



NMDPSM Amy Strelzer Manasevit Research Program

Grant application instructions

About the program

The Amy Research Program is dedicated to the memory of Amy Strelzer Manasevit, who received a bone marrow transplant from an unrelated donor. During her transplant recovery, Amy experienced complications that led to her death. The Amy Research Program seeks to help launch the careers of researchers seeking to discover solutions to potentially life-threatening, post-transplant or post-cell therapy complications like infection, organ toxicity, relapse and graft-versus-host disease.

NMDP will prioritize studies evaluating strategies to improve outcomes following HLA-mismatched unrelated donor (MMUD) transplantation or cell therapies involving unrelated donors, survivorship or supportive care.

Description of the award

NMDP will award up to two Amy Research Program grants in 2026. Depending on the number of quality proposals received, at least one clinical grant and one pre-clinical grant will be awarded. Each grant will equate to a total of \$400,000 over five years.

Payments will be made upon grant receipt and at six-month intervals throughout the grant period, which runs from July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2031.

Grant award recipients will use data, samples, physical collections and other supporting materials solely for performing the research activities as defined under their grant award. Any other proposed use by the grant recipient will require NMDP's prior written approval.

Research scope

- Research proposals must address complications arising after allogeneic HCT or cell therapy directed at a disease traditionally treated by HCT.
- The cell therapy being studied does not have to be given in conjunction with HCT but should have the intent to bridge to HCT. Therefore, cell therapies with targets or indications outside hematologic malignancies are not eligible. Post-transplant or post-cell therapy complications are defined as acute and late complications, including disease relapse.

- Proposals involving MMUD HCT are preferred. Such proposals could include the use of data and/or samples from NMDP-sponsored, CIBMTR-led MMUD clinical trials as available. Inquiries should be made prior to application submission.
- Submissions can only include one principal investigator (i.e., the applicant) and no co-investigators.
- Proposals may describe either clinical or pre-clinical investigations with necessary regulatory approval as necessary (e.g., IRB, IACUC, etc.).

Examples of clinical investigation:

- Observational human research
- Prospective interventional clinical trials in humans
- Ancillary laboratory studies performed in conjunction with a human prospective clinical trial

Pre-clinical investigation description:

Laboratory-based human and/or animal studies designed to test the mechanisms, safety and efficacy of an intervention prior to or in conjunction with its application in humans.

Proposals must have only one principal investigator, identified as the applicant, and no co-investigators.

Qualifications of the principal investigator

- Applicants must hold a doctoral degree (MD, PhD, DO or equivalent) received within the past 10 years (Jan. 1, 2016, or later) in a field specific to the award criteria.
- If an applicant holds more than one relevant doctoral degree, eligibility will be based on the most recent degree attained.
- Applicants may not hold a NIH R01 or equivalent research grant at the time of the award.
- Applicants must be employed by a U.S.-based research, medical or academic facility. Awardees may transfer the award to another U.S. facility during the award period if a written request with justification is submitted to NMDP for review and approval.
- Applicants must hold U.S. citizenship or have permanent residency. If a foreign citizen, applicants must carry a valid U.S. visa.
- Applicants whose careers have been interrupted may request an extension of the degree requirement by completing the [Extension Request Form](#) and emailing it to asmgrant@nmdp.org.
- If credentials for eligibility are uncertain, please email asmgrant@nmdp.org.

Application deadline and submission instructions

Proposals must be submitted by 2 p.m. Central Time on or before Thursday, Aug. 7, 2025. Please email applications to asmgrant@nmdp.org.

You will receive an email within one business day acknowledging that your application has been received. If you do not receive this email, please contact asmgrant@nmdp.org to inquire.

Budget restrictions

- Applicant proposal requests may not exceed \$400,000.
- Additional budgetary restrictions include:
 - Salary and fringe benefits for the principal investigator are limited to 25% of the total award.
 - Applicants may include a request for domestic travel to support their attendance at one scientific meeting per year of the grant period. The annual limit for such travel is \$2,000. If utilizing this stipend, it must be line-itemed within your budget proposal.
 - Equipment may only be requested in year one of the grant period and must be justified in detail. Requests for equipment exceeding \$5,000 will be subject to a separate review by NMDP.
 - Indirect costs may not exceed 8% of the total direct costs.
 - The remaining funds requested may include salary and fringe benefit support for project personnel, supplies, animal expenses or consultant subcontracts. In general, salary and fringe benefit support for clerical-related tasks should not be included.
 - Requests for NMDP resources (data queries, biostatistical support, etc.) should be identified in the budget under consultant costs but charged at \$0.00.

Application instructions

Application forms are available [here](#) and [on our website](#).

The application form must be completed in 11- or 12-point font. Page and space limits specified within the application form must not be exceeded. Use the application checklist found below to ensure that the application is complete prior to submission. Incomplete applications will be judged ineligible for consideration.

The completed proposal must include the following:

1. Completed cover sheet including required signatures.
2. Table of contents.
3. Description (abstract) of the proposed research—not to exceed 250 words.
4. Description (lay abstract) in common language of the proposed research—not to exceed 300 words.
5. Detailed budget and budget justification for initial budget period and entire period of grant.
6. Biographical sketch of principal investigator (PI).

7. Description of other research support received or pending.
 - a. Title of the project.
 - b. Period of the funding.
 - c. Total funding awarded/requested.
 - d. PI's role and effort in the project.
 - e. Areas of overlap between the Amy Research Program grant proposal and active or pending projects must be identified and addressed.
8. Resources: Provide a complete description of the resources available to support the completion of the proposed Amy Research Program project. Include a description of the facilities, computer support and all necessary major equipment available for use.
9. Research plan: The research plan must not exceed 12 pages, not including references. The plan should be organized in the following manner:
 - a. Specific aims of the project.
 - b. Description of the significance of the project with appropriate background information.
 - c. Discussion of the PI's preliminary investigations and findings.
 - d. Description of the proposed research including design and methodology.
9. List of the references cited.
10. Supporting documents. Supporting documents may include the following:
 - a. Human/Animal subject's certification. Projects proposing investigation involving human subjects must obtain appropriate Institutional Review Board (IRB) approvals. A letter of intent to seek IRB approval must be submitted with the application. Projects involving animal subjects must obtain appropriate Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) approvals.
 - b. Letters from mentors. Letters from proposed collaborators or consultants must be included. A collaborator or consultant is a person who cooperates in the implementation of a research project, other than the PI. This is mainly to distinguish someone who will be providing effort and/or counsel to the proposed research.
 - c. Letters of support. The application may include up to three letters of support obtained from senior faculty members. A letter of support would be from senior faculty who know the PI personally/professionally but will not have direct effort or counsel in the proposed research.

Acknowledgment of support

Any publications resulting from this research must acknowledge financial support of the NMDP Amy Strelzer Manasevit Research Program funded through NMDP.

Selection procedure

Applications will be evaluated by a review panel consisting of experts in the field of HCT.

Up to two Amy Scholars will be awarded and announced at the 2026 Tandem Meetings | Transplantation & Cellular Therapy Meetings of ASTCT and CIBMTR held Feb. 4-7, 2026.