

**Fiscal Year 2026 Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs  
Spinal Cord Injury Research Program (SCIRP)  
Reference Table of Award Mechanisms and Submission Requirements**

Award Mechanism	Eligibility	Key Mechanism Elements	Funding	Submission Deadline
<p><b>Clinical Trial Award</b></p> <p><b>Go to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Program Announcement</li> <li>General Application Instructions</li> </ul> <p><b>Grants.gov Funding Opportunity Number:</b> HT942526SCIRPCTA</p>	<p>An investigator may be named on only one FY26 SCIRP CTA application as a Principal Investigator.</p> <p><b>Principal Investigator Eligibility:</b></p> <p><b>Single PI Option:</b> Independent investigators at all career levels.</p> <p><b>Early-Career Partnership Option:</b> Requires one early-career investigator to partner with one independent investigator at any career level.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Early-career investigators are individuals with <b>at least</b> 3 years of independent or non-independent research experience beyond a terminal degree but <b>no more</b> than 7 years within their first faculty appointment or equivalent independent research position.</li> <li>The early-career investigator may serve as the initiating <b>or</b> partnering PI.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supports the rapid implementation of clinical trials with the potential to have a significant impact on the treatment or management of spinal cord injury (SCI).</li> <li>Proposed projects may range from small proof-of-concept trials (i.e., pilot, first-in-human, phase 0) to demonstrate the feasibility or inform the design of more advanced trials through large-scale trials to determine efficacy in relevant patient populations.</li> <li>Utilization of decentralized clinical trial strategies that leverage virtual elements/tools for participant enrollment, communication, and data collection is especially encouraged.</li> <li>Applications must name at least two SCI community partners (e.g., SCI Lived-Experience Consultants, representatives of community-based organizations) who will provide advice and consultation throughout the planning and implementation of the research project.</li> <li>Research must address at least one of the FY26 SCIRP program priority areas and undertake an associated near-term programmatic goal.</li> <li><b>Early-Career Partnership Option:</b> Up to two investigators may collaborate on a single application, each of whom will be recognized as a PI and receive a separate award.</li> <li><b>Submission of a Preproposal is required; full application submission is by invitation only.</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Single PI Option</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The maximum allowable funding for the entire period of performance is <b>\$4.8 million (M)</b> for total costs.*</li> <li>The maximum period of performance is <b>4</b> years.</li> </ul> <p><b>Early-Career Partnership Option</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The maximum allowable funding for the entire period of performance is <b>\$4.96M</b> for total costs.*</li> <li>The maximum period of performance is <b>4</b> years.</li> <li>Accommodates two PIs on separate individual awards.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Pre-Application (Preproposal):</b> August 03, 2026 5:00 p.m. Eastern time</p> <p><b>Application:</b> November 12, 2026 11:59 p.m. Eastern time</p>

Award Mechanism	Eligibility	Key Mechanism Elements	Funding	Submission Deadline
<p><b>Clinical Translation Research Award</b></p> <p><b>Go to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Program Announcement</li> <li>General Application Instructions</li> </ul> <p><b>Grants.gov Funding Opportunity Number:</b> HT942526SCIRPCTRA</p>	<p>An investigator may be named on only one FY26 SCIRP CTRA application as a Principal Investigator.</p> <p><b>Principal Investigator Eligibility:</b></p> <p><b>Single PI Option:</b> Independent investigators at all career levels.</p> <p><b>Early-Career Partnership Option:</b> Requires one early-career investigator to partner with one independent investigator at any career level.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Early-career investigators are individuals with <b>at least</b> 3 years of independent or non-independent research experience beyond a terminal degree but <b>no more</b> than 7 years within their first faculty appointment or equivalent independent research position.</li> <li>The early-career investigator may serve as the initiating <b>or</b> partnering PI.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supports high-impact, new or emerging clinical research that requires additional preliminary studies, such as feasibility, pilot, or optimization, to prepare for future larger-scale clinical trials or implementation.</li> <li>Primary objectives of the mechanism include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Accelerating translation of current and emerging techniques or interventions into clinical use by addressing specific barrier(s) to clinical success for the purpose of de-risking or informing the design of definitive trials.</li> <li>Identifying the most effective diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation options to support critical decision-making for patients, clinicians, care partners and policymakers.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Applications must propose clinical research or clinical trials and may not propose animal research.</li> <li>Proposed studies may be interventional or observational and may involve some retrospective data analysis, BUT purely retrospective or database-related research will not be supported under this funding opportunity.</li> <li>Applications must name at least two SCI community partners (e.g., SCI Lived-Experience Consultants, representatives of community-based organizations) who will provide advice and consultation throughout the planning and implementation of the research project.</li> <li>Research must address at least one of the FY26 SCIRP program priority areas and undertake an associated near-term programmatic goal.</li> <li><b>Early-Career Partnership Option:</b> Up to two investigators may collaborate on a single application, each of whom will be recognized as a PI and receive a separate award.</li> <li><b>Submission of a Preproposal is required; application submission is by invitation only.</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Single PI Option:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The maximum allowable funding for the entire period of performance is <b>\$2.0M</b> for total costs.*</li> <li>The maximum period of performance is <b>3</b> years.</li> </ul> <p><b>Early-Career Partnership Option:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The maximum allowable funding for the entire period of performance is <b>\$2.16M</b> for total costs.*</li> <li>The maximum period of performance is <b>3</b> years.</li> <li>Accommodates two PIs on separate individual awards.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Pre-Application (Preproposal):</b> August 03, 2026 5:00 p.m. Eastern time</p> <p><b>Application:</b> November 12, 2026 11:59 p.m. Eastern time</p>

