

**Fiscal Year 2026 Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs  
Epilepsy Research Program (ERP)  
Reference Table of Award Mechanisms and Submission Requirements**

Award Mechanism	Eligibility	Key Mechanism Elements	Funding	Submission Deadline
<p><b>Idea Development 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>HT942526ERPIDA</p>	<p>Independent investigators at any career level may be named as the Principal Investigator (PI) on an application.</p> <p>An investigator may be named PI on only one FY26 ERP Idea Development Award application.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supports novel, innovative research that has the potential to increase understanding of post-traumatic epilepsy (PTE) and associated comorbidities to improve quality of life, especially in Service Members, Veterans and/or their care partners.</li> <li>• Prioritizes innovative research that challenges existing paradigms or exhibits high creativity.</li> <li>• Research that expands or extends previously published findings or continues a line of research already well-established in the PIs laboratory <b>do not</b> meet the intent of this funding opportunity.</li> <li>• Research must address one of the FY26 ERP focus areas.</li> <li>• Clinical trials are not allowed.</li> <li>• Applicants are not required to provide preliminary data; however, applications must demonstrate the research team’s ability to execute the chosen model of traumatic brain injury and record subsequent seizure activity, if applicable.</li> <li>• <b>Submission of a Letter of Intent is required prior to full application submission.</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The maximum allowable funding for the entire period of performance is <b>\$1.0 million (M)</b> for total costs.*</li> <li>• The maximum period of performance is <b>3</b> years.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Pre-Application (Letter of Intent):</b> August 3, 2026 5:00 p.m. Eastern time</p> <p><b>Application:</b> August 17, 2026 11:59 p.m. Eastern time</p>

Award Mechanism	Eligibility	Key Mechanism Elements	Funding	Submission Deadline
<p><b>Leveraging 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>HT942526ERPLRA</p>	<p>Independent investigators at any career level may be named as the PI on an application.</p> <p>An investigator may be named PI on only one FY26 ERP Leveraging Research Award application.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supports basic, translational and/or clinical research that repurposes or expands existing research resources to accelerate the understanding of PTE and associated comorbidities.</li> <li>Applications <b>must</b>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adapt a cohort, resource, research tool or intervention for which PTE was not a prior focus;</li> <li>Provide a strong scientific justification for adding PTE-specific cohorts, outcomes, assessments or analyses; <b>and</b></li> <li>Demonstrate how this new focus will significantly advance knowledge of the condition.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Research must address one of the FY26 ERP focus areas.</li> <li>Projects that build a new research program or expand existing PTE-research efforts <b>do not</b> meet the intent of this funding opportunity.</li> <li>May include preclinical research (including animal research) and clinical research (including clinical trials).</li> <li><b>Submission of a Letter of Intent is required prior to full application submission.</b></li> </ul>	<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>Pre-Application (Letter of Intent):</b> August 3, 2026 5:00 p.m. Eastern time</p> <p><b>Application:</b> August 17, 2026 11:59 p.m. Eastern time</p>
<p><b>Research Partnership 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>HT942526ERPRPA</p>	<p>Structured to support two named PIs, both of whom may be independent investigators at any career level.</p> <p>An investigator may be named PI on only one FY26 ERP Research Partnership Award application.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supports new or existing research partnerships focused on collaboratively addressing critical questions relevant to PTE in a manner that would be unachievable through separate efforts.</li> <li>Applications <b>must</b> include preliminary data.</li> <li>Research must address one of the FY26 ERP focus areas.</li> <li>Clinical trials are not allowed.</li> <li><b>Submission of a Letter of Intent is required prior to full application submission.</b></li> </ul>	<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>Pre-Application (Letter of Intent):</b> August 3, 2026 5:00 p.m. Eastern time</p> <p><b>Application:</b> August 17, 2026 11:59 p.m. Eastern time</p>

Award Mechanism	Eligibility	Key Mechanism Elements	Funding	Submission Deadline
<p><b>Virtual Post-Traumatic Epilepsy Research Center – Leadership 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>HT942526ERPVPТЕРСL</p>	<p><b>The Director and Deputy Director of the Virtual Post-Traumatic Epilepsy Research Center (ViP-TERC)</b> must be independent investigators with a strong history of PTE research funding, peer-reviewed publications and mentorship experience.</p> <p>An investigator may be named <b>Director or Deputy Director</b> on only one FY26 ERP ViP-TERC – Leadership Award application.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The ViP-TERC Leadership will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ <b>Execute the Center's Mission:</b> Guide the development of successful and highly productive PTE researchers within a collaborative, virtual environment.</li> <li>◦ <b>Provide Intensive Mentorship:</b> Oversee and facilitate intensive mentoring, national networking opportunities and peer group support for new PTE investigators.</li> <li>◦ <b>Foster Collaboration:</b> Facilitate regular, interactive communication and collaboration among all ViP-TERC members.</li> <li>◦ <b>Assess Progress:</b> Track and assess the research outcomes and career progression of the center's faculty to ensure their success.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Submission of a Letter of Intent is required prior to full application submission.</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The maximum allowable funding for the entire period of performance is <b>\$1.6M</b> for total costs. *</li> <li>• The maximum period of performance is <b>4</b> years.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Pre-Application (Letter of Intent):</b> August 3, 2026 5:00 p.m. Eastern time</p> <p><b>Application:</b> August 17, 2026 11:59 p.m. Eastern time</p>

Award Mechanism	Eligibility	Key Mechanism Elements	Funding	Submission Deadline
<p><b>Virtual Post-Traumatic Epilepsy Research Center – Faculty 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>HT942526ERPVPТЕРCF</p>	<p>Early-career investigators and investigators new to the PTE field may be named as the PI on an application.</p> <p>An investigator may be named PI on only one FY26 ERP ViP-TERC – Faculty Award application.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Solicits faculty members to join the ViP-TERC in order to advance PTE research through the development of early-career investigators and investigators new to the PTE field.</li> <li>• Supports research projects investigating questions across the PTE research spectrum, including biology and etiology, prevention, diagnosis and detection, prognosis, treatment and quality of life.</li> <li>• Clinical trials are not allowed.</li> <li>• Applications <b>must</b> name a career guide who demonstrates a commitment to advance and sustain the faculty member’s research career.</li> <li>• Applicants are not required to provide preliminary data; however, applications must demonstrate the research team’s ability to execute the chosen model of traumatic brain injury and record subsequent seizure activity, if applicable to the research project.</li> <li>• <b>Submission of a Letter of Intent is required prior to full application submission.</b></li> </ul>	<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>Pre-Application (Letter of Intent):</b> August 3, 2026 5:00 p.m. Eastern time</p> <p><b>Application:</b> August 17, 2026 11:59 p.m. Eastern time</p>

\*Total costs include direct and indirect costs.