

RISI RESEARCH FUNDING GUIDELINES

The Rolf® Institute is invested in supporting high quality scientific and clinical research which validates and expands knowledge of Dr. Rolf's foundational work in defining and practicing structural integration. The RISI Research Committee solicits and evaluates research proposals from experienced and new investigators for potential financial support from RISI. The following guidelines outline the process for grant application submission, acceptance, review and approval:

Experienced Investigators

Experienced investigators are individuals with scientific research credentials and an institutional affiliation with a nonprofit organization, typically a university. Investigators may also have affiliation with other nonprofit organizations with a scientific research mission which are tax exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or exempt under analogous provision in the home country of the nonprofit organization. All principal investigators applying for RISI research grants must demonstrate that they possess the necessary training and experience to conduct research activities described in the grant application.

A brief outline of steps and requirements appears below. A compilation of necessary documents with a more detailed description is available to download as the [RISI Grant Application Guide](#).

- 1) Submit a [short proposal](#) (maximum 5 pages, not including references, single spaced), [Conflict of Interest form](#) and, if necessary, a [Full Disclosure form](#).
- 2) It is desirable to have a Rolfing® SI practitioner involved in research efforts, but not required to submit a proposal. Referrals to Rolfing® practitioners familiar with research are available through the RISI research committee.
- 3) Short proposals will be reviewed by the RISI research committee within one month of submission and applicants will receive notice by email regarding whether or not they will be asked to submit a full grant application.
- 4) If the short proposal is approved, the investigator will be asked to submit a full grant proposal. Investigators are encouraged to submit a format similar to that requested by the National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health ([NCCIH](#)) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The grant application deadline shall be December 31st of the current calendar year.
- 5) Grant applications submitted by the deadline will be reviewed by a scientific review committee selected by the RISI research committee for their knowledge of scientific research associated with the theory and practice of Structural Integration. Technical subject matter experts will be recruited as needed.

- 6) The review committee will score applications for the following points:
- Potential importance of scientific contribution
 - Innovation relevant to the field
 - Relevant expertise of the Principal Investigator and Co-Investigators
 - Adequacy of overall research strategy
 - Adequacy of institutional setting and availability of relevant facilities to carry out the proposed research
 - If human subjects are involved, proposals will be scored for adequate protections for human subjects and the inclusion of women, minorities and children
 - If animal subjects are involved, proposals will be scored based on provisions for the adequate treatment of animals
- Upon assembling average scores, the review committee will make recommendations to the RISI research committee.
- 7) Grant funding decisions will be based on score, available funding through RISI, requested terms of the grant agreements and relevance of the grant proposal to current RISI research interests.

Inexperienced Investigators

Inexperienced investigators are individuals with no prior research experience or credentialing. Such individuals may have a unique idea for research relating to structural integration but may have no idea where to start. In most cases, this type of potential investigator will not yet have institutional affiliation and be in the active stage of idea development. Members of the RISI Research Committee will be available for consultation as a prospective investigator prepares his/her project ideas to arrive at the point of submitting a funding application. Members of the RISI Research Committee will not participate in writing or preparing short proposals or funding applications. Below is a brief process guideline:

- 1) Download and review questions in the [RISI Research Development](#) document.
- 2) Are there experienced research groups in your area that have similar interests or may be open to discussing possible research avenues with you? Research universities? Clinics or hospitals with research affiliations?
- 3) Prepare your proposal. An informal, preliminary review by a member of the RISI Research Committee is available to inexperienced investigators. Please send email to researchcommittee@rolf.org
- 4) Identify credentialed investigators who might assist you in submitting funding proposals through their institution.
- 5) Be prepared to present and discuss your proposal.