

MICHR Pathway to First Grant and Independence FAQs

- 1. I have never been awarded an extramural grant, but I am working to develop an R01 submission? Am I eligible to apply for the Pathway to First Grant Award or the Pathway to Independence Award?**
You are eligible to apply for the Pathway to First Grant Award.
- 2. I am applying for the Pathway to Independence Award but only need a budget of \$50,000? Will this be fully funded by MICHR?**
No. All Pathway to First Grant and Pathway to Independence applicants must secure a \$25,000 match from an academic unit. The only exception is for U-M Dearborn and U-M Flint applicants who are using a Community-Based Participatory Research approach; these applicants may write budgets up to \$30,000 that will be fully funded by MICHR.
- 3. Does my planned external grant submission have to be to NIH?**
No. Pathway to First Grant and Pathway to Independence applicants may plan for external submissions to funding agencies outside of NIH, including federal and non-federal agencies/foundations.
- 4. I did not receive a fundable score on my previous pilot grant submission (Translational Science Award). Am I eligible to resubmit my application through one of the Pathway mechanisms?**
Yes. You may resubmit a previously unfunded Translational Science Award application through either the Pathway to First Grant or Pathway to Independence mechanisms. Follow instructions for resubmissions within the guidelines.
- 5. Are postdoctoral fellow eligible to serve as Principal Investigators?**
No. Only applicants with faculty designations (see grant guidelines for more information) may serve as Principal Investigator. Postdoctoral fellows are welcome to be Co-Investigators on applications.
- 6. I am an Adjunct faculty member. Am I eligible to serve as Principal Investigator?**
No. Adjunct faculty are not eligible to serve as Principal Investigators.
- 7. If awarded, what is the start date for this funding?**
The start date will vary, and we cannot provide an exact date at this time. Studies involving human subjects and vertebrate animals must proceed to a second level of review by NIH. Applicants with fundable scores who propose human subjects or vertebrate animal research must secure IRB or IACUC approval prior to NIH review. Thus, the award date is highly dependent on those with fundable scores pursuing the required approvals in a timely manner.
- 8. My proposed research will use animal models. Am I eligible for the Pathway to First Grant or Pathway to Independence Awards?**
Studies are eligible for pilot grant funding when the animal model has already been validated as a predictor of how human disease will respond AND the pathway toward humans is clearly evident as the next logical step. Applicants must provide reasoning of how the research will lead to “next step” studies in humans.
- 9. I want to propose research that will occur outside of the United States. Am I eligible to apply for a Pathway Award?**
No. The MICHR Pilot Grant Program cannot accept applications proposing research conducted abroad because NIH-National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS) will not provide prior approval for such pilot grants.

10. Does the signature page, as described in the guidelines, need to be submitted with my application, or can I send you this information at a later date?

All items outlined in the grant guidelines must be submitted by the deadline. Incomplete applications will be administratively dismissed.

11. The Pathway grants are not the right mechanism for me. Does MICHR offer other funding opportunities?

Yes. You can find MICHR funding opportunities here:

<https://www.michr.umich.edu/rdc?category=MICHR+Funding>.