



Solve M.E.

Ramsay Award Program

Application Instructions and Scope

Application Deadline: June 6, 2022 11:59 PST

I. Award Information

There are 2 types of grants¹ available:

1. **Lab-based Research Grants:** To support studies that will process and analyze biological samples from the You + ME Biobank. These range from \$35,000 to \$55,000 for a 1-year period.
2. **Data-only Research Grants:** To support studies that will analyse data from the You + ME Registry. These have an upper limit of \$10,000 for a 6-month period.

For all grants, there is the possibility of renewal for projects yielding promising results. Applications will be subject to a rigorous, double-blinded peer-review process. Funding decisions will focus on applications most likely to make highly impactful contributions to ME/CFS and Long COVID research. In 2018, Solve M.E. implemented enhancements to the **Ramsay Program to expand the reach and impact of the program. As part of this, Investigators will complete at least one advocacy/visibility action (e.g. meeting with a legislator to advocate for more research funding or writing an article). Investigators are expected to publish or share both positive and negative findings. Investigators can opt in to Solve M.E. mechanisms to increase collaboration among the Ramsay researcher network (e.g. bi-annual teleconferences, in-person events).**

For lab-based and data-only grants, applications will receive two independent reviews and proposals will be ranked numerically on a defined scale² based on the following:

- Relevance and significance of the work
- Innovation aspect of the proposal
- Feasibility and soundness of the approach(es)
- Potential of the overall impact of the project

Ramsay Investigators doing lab-based projects are asked to submit brief reports at 6 and 12-months detailing scientific progress and budget expended to date. Those doing data only projects are asked to submit a report at 6 months.

¹ Solve M.E. will allow up to 10% institutional overhead for the Ramsay '22 application cycle

² Using a modified [NIH scoring system](#) designed for reliable scoring of applications

II. Application Preparation and Submission Details

Email the application as ONE PDF document to research@solvecfs.org. The deadline to receive applications is **11:59pm PST on June 6, 2022**.

Please use the templates provided on the Ramsay 2022 announcement webpage and include ALL of the following components with your application (use Arial or similar sans-serif font, 11 pt. or higher):

II.I Lab-based Research Grants Application

Use “**Main Application Template**” provided on application webpage.

1. Cover Pages - includes signature page with assurances and certification and contact information of signing official
2. Application contacts – any co-investigators and key personnel
3. General audience summary (1 page)
4. Technical Abstract (1 page)
5. Research Plan (3 – 5 pages, excluding References)
 - Specific Aims
 - Background and Significance
 - Preliminary Studies (if available)
 - Research Design and Methods
 - Statement of ME/CFS or Long COVID Relevance
 - References
6. Project milestones and timeline (1 page)
7. Budget and Justification (up to 2 pages. If possible, use the suggested “**Budget Template**” to create budget)
8. Facilities (1 page)
9. NIH-style biosketches of Applicant and Key Personnel (use the NIH-style form “**Biographical Sketch Template**” provided on the application page)

II.II Data Only Research Grants Application

Use “**Data Use Application Template**” provided on application webpage.

1. Cover Pages - includes signature page with assurances and certification and contact information of signing official
2. Application contacts – any co-investigators and key personnel
3. General audience summary (1 page)
4. Research Outline (3 – 5 pages, excluding References)
 - Specific Aims
 - Background and Significance
 - Research Design and Method
 - Data required from You + ME
 - Statement of ME/CFS or Long COVID Relevance

- References
- 5. Project milestones and timeline (1 page)
- 6. Budget and Justification (up to 2 pages. If possible, use the suggested “**Budget Template**” to create budget)
- 7. NIH-style biosketches of Applicant and Key Personnel (use the NIH-style form “**Biographical Sketch Template**” provided on the application page)

Include any applicable supporting documentation, such as subcontract documentation/consortium agreement or letters of collaboration, attached as an Appendix to the Main Application.

NOTE: To facilitate the double-blinded peer-review process, ***please do not include the actual names of investigators, research collaborators, institutions, or other identifiers in components after 2. Application contacts; referring to them instead as, for example, “Principal Investigator”, “Co-Investigator”, “Institution”, or “University”. In the references section, do not highlight yourself or any co-applicants as authors. Failure to follow this instruction will result in a rejection of the application and requirement that you to revise and resubmit***

III. Award Administration Information

The Award notification is anticipated in July 2022 for data-only projects and August for lab-based projects. A Ramsay Award notice consists of the recommended funding level for the proposed project and the applicable award conditions, including the award policies and project reporting requirements. Applicants whose proposals are declined will be advised as promptly as possible.

Organizational Contact: Kate Mudie, Research Senior Manager, at research@solvecfs.org