[The Zenith Fellows Award Program (Zenith)](#)
Alzheimer's Association

Coordinator:	Kristin Anderson (kristin.anderson@emory.edu)
Submission Limitations:	None *(no internal selection process needed)*
Foundation Deadline:	Letter of Intent Deadline: February 8, 2022, 5 p.m. EST
Website:	https://www.alz.org/research/for_researchers/grants/types-of-grants/the_zenith_fellows_award_program_(zenith)

Please contact your RAS unit ***==*and*==*** *Kristin Anderson to inform them of your intent to submit.*

Opportunity Details:

The proposed research should address fundamental problems related to early detection, etiology, pathogenesis, treatment and/or prevention of Alzheimer's and all other dementia. The proposed research must be "on the cutting edge" of basic science or biomedical research and thus may not conform to current conventional scientific wisdom or may challenge the prevailing orthodoxy.

Areas of Focus:

Areas of focus are high-priority research areas in which the Association actively seeks proposals. The areas are defined broadly, and the examples cited are not intended to preclude or constrain other projects or proposals. Potential applicants are strongly encouraged to submit proposals in their own areas of interest or formulate questions different from those presented in this announcement. Innovative and novel ideas to address challenges in research are the core of the Association's scientific program.

The Association has identified a number of important focus areas within five broad categories:
- (1) social and behavioral features,
- (2) clinical investigations,
- (3) basic biology,
- (4) adaptive technology, and
- (5) cognitive functional studies.

Zenith proposals are restricted to basic biological studies and clinical investigations (excluding clinical trials).

Basic biology: These are bench science projects involving in vitro or animal work pertaining to the causes of dementia; early and accurate detection and diagnosis; animal models; treatments; and prevention. This may also include computation studies, such as mining existing datasets for genes linked to risk or other such studies. Please note that in vitro work involving human samples falls into this category.

Clinical investigations: Projects in which the majority of data is derived directly from studies involving active participation of human subjects. Examples include the non-clinical studies essential to evaluate potential new therapies; biomarker collection; imaging technology; and risk factors including genetics, cardiovascular issues, diabetes and metabolic factors and lifestyle issues. In vitro projects conducted in human samples should be categorized as basic biology rather than clinical investigations. Note that this definition of clinical investigation does not extend to clinical trials which will not be considered for funding under the Zenith program.

Funding and Award Period:
- We anticipate funding up to three Zenith Fellows Awards.
- Each award is limited to **$450,000 total funding** (direct and indirect costs) over a period of **up to three years**.
- Requests in any given year may not exceed $250,000 (direct and indirect costs).

Eligibility:

Only established independent investigators are eligible as evidenced by:
- Academic appointment.
- Major, peer-reviewed, external multi-year grant support on which the applicant is the principal investigator (PI).
- Independent laboratory operation.
- Quality and independence of publication record.

Only applicants who have **already contributed significantly** to the field of Alzheimer's and all other dementia research and/or have the clear likelihood of making significant contributions will be seriously considered.

The Alzheimer's Association recognizes the need to increase the number of scientists from underrepresented groups in the research enterprise. Researchers from these groups are encouraged to apply.

Key Dates
- Letter of Intent Deadline*: Feb. 8, 2022, 5 p.m. (EST)

If you are invited to submit a full application, the required materials (including the application format, templates, and instructions) will be available online at proposalCENTRAL after your LOI has been approved in the system.

- Application Deadline: March 25, 2022, 5 p.m. EST
- Application Review: April–June 2022
- Award Notifications: Aug. 15, 2022