



## Call for Grant Applications on Aging Biology and Geroscience in KSA (2023) Instructions for Full Proposal

Hevolution Foundation supports a wide range of scientific endeavours across the spectrum of the R&D value chain. The Hevolution Foundation Call for Grant Applications in Aging Biology and Geroscience in KSA (2023) is set to further explore the aging science space in KSA and support research projects that promise major advancements in the fields of Aging Biology and Geroscience. This Call for Grant Applications will be allocated up to 10M SAR to fund projects on Aging Biology or Geroscience (No Clinical Trials) by the end of 2024. Hevolution envisions funding up to Twenty projects, that are 2-years in length, with a budget of up to 500K SAR in total for each. Preference of funding will be given to projects that advance basic biology knowledge into translation. This grant provides no additional indirect costs. Funding will be made available to independent investigators with labs in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

### APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

The full proposal must be submitted through Proposal Central. The full application must be written in English. There are 14 sections that need to be completed as described below.

1. **Title Page** (Proposal title, contact PI and Institution information)
2. **Download Templates for biosketches and subaward budgets, if applicable.** The biosketch must be up to 5 pages total.
3. **Enable other Users to Access this Proposal:** To enable your co-investigators, department, or grants administrators to receive system notifications, add them with at least "View" access below and check the box "Auto Notify".
4. **Principal Investigator Information:** Only the contact PI information should be provided here. Other multiple PIs should be added to the Key Personnel Section.
5. **Organization/Institution Contacts:** Only the contact PI institution's information should be provided here.
6. **Key personnel Information:** People who are essential to carrying out the work of a project, typically those responsible for the design, conduct, and reporting of the research. Other Multiple PIs (if applicable) should be listed here as well.
7. **Abstract and keywords**
8. **Budget:** Hevolution has provided each applicant with a maximum time (2 years) and a maximum budget allowance (up to 500K total for the 2-year project, no overhead/indirect cost/admin fees). **This budget is not negotiable and should be considered when planning the full proposal.** Purchase of equipment will not be supported, and travel costs up to 18,750 SAR (\$5,000 US dollars) total (the sum of all travel costs requested in the application), can be requested. Graduate Student tuition or tuition remission is not allowed. **Compensations for PI and team should be capped at 20% of the total budget. Funding for selected projects will be transferred to institutional accounts.**
9. **Primary Institution Budget Summary and Budget Justification**
10. **Human Subjects/Animal Subject Research Assurances**
11. **Application Attachments:**
  - a. **Available Resources (no page limit):** Briefly describe how the proposed studies will benefit from unique features of the scientific environment (Institutional and Departmental resources), administrative support, support for research and scholarly activities, facilities, and other resources.
  - b. **Bibliography (no page limit)**

- c. **Biosketch(es) for key personnel (up to 5 pages per biosketch):** The biosketch must include past, current, and pending funding. For current and pending funding, be sure to include project titles, your role on the project, source of funds, period of support, and dollar amounts. Briefly summarize the research aims and note overlap those for which this grant support is sought.
- d. **Letters of Support (no page limit):** Submit letters of support or collaboration only for those people that are relevant to your work and will assure that your collaborations and institutional commitments are established and formalized. We suggest including letters of support from your institution, co-investigators, collaborators, and other significant contributors.
- e. **Specific Aims (up to 1 page): Describe the rationale and the hypothesis to be tested.**
- f. **Narrative or Experimental Approach (up to 4 pages):** Include potential outcomes, their impact on aging, potential pitfalls, and alternative approaches. Include a section that describes, when applicable, sample size calculations, the rationale for age groups, gender, statistical methods, design as well as power analysis, etc. For human subjects/animal subjects research assurance, please detail the model(s) to be used and whether you plan to request approvals from the relevant committee(s) in advance of the start date of the project. *Obtaining institutional assurance approval (IACUC, IRB, or equivalent) is a prerequisite for funding allocation.*
- g. **Additional Attachments to be uploaded:**
  - i. **Multiple PI Plan**
  - ii. **Budgets and Budget Justifications for subaward(s) (if applicable)**

**12. Required signatures, e-signatures. At this stage, we encourage you to print your application for final revision before submitting to HF.**

**13. Validate:** This section allows you to check if any sections are missing

**14. Submission**

## PAGE LIMITATION

The total page limit for the research plan, which includes the specific aims and narrative, is **5 pages (see point 'e' above)**. This will be strictly enforced. Please use **Calibri 11 font**, with 0.5" (1.27 cm) margins.

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Applicants must be based in Saudi Arabia.
- The applicants should hold a doctorate degree (Ph.D., M.D., M.D./Ph.D.) or equivalent.
- Applicants must be independent investigators/group leaders with independent research space and have the skills, knowledge, and resources necessary to carry out the proposed research. The Independent investigator should be at the level of Assistant, Associate, or Full Professor or Scientist (including research track) or be in equivalent positions as defined by the applicant's institution. It is required that an independent investigator has published at least one paper as a senior author. All this information will be checked at the submission of the application.
- Multiple PIs, Co-Is, and collaborators are allowed as long as the main PI is based in Saudi Arabia. However, the award will go to the primary institution, where a substantial proportion of the work (at least 60%) must be conducted, including appropriate oversight of all matters related to the grant (scientific, programmatic, and financial.)
- The proposed research project must be in the basic biology of aging or geroscience.



- This grant opportunity is open to applicants from academic, government-funded research organizations, or non-profit institutions. Each applicant is allowed to submit only one project to the pilot HF-SA grant initiative.

## APPLICATION DATES

Open submission for full proposal will be available in Proposal Central starting on **January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024**. Full-Proposals must be submitted using Proposal Central **no later than Feb 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 5:00 PM Saudi Arabian Time. This will be strictly enforced, and no late submissions will be accepted.**

## PEER REVIEW AND SELECTION PROCESS

An external Scientific Review Panel will evaluate applications for their scientific and technical merit, and feasibility. Hevolution Foundation regards confidentiality as a crucial aspect of review; a disclosure agreement of confidentiality will protect the information and content of grant applications, and Hevolution will care to prevent disclosure to others. Principal Investigators of selected projects may contact Hevolution Foundation ([grants@hevolution.com](mailto:grants@hevolution.com)) if they want to disclose any conflicts with potential reviewers.

Principal Investigators will be informed of the decision in Q3 of 2024 with funding expected in Q4 2024. Proposals not deemed meritorious by the review panel and Hevolution will receive a rejection email. **No written feedback will be shared, and funding decisions are final and cannot be appealed.**

## SUBAWARD

If you are planning to have a subaward, please remember that a subawardee cannot create its own subaward agreement with a third party. Nevertheless, subawardees can use collaborators and/or consultants. The subaward budget must follow the same criteria described for the primary institution described above. Furthermore, If the application selected for funding uses a subaward to complete part of the project, the institution must confirm it will maintain all internal controls over the subaward/s for the duration of the subaward agreement.

## REPORTING

Recipients will be required to submit an Annual Research Progress Report 45 days before the end of each budget period (format to be provided at a later date). Continuation of the award into the second year will be upon approval of the first annual report. Final reports (research and financial) must be submitted within 90 days after the project period's end date.

## ANTICIPATED ANNOUNCEMENT AND AWARD DATES

It is expected that funding decisions and award dates will be made in quarter 4 of 2024.

*Please direct all questions about this full-proposal request to [grants@hevolution.com](mailto:grants@hevolution.com). Also, visit the FAQs and the RFA for more information.*