Funding Opportunities Report: Neurosciences
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Ataxia Telangiectasia Children's Project
(also known as A-T Children's Project)
www.communityatcp.org
Total Giving to UC San Diego: $115,000, with $65,000 to Biological Sciences as the most recent gift in 1/2008.

The Project provides competitive grant awards for basic and translational research grants related to A-T. One- and two-year projects are funded up to a maximum total direct cost of $75,000 per year. Grants typically range from $25,000 - $50,000 per year.

Applicants please note that the A-T Children's Project is currently focusing its funding efforts on grant proposals that are relevant to a therapeutic intervention for A-T and/or proposals that facilitate translational or clinical research for this disease. As such, these types of applications will be given priority funding.

Application Deadline: September 1 and March 1 of each year

Burroughs Wellcome Fund
www.bwfund.org
Total Giving to UC San Diego: $7,610,722, with $557,000 to Pathology as the most recent gift in 9/2010.

The fund is an independent private foundation dedicated to advancing the medical sciences by supporting research and other scientific and educational activities. Major program areas include: basic biomedical sciences, infectious diseases, interfaces between physical and biological sciences, translational research, and science education.

Career Awards for Medical Scientists: Five-year $700,000 awards for physician-scientists bridge advanced postdoctoral/fellowship training and the early years of faculty service. Proposals must be in the area of basic biomedical, disease-oriented or translational research. Proposals in health services research or involving large-scale clinical trials are ineligible. Awards are made to degree-granting institutions in the U.S. or Canada on behalf of the awardee. Application Deadline: October 1, 2012
United Mitochondrial Disease Foundation
www.umdf.org
Total Giving to UC San Diego: $229,751, with $109,991 to Neurosciences as the most recent gift in 2/2006.

The United Mitochondrial Disease Foundation promotes research and education for the diagnosis, treatment, and cure of mitochondrial disorders, and provides support to affected individuals and families. The Foundation’s grants fund research toward diagnoses, treatments, and cures for mitochondrial disease. Grants are given in the areas of basic science and research, clinical research, treatment, and diagnosis.

Application Deadline: September 14, 2012 (LOI)

Institute for the Study of Aging, Inc.
www.alzdiscovery.org
No Giving History to UC San Diego

The Institute is a biomedical venture philanthropy whose mission is to catalyze and fund the discovery and development of new therapies to prevent and treat Alzheimer's disease.

Academic Drug Discovery and Development Program: Seeks to create and support innovative translational programs in academic medical centers and universities. Biomarker development studies and innovative proof of concept pilot clinical trials of new approaches to treatment, prevention and early detection are also supported.

Biotechnology Development Program: Supports qualified scientific projects in existing, private, early-stage biotechnology companies. The ADDF will provide support for qualified projects in more advanced companies if a clear need for non-profit funding to support the project can be demonstrated and justified. Funding is typically made as a program-related investment.

Biotechnology Founder's Technology Transfer Program: Supports academic programs that are eligible for technology transfer and the start-up of new biotechnology companies. Up to 35% of funds from these awards may be employed for expenses related to company formation, such as administrative, legal, patent and third-party vendor costs.

Funding averages $150,000 per year, and provides support for up to two years of research with potential for future follow-on funding.

Quarterly Deadlines: 2012 deadlines for full proposals are January 19, April 10, July 10, and October 10. LOIs are due two weeks before the proposal deadlines.
Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson’s Research
www.michaeljfox.org
Total Giving to UC San Diego: $658,500, with $350,000 to Neurosciences as the most recent gift in 1/2011.

The foundation seeks to hasten the progress for the cure and possible end to Parkinson’s disease.

Pipeline Programs:

- **Rapid Response Innovation Awards**: Funding from the Rapid Response Innovation Awards program quickly supports high-risk, high-reward projects with little to no existing preliminary data, but potential to significantly impact our understanding or treatment of PD.  
  **Application deadline**: None

- **Clinical Intervention Awards**: Support for clinical testing of promising PD therapies that may significantly and fundamentally improve treatment of PD.  
  **Application deadline**: Fall 2012

- **Target Validation**: Program provides support for work demonstrating whether modulation of a novel biological target has impact in a PD-relevant pre-clinical model — an essential step to the development of potential targeted therapies.  
  **Application deadline**: May 31, 2012

- **Therapeutics Development Initiative**: Industry-exclusive support for preclinical development of Parkinson’s disease therapies with potential to fundamentally alter disease course and/or improve treatment of symptoms above and beyond current standards of care.  
  **Application deadline**: May 31, 2012

- **Repositioning Drugs for PD**:  
  **Application deadline**: Fall 2012

Critical Challenges in Parkinson’s Disease Programs:

