and/or institutional awards. Please specify who the Primary Investigator is for all other support listed. Prizes or gifts do not need to be included.

The American Lung Association will not award funds to duplicate any work that is being supported by other funding agencies. Budgetary overlap is not permitted; however, scientific overlap will be evaluated on an individual basis. In cases of significant scientific overlap a successful applicant will have the option to choose between the American Lung Association award and that of the other organization or agency.

#### **Section XV- Assurances**

All research funded by the American Lung Association must comply with federal requirements regarding the use of human subjects, animals or biohazards in research. It is recommended that applicants submit projects to the appropriate Review Board at the time of application or before.

#### **Human Subjects and Stem Cells**

Applicants/ awardees conducting research on human subjects and/or human stem cells must comply with the provisions of the United States Department of Health and Human Services 45 C.F.R. pt. 46 to the same extent as each would were the research funded by the National Institutes of Health.





Indicate whether the proposed project involves Human Subjects. If so, add the institutional OHRP Assurance Number as well as the individual proposal IRB status – "approved", "exempt" or "pending". If approved or exempt, please provide the corresponding date of approval or exemption.

#### **Animal Use**

The American Lung Association allows animal use in biomedical research only when no other means of obtaining scientifically sound, valid and useful results are available. Applicants/ awardees must comply with the Public Health Service Policy on Human Care and Use of Laboratory Animals and the National Research Council Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals to the same extent as each would were the research funded by the National Institutes of Health.

Indicate whether the proposed project involves vertebrate animals. If so, add the institutional Animal Welfare Assurance Number as well as the Institutional Animal Care and Use of Committee (IACUC) status – "approved", "exempt" or "pending". If approved or exempt, please provide the corresponding date of approval or exemption. Also, indicate whether or not the institution has been accredited by the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care (AAALAC). Applicants from institutions that do not have an IACUC or accreditation from the AAALAC are not eligible to apply.

#### **Biohazards**

Biohazards are broadly defined to be recombinant and/or infectious and tumor materials that may be deleterious to normal organisms upon controlled exposure.

Indicate on the electronic application the Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) status. If approved, please provide the corresponding date of approval on the electronic application. If "exempt" from IBC approval within your institution, place "exempt" and the date the exemption was approved.

#### **Section XVI- Publications**

# Section XVII- Research Plan and Other Supporting Documents

### **Uploading to Online Application**

Attachment files must be submitted and uploaded to electronic application as PDF files. Once attachments are uploaded, you will get a confirmation message and see that your file is now listed in the "Uploaded Attachment" section of the screen. Two links are available in each row of an uploaded attachment: DEL and SHOW. "Del" allows you to delete the file, if necessary, and "Show" opens the uploaded file. It is strongly recommended that you open and review your uploaded file. If, for any reason, you wish to modify the file, make the revisions in the original document (offline), convert the file to PDF and once again, attach the newly revised file. Remember to delete any previously submitted versions of the file.





# **Language and Format Requirements**

All applications must adhere to the following language and format requirements. Not adhering to these requirements may result in an application being administratively withdrawn.

- a. The applicant's name should always be in the top 'HEADER' portion.
   Use English only and avoid jargon and any unusual abbreviations. Your application should read like a Scientific American journal article.
- b. Use Arial 11 point font size, the NIH-suggested font, unless otherwise specified in the instructions for a specific template.
- c. Figures, charts, tables, figure legends, and footnotes may be smaller in size but they must be clear and legible.
- d. Attached files should be no larger than 3-5 MB to facilitate review of the application. Very large files can make a full and comprehensive review of the application difficult. The objective is to find a balance between the content of your application and file size.

