SRCD Small Grants Program FAQs

Eligibility & Application Process

Is there a limit on the number of proposals I can submit?

We can accommodate only one proposal per scholar.

My colleague(s) and I are all early career investigators, may we submit a joint proposal?

Absolutely! Multiple early career scholars per submission are welcome. Include all CVs of the early career scholars involved along with the proposal and be sure to address the potential contribution of the grant to each person's professional development.

Can I apply for funds to support a secondary data analysis project?

Proposals to conduct secondary data analysis are welcome. Be sure to justify the expenses associated with the analysis (e.g. database access) in the budget and budget justification.

Can these funds be used to pursue a research training experience, a visit to another lab, or a collaboration-planning meeting?

This funding mechanism is dedicated exclusively to supporting specific research projects and cannot be used for training experiences or collaboration planning.

Can these funds be used to support PI salary?

No. The funds are meant for research expenses; however, the funds can be used to compensate research assistants and consultants.

Are non-US citizens and institutions eligible to apply?

Yes! Non-US citizens and institutions are welcome to apply.

Does the 5-years post degree limit start before or after a medical/clinical residency?

Applicants can begin counting their 5-years post degree after completing their residency.

Are indirect costs allowable or required for this proposal?

No, we are a research society, not a funding organization. Indirect costs are not allowable.

What period does this award cycle cover?

The 2025 period will begin July 1, 2025. SRCD does not set an end-date for spending project funds, but awardees will be required to submit an annual report in May of each year until their project is complete.

What is included and not included in the 1000-word limit?

Each proposal may include one (1) figure or table that **will not count** against the 1000-word limit. The figure or table must be a visual representation and should not contain more than 50 words. Additionally, a citation page **will not count** against the 1000-word limit. However, if you choose to include an appendix, this **will be counted** towards the 1000-word limit.

Can I receive the funds directly?

Funds can only go to an institution, like a research organization or university. They cannot go directly to the individual grant recipients.

What is Early Career Membership?

To be eligible for this award, applicants must be *Active SRCD Early Career Members.*
An active Early Career Membership means you have:

- Paid membership dues for *Early Career Status* SRCD membership, and
- Are within five years of receiving your doctoral degree (i.e., you completed your doctorate no earlier than January 1, 2021).
- Exceptions will be made for LMIC members and Professional Members who are within five years of their doctoral degree.

As a recipient, what do I do if I have leftover funds from my award?

Any unused funds of $100 or more must be returned to SRCD.

Is someone eligible if they already have a Ph.D. but are pursuing another one?

Yes. You may apply if your first Ph.D. falls within the eligibility timeframe and was in a field related to the call, and you are currently a student in a child development field who will complete your degree by June 1, 2025.

Can I apply if I am a medical doctor conducting child development research?

Yes. If you have completed your medical residency, you are eligible. The medical residency end date is considered equivalent to the Ph.D. graduation date.

Can my budget be used to pay research assistants?

Yes. If the organization, individuals, or materials are being utilized for the research project as consultants, research assistants, or senior advisors, the budget may be allocated to compensate them accordingly.

Can I apply if I already have my Ph.D. and am pursuing another?

If your first Ph.D. falls within the eligibility timeframe and was in a field related to the call, or if you are currently a student in a child development field who will complete your degree by June 1, 2025, you would be eligible. However, if neither condition applies, you do not meet the eligibility criteria.

Can someone who earned their Ph.D. more than five years ago serve as a PI or co-PI on the Early Career Small Grant?

No. All PIs and co-PIs must be in the early career stage, defined as within five years of receiving their Ph.D. This requirement reflects the purpose of the Early Career Small Grant, which is specifically designed to support early career scholars. Individuals who earned their Ph.D. more than five years ago are not eligible to serve as a PI or co-PI but may participate in other roles, such as consultant or senior advisor.

Post-Award Process

If I do not spend the funds by the end of the award cycle but I am still conducting the research, can I request a no-cost extension?

SRCD does not set an end-date for spending project funds, so awardees are not expected to request no-cost extensions beyond the award period unless their university requires such approval. Awardees will need to submit an annual report in May until their project is completed.

If their university does require approval, we ask that a formal request in writing be sent from their sponsored projects office to scholar@srcd.org.

What happens if I have completed the research project, but have not spent the full amount of funds?

Unused/unexpended funds exceeding $100 USD will need to be returned to SRCD.

What would happen if I were to receive the grant and get hired at another institution?

SRCD can transfer grants to the awardee's new institution after their transition. In that case, awardees will need to provide a contact person from the new institution's Sponsored Research Office.

For any other questions, please contact scholar@srcd.org.