- **Biomarker Development**: Biomarker Development program provides investigators an opportunity to propose project ideas focused on biomarker discovery and optimization that will ultimately be utilized to improve clinical trials.  
  **Application Deadline**: None

- **LRRK2 Challenge**: Multiple mutations within the gene for leucine-rich repeat kinase 2 (LRRK2) are associated with Parkinson’s disease (PD) and represent some of the most common genetic risk factors yet discovered for this disease. Given its relatively high prevalence in cases of PD and its putative biological (kinase) role, LRRK2 represents an exciting ‘druggable’ molecular target for therapeutic development. LRRK2 Challenge program provides investigators an opportunity to propose project ideas focused on LRRK2 understanding and/or therapeutic development.  
  **Application Deadline**: None

- **Dyskinesia Challenge**: Engage researchers and drug makers focused on studying and/or therapeutically treating levodopa-induced dyskinesia (LID).  
  **Application Deadline**: None
Thrasher Research Fund
www.thrasherresearch.org
Total Giving to UC San Diego: $364,168, with $25,000 to Pediatrics as the most recent gift in 4/2011.

The fund provides grants for pediatric medical research. Because significant solutions for many children's health problems remain undiscovered, the fund invites a broad array of applications. The Thrasher Research Fund seeks to foster an environment of creativity and discovery aimed at finding solutions to children's health problems and awards grants for research that offers substantial promise for meaningful advances in prevention and treatment of children's diseases, particularly research that offers broad-based applications.

E.W. “Al” Thrasher Awards: The Thrasher Research Fund is open to applications that address a variety of significant pediatric problems. Both incidence and severity are considered when determining the significance of the proposed topic. The Fund supports research both within and outside the United States. Ideal applications address significant health problems that affect children in large numbers and offer the potential for practical solutions to these problems. Such solutions should be innovative and have the potential for rapid and broad applicability with low financial and/or technical barriers to implementation. Hypothesis-driven research is given priority over exploratory, hypothesis-generating research.

Applicaton Deadline: None; Concept papers are accepted on a rolling basis, and are considered by the Fund’s Executive Committee approximately once per month.

Early Career Awards: The Fund recognizes that young investigators may find it difficult to remain in pediatric research because of a lack of funding. Therefore, the purpose of this program is to encourage the development of medical research in child health by awarding small grants to new researchers, helping them gain a foothold in this important area. The Fund will make up to 30 awards in 2012. There are three funding cycles per year for Early Career Award Program grant.

Concept Paper Deadlines: February 17, 2012 at Noon, Mountain Time

Parkinson's Disease Foundation, Inc.
www.pdf.org
Total Giving to UC San Diego: $25,000 to Neurosciences in 8/1990.

The foundation awards grants and fellowships to address the etiology, pathogenesis, and treatment of Parkinson's disease. PDF offers several different grants to encourage young scientists, clinicians and students to devote their talents to the study of Parkinson’s:

The International Research Grants Program: The International Research Grants Program (IRGP) is designed to promote innovative research that has a high potential to significantly advance the knowledge of Parkinson's disease (PD) but little likelihood of securing funding through more traditional sources. IRGP awards provide a maximum of $75,000 in direct costs per year for two years

Postdoctoral Fellowships for Neurologists: For young clinicians who have completed their neurology residency and are seeking clinical research experience, PDF offers the Postdoctoral Fellowships for Clinical Neurologists, one-year awards in the amount of $55,000.

Postdoctoral Fellowships for Basic Scientists: The Postdoctoral Fellowships for Basic Scientists are one-year fellowships for young scientists, fresh from their Ph.D. training, to study at major research institutions.
**PDF-PSG Mentored Clinical Research Award**: The grant supports new investigators for a one-year project in patient-oriented research in Parkinson's disease or other parkinsonian disorders under the mentorship of an experienced investigator. The goal of the award is to provide funding for an investigator who has the potential to become an independent researcher.

**Summer Student Fellowships**: Summer student fellowships are used to support high school seniors, undergraduates, and medical students in the pursuit of Parkinson's-related summer research projects. Typically fellowships are offered for ten weeks of laboratory work under a sponsor who oversees the project.


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**James S. McDonnell Foundation**  
[www.jsmf.org](http://www.jsmf.org)  
Total Giving to UC San Diego: $5,509,498, with $424,476 to Cancer Center as the most recent gift in 9/2009.

The 21st Century Science Initiative, the foundation's revised program and funding strategy, will award Research Awards and Collaborative Activity Awards in three program areas: The three program areas are **Brain Cancer Research**, **Understanding Human Cognition**, and **Studying Complex Systems** (neuroscience researchers are discouraged from applying to the later). 21st Century Research Awards are designed to support research projects with a high probability of generating new knowledge and insights.

