The ASAP Collaborative Research Network
Frequently Asked Questions

1. **What is the ASAP Initiative?**
   ASAP is a disease-focused, basic research program that will address key knowledge gaps to accelerate the pace of discovery for PD. The ASAP initiative was created by the Milken Institute Center for Strategic Philanthropy with the support of the Sergey Brin Family Foundation.

2. **Are institutions outside of the U.S. able to apply for funding?**
   Yes, international researchers from across organization types (e.g., non-profit, for-profit, private, academic) are eligible to apply. We accept applications from all countries and consider them equally to U.S.-based researchers.

3. **Are private biotech/pharmaceutical companies eligible to apply for funding?**
   For-profit entities are eligible and encouraged to apply.

4. **What does it mean to be the Coordinating Lead Principal Investigator?**
   The Coordinating Lead Principal Investigator is responsible for the scientific and technical direction of the proposed research project, contractual and financial obligations, and other organizational assurances/certifications. This person must ensure that the Key Personnel comply with the terms and conditions of the award and will be the primary contact person for ASAP scientific review as well as MJFF grants administration staff. The Coordinating Lead PI must be affiliated with the institution submitting the application.

5. **Do I have to be affiliated with an institution if I am the Coordinating Lead Principal Investigator?**
   The Coordinating Lead Principal Investigator must be affiliated with the institution submitting the application and grant funds will be awarded to that institution, which will take responsibility for distributing funds to the institutions of the other members of the collaboration.

6. **What is the team structure?**
   Key Personnel for each Team must consist of a minimum of three to maximum of five Principal Investigators. A Coordinating Lead Principal Investigator must be appointed for each Team, and an additional two (minimum) to four (maximum) Co-Investigators are required.

7. **What are the specific requirements for the Key Personnel?**
   We require the Key Personnel for each Team to consist of at least one early-career investigator (within one to seven years of their first academic appointment) in the position of Co-Investigator, and for there to be at least two different disciplines represented on each Team.

8. **Is the Team required to have a Project Manager?**
   The Coordinating Lead Principal Investigator is required to budget for a Project Manager, whom should be named at the full proposal stage. This person would assist with the day-to-day coordination of all Team efforts to consistently maintain a high level of functionality and communication.

9. **Should a budget be included at the pre-proposal stage?**
   No, a detailed budget is not required at the pre-proposal stage. Please submit the ASAP Collaborative Research Network pre-proposal template and fill out the online application form to complete your pre-proposal submission.

10. **How many proposals are submitted versus how many make it to the full proposal and funding stages?**
    We have no target number of teams to fund. Our decisions will be based entirely on the quality of the teams and their proposals.

11. **Can my proposal be submitted in a language other than English?**
    No. Pre-proposals and full proposals must be in English.

12. **Are applications treated confidentially?**
    Yes, all internal and external application reviewers are under a confidential disclosure agreement, and all information is treated as strictly confidential.

13. **Is the pre-proposal template mandatory?**
    Yes, pre-proposals not submitted in our template format will not be reviewed.

14. **What is the indirect costs policy?**
    All entities may apply a rate of up to 15 percent. Total costs are inclusive of the 15 percent indirect cost rate for all entities.

15. **What is your open access data policy?**
    All data resulting from the funded work will be made available to the scientific community at large at the earliest opportunity on preprint servers, online protocol platform, and in an open-access journal format. Please see the example from the Gates Foundation publication policy: https://www.gatesfoundation.org/How-We-Work/General-Information/Open-Access-Policy