## **Biographical Sketch**

Using the template provided, submit biographical sketches for the applicant and all key personnel listed in Section 6. Biographical Sketches must not exceed five (5) pages for each person and should provide the following information about each key person, starting with the applicant:

- Personal Statement: Briefly describe why your experience and qualifications make you
  particularly well-suited for your role in the project that is the subject of the application.
  Also, briefly describe any changes in primary field of interest and/or career gaps due to
  personal or professional circumstances that may have affected your scientific
  advancement or productivity.
- Positions and Honors: List in chronological order previous positions, concluding with your present position. List any honors.
- Contributions to Science: Address the historical background that frames the scientific problem; the central finding(s); the influence of the finding(s) on the progress of science or the application of those finding(s) to health or technology; and your specific role in the described work.

**Selected peer-reviewed publications (in chronological order and no more than 15):** Do not include manuscripts submitted or in preparation; abstracts or posters. Please choose selected publications based on most recent, importance to the field, and/or relevance to the proposed research.

**Research Support:** List selected ongoing or completed (during the last three years) research projects (federal and non-federal support). Begin with the projects that are most relevant to the research proposed in this application. Briefly indicate the overall goals of the projects and responsibilities of the key person identified on the Biographical Sketch. Do not include number of person months or direct costs.





**Specific Aims**: State concisely the goals of the proposed research and summarize the expected outcome(s), including the impact that the results of the proposed research will exert on the research field(s) involved. The Specific Aims section must not exceed one (1) page.

List succinctly the specific objectives of the research proposed, e.g., to test a stated hypothesis, create a novel design, solve a specific problem, challenge an existing paradigm or clinical practice, address a critical barrier to progress in the field, or develop new technology.

Aims must not be too general, such as "To define the determinants of maximal expiratory flow," but rather "To study the influence of static lung recoil on maximal flows." Your statement should be limited to what can be accomplished during the award period.

**Research Strategy:** Organize the Research Strategy in the specified order using the instructions provided below. Start each section with the appropriate section heading — Significance, Innovation and Approach. Cite published experimental details in the Research Strategy and provide the full reference in the References section. Applicants are limited to 6 pages.

## **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.
- Describe how the concepts, methods, technologies, treatments, services, or preventative interventions that drive this field will be changed if the proposed aims are achieved.
- Explain how this research will impact your future goals or directions, as long as a clear distinction is made between your immediate and long-range plans.

#### Innovation

- Explain how the application challenges and seeks to shift current research or clinical
  practice paradigms. This provides an opportunity to demonstrate your knowledge and
  ability in this area, and to synthesize large volumes of information into a succinct and
  cohesive statement.
- 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. Clearly synthesize your own
  contributions to the field, and demonstrate your relative stature in the area.
- Explain any refinements, improvements, or new applications of theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions.

#### Approach

- Explain why you have chosen to address a particular portion of the overall problem and why you have chosen a particular approach. Discuss your preliminary studies, data and/or experience pertinent to this application and specify all novel data.
- Describe the overall strategy, methodology, and analyses to be used to accomplish each
  of the specific aims of the project. For each aim, include how the data will be collected,
  analyzed, and interpreted (e.g., number of experiments, types of measurements to be





made).

- Discuss potential problems, alternative strategies, and benchmarks for success anticipated to achieve the aims. This should include discussion of what you will do if conflicting and contradictory data are obtained.
- If the project is in the early stages of development, describe any strategy to establish feasibility, and address the management of any high risk aspects of the proposed work.

**Assurances:** State concisely how assurances will be met within the confines of the proposed research project.

**Human Subjects:** When human subjects or material obtained from such subjects are used in the proposed project, the application must state how the rights and welfare of the individual subjects are protected and assured. Include consent forms and questionnaires in appendix, if applicable. If the proposed research project involves human subjects, the population sampled shall be inclusive of the general population, of relevance to the scientific question posed, without restriction in regard to gender, race, age, and socioeconomic status. Proposals that intentionally restrict the population sampled must include a compelling scientific rationale for such design.

