
Grant Review Committee

FAQ

Who can be on the Grant Review Committee?

Applications to the Cures Within Reach (CWR) Grant Review Committee are accepted from repurposing research stakeholders – including members of academia, industry, government, disease-specific nonprofits and patient advocacy groups – who are interested in helping CWR select the most promising repurposing research for funding by sharing their knowledge and experience. Grant Reviewers participate in a volunteer capacity, without the expectation of any remuneration from CWR and without any fiduciary authority on behalf of CWR.

What are the functions of a Grant Reviewer?

Grant Reviewers may provide any of the following, within the timelines shared by CWR Staff:

- Preliminary review of all brief repurposing research proposal submissions on CWR's CureAccelerator platform, to help determine if:
 - the proposals fit within the repurposing mission and goals of CWR, and
 - the proposal ranks high enough to request a full grant submission
- Review and ranking of no more than 4 repurposing research full grant submissions per Request for Proposals that are within the area of scientific/clinical, disease or repurposing expertise of a particular Grant Reviewer, via email or online platform.
- Review of responses to Grant Reviewer comments submitted by grant applicants and re-ranking repurposing research full grant submissions based on these responses, via email.
- Possible participation in discussion of submitted reviews with CWR Staff, CWR SAB and/or other Grant Reviewers, as needed. This discussion may be completed via email, phone or group conversation.

Reviewers will be asked to provide a number score on a variety of criteria, as well as written comments, for each proposal or full grant submission they review. Purely anonymous reviewer comments may be shared with the grant applicant submitting the research, either to improve any future submissions or for the grant applicant to address before a funding decision is made.

Other potential functions of Grant Reviewers:

- Suggest other qualified and interested candidates for the Grant Review Committee
- Provide CWR staff with links to articles and connections to people relevant to our mission
- Volunteer to assist CWR in presenting approved research protocols to prospective donors at various educational and/or funding events when needed

Grant Reviewers agree to inform CWR Staff as soon as possible if they are unable to complete an assigned review for any reason before the due date, and agree to help find a suitable replacement if possible.

What are the confidentiality and conflict of interest policies of the Grant Reviewers?

Grant Reviewers understand that all information relayed to them by CWR is confidential, and may only be shared with others with the consent of CWR Staff and never with a reviewer name. Grant Reviewers may receive an annual publicly available summary of all ongoing research projects, which can be shared with others.

Grant Reviewers agree to inform CWR staff when there might be any level of conflict of interest (perceived or real) between themselves and a repurposing research submission they are asked to review. It will be a CWR Staff decision whether or not the Grant Reviewer should continue or abstain from reviewing any submission.

Where and when do Grant Reviewers participate?

There is no set schedule or commitment in order to participate as a CWR Grant Reviewer. CWR Staff will contact Grant Reviewers when support is needed. Each Grant Reviewer can opt in or out of a particular grant review request. Some Grant Reviewers may participate regularly and broadly, while others may participate sporadically and narrowly. There are no regular meetings to attend and no travel involved. All contact is electronic and phone. The average time spent per Grant Reviewer ranges from 20 - 40 minutes for each proposal review and 1 - 2 hours for each full grant review. Exact time required is controlled by each Grant Reviewer.

How long is the tenure of a Grant Reviewer?

Grant Reviewers are appointed for a term of two years, which will renew for subsequent terms unless indicated in writing or email by either the Grant Reviewer or CWR. The Grant Reviewer can end his or her participation at any time. CWR has designed this advisory capacity knowing that during their tenure, Grant Reviewers will be more available at certain times and less available at others.

How can I participate?

Potential Grant Reviewers will [complete a brief \(5 min\) online survey](#), to provide CWR more information about their background, areas of expertise and experience, along with a biosketch, CV or resume. Once the online survey is completed, CWR will begin to involve the Grant Reviewer as appropriate. When contacted about a specific review opportunity, Grant Reviewers will agree to a confidentiality agreement before conducting any reviews. Telephone or in person interviews may be conducted as needed so that CWR and the applicant can be sure this will work for both parties. CWR may include the Grant Reviewer's credentials and participation on the CureAccelerator website as appropriate.

For more information, or to ask about serving as a Grant Reviewer for a current CWR funding opportunity, contact Clare Thibodeaux, PhD, Director of Scientific Affairs, at clare@cureswithinreach.org.