Award Mechanism	Eligibility	Key Mechanism Elements	Funding	Submission Deadline
<p><b>Translational Research Award</b></p> <p><b>Go to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Program Announcement</li> <li>General Application Instructions</li> </ul> <p><b>Grants.gov Funding Opportunity Number:</b> HT942526SCIRPTRA</p>	<p>An investigator may be named on only one FY26 SCIRP TRA application as a Principal Investigator.</p> <p><b>Principal Investigator Eligibility:</b></p> <p><b>Single PI Option:</b> Independent investigators at all career levels.</p> <p><b>Early-Career Partnership Option:</b> Requires one early-career investigator to partner with one independent investigator at any career level.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Early-career investigators are individuals with <b>at least 3 years</b> of independent or non-independent research experience beyond a terminal degree but <b>no more than 7 years</b> within their first faculty appointment or equivalent independent research position.</li> <li>The early-career investigator may serve as the initiating <b>or</b> partnering PI.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supports translational research that will accelerate the movement of promising ideas in SCI research into clinical applications.</li> <li>Applications may include preclinical evaluations of interventions and/or clinical studies involving human subjects and human anatomical substances.</li> <li>May include a pilot clinical trial <b>ONLY</b> as a part of the proposed research where limited clinical testing of a novel intervention or device is necessary to inform the next step in the continuum of translational research.</li> <li>Applications must name at least one SCI community partner (e.g., SCI Lived-Experience Consultant, representative of a community-based organization) who will provide advice and consultation throughout the planning and implementation of the research project.</li> <li>Research must address at least one of the FY26 SCIRP program priority areas and undertake an associated near-term programmatic goal.</li> <li><b>Early-Career Partnership Option:</b> Up to two investigators may collaborate on a single application, each of whom will be recognized as a PI and receive a separate award.</li> <li><b>Submission of a Preproposal is required; application submission is by invitation only.</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Single PI Option:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The maximum allowable funding for the entire period of performance is <b>\$2.0M</b> for total costs.*</li> <li>The maximum period of performance is <b>3 years</b>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Early-Career Partnership Option:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The maximum allowable funding for the entire period of performance is <b>\$2.16M</b> for total costs.*</li> <li>The maximum period of performance is <b>3 years</b>.</li> <li>Accommodates two PIs on separate individual awards.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Pre-Application (Preproposal):</b> August 03, 2026 5:00 p.m. Eastern time</p> <p><b>Application:</b> November 12, 2026 11:59 p.m. Eastern time</p>

Award Mechanism	Eligibility	Key Mechanism Elements	Funding	Submission Deadline
<p><b>Investigator-Initiated Research Award</b></p> <p><b>Go to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Program Announcement</li> <li>General Application Instructions</li> </ul> <p><b>Grants.gov Funding Opportunity Number:</b></p> <p>HT942526SCIRPIIRA</p>	<p>An investigator may be named on only one FY26 SCIRP IIRA application as a Principal Investigator.</p> <p><b>Principal Investigator Eligibility:</b></p> <p><b>Single PI Option:</b> Independent investigators at all career levels.</p> <p><b>Early-Career Partnership Option:</b> Requires one early-career investigator to partner with one independent investigator at any career level.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Early-career investigators are individuals with <b>at least 3</b> years of independent or non-independent research experience beyond a terminal degree but <b>no more</b> than 7 years within their first faculty appointment or equivalent independent research position.</li> <li>The early-career investigator may serve as the initiating <b>or</b> partnering PI.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supports studies that have the potential to make an important contribution to SCI research, patient care and/or quality of life.</li> <li>Permitted research includes preclinical studies in animal models, research with human subjects or human anatomical substances, as well as ancillary studies associated with an existing clinical trial.</li> <li>Clinical trials are not allowed.</li> <li>Research must address at least one of the FY26 SCIRP program priority areas and undertake an associated near-term programmatic goal.</li> <li><b>Early-Career Partnership Option:</b> Up to two investigators may collaborate on a single application, each of whom will be recognized as a PI and receive a separate award.</li> <li><b>Submission of a Preproposal is required; application submission is by invitation only.</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Single PI Option:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The maximum allowable funding for the entire period of performance is <b>\$800,000</b> for total costs.*</li> <li>The maximum period of performance is <b>3</b> years.</li> </ul> <p><b>Early-Career Partnership Option:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The maximum allowable funding for the entire period of performance is <b>\$960,000</b> for total costs.*</li> <li>The maximum period of performance is <b>3</b> years.</li> <li>Accommodates two PIs on separate individual awards.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Pre-Application (Preproposal):</b> August 03, 2026 5:00 p.m. Eastern time</p> <p><b>Application:</b> November 12, 2026 11:59 p.m. Eastern time</p>

\*Total costs include direct and indirect costs.