Institutions sponsoring an application on behalf of a particular principal investigator to JSMF programs (Research Awards, Collaborative Activity Awards) can only submit one application every 3 years on behalf of the named principal investigator.

**Research Awards**  
Investigator-initiated research awards providing up to $450,000 for up to 6 years made to 501(c)(3) organizations in support of work done in Studying Complex Systems or Brain Cancer Research.  
*Application Deadline: March 2012*

**Scholar Awards**  
Funding provided in the area of Understanding Human Cognition.  
*Application Deadline: Updated application information available in February 2012.*

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**The Kenneth T. and Eileen L. Norris Foundation**  
[www.ktn.org](http://www.ktn.org)  
Total Giving to UC San Diego: $125,000.

With assets of over $145,000,000, the Norris Foundation seeks to support programs that advance better health and intellectual enlightenment through education, cultivation of the arts, individual responsibility, freedom and dignity. Funding areas are: Community, cultural, youth, medicine, and education/science.  
*Application Deadlines: Medicine: May 1 - June 30; Education/Science: May 1 - June 30*
The Brotman Foundation of California

No website available

No Giving History to UC San Diego

With assets of around $6 million, the Foundation primarily provides support for children, health care, health and medical research, AIDS research. The Foundation also provides some support for arts, education, and environmental organizations.

Application Deadline(s): None

Dr. Miriam & Sheldon G. Adelson Medical Research Foundation

http://www.adelsonfoundation.org/nrrps.html

Total Giving to UC San Diego: $1,948,680, with $160,000 to Health Sciences as the most recent gift in 10/2010.

The mission of the Dr. Miriam and Sheldon G. Adelson Medical Research Foundation (AMRF) is to foster collaboration in biomedical research in order to accelerate medical innovation and to facilitate commercialization of innovative medical products for the public good. The foundation is committed to a model of open and highly integrated collaboration among outstanding investigators who participate in goal-directed basic and clinical research to prevent, reduce or eliminate disabling and life-threatening illness.

Currently, the Foundation is focusing on Collaborations in the areas of neurology, oncology, and immunology. Each area of focus is referred to as an AMRF Program.

Adelson Program in Cancer Research

The program is divided into 3 groups: 1) The Core Cancer Investigator Group within this program consists of experts in basic, clinical and translational research who together possess the comprehensive knowledge required for an iterative and collaborative approach to the identification and validation of novel cancer therapeutic targets and the subsequent clinical testing of agents that interfere with their function; 2) Ubiquitin Proteasome Pathway: The foundation believes that the key role that this regulatory system plays across many cellular processes will lead to new therapies for malignancies, immunological and inflammatory diseases, degenerative diseases of the nervous system, neural regeneration and long-term memory and learning; 3) Melanoma Biomarker Group Collaboration aims to identify the characteristics of subtypes that are most malignant using techniques like those employed by the APCR-Core Cancer group.

Adelson Program in Immunologic Diseases

The goal of this Program is to develop novel strategies for target discovery in selected diseases. The first target of the program is Irritable Bowel Disease (IBD).

Adelson Program in Neural Repair and Rehabilitation

The Miriam and Sheldon Adelson Program in Neural Repair and Rehabilitation (APNRR) will promote basic and clinical research to better understand and manipulate the biology of damage and repair to neurons and axons within the brain, spinal cord, and peripheral nerves. The goal is to lessen the disabilities of patients who suffer the loss of movement and sensation from injury and disease.

Application Deadlines: None
The Charles A. Dana Foundation, Inc.
(doiing business as The Dana Foundation)
http://www.dana.org/grants
Total Giving to UC San Diego: $975,000, with $200,000 to Radiology as the most recent gift in 9/2007.

Principal interests are in health and science, particularly neuroscience and immunology and education.

Clinical Neuroscience Research: Support for "first in humans" studies of patients with devastating brain diseases for which there currently is no effective treatment. Funded researchers set up controlled clinical studies in patients with a specific brain disease, based on promising animal studies suggesting that a specific therapy either treats the condition or prevents it from getting worse. Grant studies can receive up to $300,000 payable over three years.

Application Deadline: None

The John Merck Fund
http://www.jmfund.org/development.php
Total Giving to UC San Diego: $550,000, with $300,000 to Chemistry and Biochemistry as the most recent gift in 6/2007.