**Animal Use and Justification**: When animals are used in the project, the application must include a succinct and complete description of the following five points:

- Provide a detailed description of the proposed use of the animals in the work outlined in the Research Strategy section. Identify the species, strains, ages, sex, and numbers of animals to be used in the proposed work.
- Justify the use of animals, choice of species and numbers to be used. If animals are in short supply, costly, or to be used in large numbers, provide an additional rationale for their selection and numbers.
- Provide information on the veterinary care of the animals involved.
- Describe the procedures for ensuring that discomfort, distress, pain, and injury will be limited to that which is unavoidable in the conduct of scientifically sound research.
   Describe the use of analgesic, anesthetic, and tranquilizing drugs and/or comfortable restraining devices, where appropriate, to minimize discomfort, distress, pain, and injury.
- Describe method of euthanasia to be used and the reasons for its selection. State
  whether this method is consistent with the recommendations of the American Veterinary
  Medical Association (AVMA) Guidelines on Euthanasia. If not, include a scientific
  justification for not following the recommendations.

#### **Biohazard Materials**

When biohazard materials, defined as recombinant, infectious and tumor selected agents (i.e. radioisotopes) that may be detrimental to normal organisms upon controlled exposure are used:

- Describe procedures that will be used to monitor possession, use and transfer of the Select Agent(s).
- Describe plans for appropriate biosafety, bio-containment and security of the Select Agent(s).
- Describe the bio-containment resources available at all performance sites.





References: References must not exceed five (5) pages.

**Appendix:** May contain additional and relevant material such as letters of support, questionnaires and/or consent forms. No other material such as preliminary data, photographs/images or publications, is allowed in the appendix.

### **Sponsor/Department Head Statement Letter**

Please note: The Sponsor and/or Department Head Statements are separate from the three Letters of Recommendations required. A Department Head Letter on institutional letterhead is required.

## **Content of Department Head Statement:**

- 1. State the applicant's current and projected status during the initial term of the award.
- 2. State the applicant's faculty or professional title and from what academic institution does the applicant currently hold his/her appointment. The Department Head Statement must be explicit as to whether or not the applicant currently holds their appointment, and/or if the applicant will be promoted between the time of application and award commencement. Without the confirmation of status, the applicant will be disqualified.
- 3. State the applicant's future path at your institution and plan for academic development.
- 4. State your department's financial and space commitment to the applicant's career, and to the American Lung Association's project being submitted.
- 5. Describe the intellectual environment and your involvement in the applicant's award.
- 6. Guarantee that the budget does not overlap with any existing or pending support of the application's collaborations (including NIH-type other support information, from all collaborating scientists).
- 7. State minimum percent of overall effort and guaranteed time to be protected for research.

#### **Section XVIII- Validate**

Click the 'VALIDATE' link (from any page of the online application). Validate checks for missing required information or files. Any missing required information will be listed on the screen. All required information must be supplied before you can Submit an application.

## Section XIX- E-Signature and Download Application

#### **Certification Form**

Prior to submitting an application, an applicant must obtain signatures (electronic signature) from key officials certifying compliance with American Lung Association policies and requirements, including the following Conflict of Interest Clauses:

**Tobacco Use:** The American Lung Association will not provide research or other funding to investigators who have received direct funding or funding from agencies of the tobacco and ecigarette industry.





**Financial Disclosure:** American Lung Association applicants/awardees must comply with the provisions of the United States Department of Health and Human Services regulations on financial conflicts of interest 42 C.F.R. pt. 50, Subpt. F to the same extent as each would were the research funded by the National Institutes of Health. In general, the purpose of the Conflict of Interest policy is to ensure that there is no possibility that an applicant or their family will receive financial gain as a result of American Lung Association supported research.

**Section XX- Submit (Last Step)** American Lung Association requires all applications to be submitted electronically through proposalCENTRAL. Once you have completed and validated your application, you can then 'SUBMIT' electronically to proposalCENTRAL. The deadline for submission: December 15, 2023.