

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

Award Mechanism	Eligibility	Key Mechanism Elements	Funding	Submission Deadline
<p>Career Development Award</p> <p>Go to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Announcement • General Application Instructions <p>Grants.gov Funding Opportunity Number:</p> <p>HT942526ARPCDA</p>	<p>Independent investigators at or below the level of Assistant Professor (or equivalent).</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Established independent investigator in an area other than autism at or above the level of Assistant Professor seeking to transition to a career in autism.</p> <p>All Investigators must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not have received a Career Development Award (or equivalent) from any program within the CDMRP or other federal agency. • Not have received more than \$250,000 in total direct costs for previous or concurrent autism research as a Principal Investigator (PI) of one or more federally or privately funded, non-mentored, peer-reviewed grants. • Hold a Ph.D., M.D., M.D./Ph.D., or equivalent at time of pre-application submission. • Not be a graduate student, postdoctoral fellow, or other “mentored” researcher. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports early-career, independent investigators and/or the transition of established investigators from other research fields to conduct innovative, high-impact ideas or early-phase, proof-of-principle clinical trials with the potential to have a major impact on autism. • The ARP encourages applications that address critical needs of the autism community in one or more of the FY26 Career Development Award areas of interest. • Preliminary data are required. • Pre-application submission is required; application submission is by invitation only. • May include preclinical research (including animal research) and clinical research (including clinical trials). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The maximum allowable funding for the entire period of performance is \$750,000 for total costs.* • The maximum period of performance is 3 years. 	<p>Pre-Application (Preproposal): July 27, 2026 5:00 p.m. Eastern time</p> <p>Application: October 22, 2026 11:59 p.m. Eastern time</p>

Award Mechanism	Eligibility	Key Mechanism Elements	Funding	Submission Deadline
<p>Clinical Trial Award</p> <p>Go to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Program Announcement General Application Instructions <p>Grants.gov Funding Opportunity Number:</p> <p>HT942526ARPCTA</p>	<p>Single PI Option:</p> <p>Investigators at or above the level of Assistant Professor (or equivalent).</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Partnering PI Option for Early-Career Investigator:</p> <p>The Initiating PI (Mentor) must be at or above the level of Assistant Professor (or equivalent).</p> <p>The Partnering PI (Early-Career Investigator) must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be in a current postdoctoral training position or have completed postdoctoral training. Be no more than seven years from the receipt of a terminal degree (excluding time spent in residency or on family medical leave). Contribute at least 50% effort for the proposed research. <p>The Initiating and Partnering PI are not required to be located at the same institution.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supports rapid execution and analysis of clinical trials with the potential to have significant impact on the treatment or management of autism. The ARP encourages applications that address the critical needs of the autism community in one or more of the FY26 APR Clinical Trial Award areas of interest. Preliminary data are required. Proposed clinical trials must begin no later than 12 months after award date or 18 months after the award date for studies regulated by the Regulatory Agency. Pre-application submission is required; application submission is by invitation only. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Single PI: The maximum allowable funding for the entire period of performance is \$1.5 million (M) for total costs.* Early-Career Investigator Partnering PI Option: The maximum allowable funding for the entire period of performance \$1.75M for total costs.* The maximum period of performance is 4 years. 	<p>Pre-Application (Preproposal): July 27, 2026 5:00 p.m. Eastern time</p> <p>Application: October 22, 2026 11:59 p.m. Eastern time</p>

Award Mechanism	Eligibility	Key Mechanism Elements	Funding	Submission Deadline
<p>Idea Development Award</p> <p>Go to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Award • General Application Instructions <p>Grants.gov Funding Opportunity Number:</p> <p>HT942526ARPIDA</p>	<p>Investigators at or above the level of Assistant Professor (or equivalent).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports the development of innovative, high-risk/high-reward research that could lead to critical discoveries or major advancements that will accelerate progress in improving outcomes for Autistic individuals. • The ARP encourages applications that address critical needs of the autism community in one or more of the FY26 ARP Idea Development Award areas of interest. • <i>Preliminary data are required.</i> • Partnering PI Option: Up to two investigators may collaborate on a single application. • <i>Pre-application is required; application submission is by invitation only.</i> • <i>Clinical Trials are not allowed.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The maximum allowable funding for the entire period of performance is \$750,000 for total costs.* • The maximum period of performance is 3 years. 	<p>Pre-Application (Preproposal): July 27, 2026 5:00 p.m. Eastern time</p> <p>Application: October 22, 2026 11:59 p.m. Eastern time</p>

*Total costs include direct and indirect costs