The John Merck Fund fosters advancement of knowledge and development of innovative solutions in the fields of Developmental Disabilities, Climate and Clean Energy, and Environmental Health; and workforce development and sustainable agriculture in Rural New England. The Fund’s objective is to catalyze constructive and measurable changes in each of these areas by supporting nonprofit organizations that have the capability to create and advance model programs that others can replicate.

The John Merck Fund board has decided to refocus the Developmental Disabilities Program on translational research and the dissemination of new knowledge and practices to clinicians. Trustees feel the new direction will make a more immediate difference for people with developmental disabilities and for their families. Further details will be available via this website soon.

Application Deadline: None

William Wright Family Foundation
Total Giving to UC San Diego: $1,705,900 with $132,500 to Mitochondrial Disease Drug Discovery Research as the most recent gift in 6/2011.

The William Wright Family Foundation gives primarily in La Jolla, CA, and Vernon, TX to pre-selected organizations. The foundation’s primary funding interests include genetic diseases and disorders research.

Application Deadline: None
Alzheimer's Disease Research Foundation  
(doing business as Cure Alzheimer's Fund)  
www.curealzfund.org  
Total Giving to UC San Diego:  $350,000, with $100,000 to Neurosciences as the most recent gift in 1/2011.

Cure Alzheimer’s Fund is dedicated to the pursuit of scientific research leading to treatments and a cure for Alzheimer’s disease. The Foundation generally does not accept unsolicited grant proposals. Awards are typically made to members of the Cure Alzheimer’s Research Consortium and/or on their recommendation to other researchers doing innovative work consistent with the Cure Alzheimer’s Fund Research Roadmap.  
**Application Deadline:** None

The G. Harold & Leila Y. Mathers Charitable Foundation  
www.mathersfoundation.org  
Total Giving to UC San Diego:  $8,332,992, with $166,376 to Cancer Center/Oncology-Hematology as the most recent gift in 6/2011.

The foundation is primarily interested in supporting fundamental basic research in the life sciences. Support is provided for specific projects from established researchers at top universities and independent research institutions within the United States. General inquiries can be made via e-mail. Specific detailed queries must be received by mail. Application form not required.

**Application Deadline:** None

Edward Mallinckrodt, Jr. Foundation  
Total Giving to UC San Diego:  $745,000, with $215,000 to Medicine Research as the most recent gift in 9/2002.

The Edward Mallinckrodt, Jr. Foundation offers grants largely for domestic biomedical education and research. Application form required.  
Initial approach: Letter (2-4 typewritten pages)  
**Application Deadline:** None

AEGON Transamerica Foundation  
Total Giving to UC San Diego:  $5,450, with $50 to Chancellor’s Fund as the most recent gift in 6/2011.

The foundation supports community foundations and organizations involved with arts and culture, education, health, cancer, ALS research, hunger, housing development, golf, human services, and the disabled.

**Application Deadline:** None
The John Douglas French Alzheimer's Foundation
www.jdfaf.org
Total Giving to UC San Diego: $346,391, with $40,000 to the Dept. of Medicine as the most recent gift in 9/2010.

The mission of the foundation is to provide seed money for promising research and scientists who might not otherwise be funded, and supports cutting-edge research, individually or in a collaborative effort, which can expedite the day when a cure for Alzheimer's might be found. The John Douglas French Alzheimer's Foundation has distinguished itself by providing seed money for unique, cutting-edge research projects (of potentially high yield) with creative scientists. These have been projects of great merit, originality and importance to the field of Alzheimer's disease (AD) research.

French Foundation Fellowship: Designed to provide seed money for the development of young post-doctoral scientists, based at a California university medical school, with demonstrated promise for a research career in Alzheimer’s disease. The Fellowship provides salary support for up to two years, at $40,000 per year. The second year of funding is contingent on satisfactory progress and approval for further funding by the Board of Directors of The John Douglas French Alzheimer’s Foundation.

The John Douglas French Alzheimer's Foundation Distinguished Research Scholar Award: This program supports scientists at the Assistant Professor level and on a tenured track at one of the outstanding medical schools in the State of California. The award is $100,000 per year for two years and the recipient is committed to conducting high impact research into Alzheimer’s disease and related neurodegenerative conditions.

Keytone Therapy - New Therapeutic Approach to Alzheimer's Dementia: Most of the current research on AD is focused on the initiating causes. We now offer a new approach, directed toward ameliorating the final cause - the death of the brain cells. The new proposal is based on the discovery that brain cells can use an alternative fuel, called ketones (especially beta-hydroxybutyrate). Ketones are normally present at low levels in ordinary life, but in conditions of fasting or starvation, when blood sugar levels become low, the levels of ketones increase, and the brain begins to substitute them for sugar as a fuel source.

Application Deadlines: None