Live In Motion
FOUNDATION

Microgrant

2026 Fall Program Manual

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Microgrant Program Overview

This one-year, $3000 grant program enables health care professionals, researchers, students, and residents to pursue high-impact quality improvement projects that seek to impact care delivery and patient outcomes. Awards are offered twice per year, in the Spring and Fall, and are selected based on the clinical relevance, feasibility, and alignment with Live in Motion Foundation's research priorities

Designed to spark new directions and accelerate early-stage work, microgrants support activities that directly impact orthotic, prosthetic, and/or pedorthic (OP&P) patient care. These grants are ideal for individuals/and or projects not eligible for another funding mechanism, small pilot projects, novel ideas, or new investigational directions.

Some suggestions for types of projects that could be funded are:

- Education, advocacy, clinical quality improvement projects.
- Proof of concept research to generate power analysis.
- Statistical assistance for a research project.
- Training courses to expand research-related skillsets
- Supplies to explore a new area of research.
- Support for an evidence-based practice project or development of secondary knowledge materials.

Research Priorities

Funded research should address one or more of the core elements (Triple Aim) of value-based care:

- Patient (Population) Outcomes
- Patient Experience of Care
- Cost of Care (per capita/per population)

AND one or more of the defined six AHRQ Quality Domains

- ***Safe***. Avoiding harm to patients from the care intended to help them. This includes preventing medical errors, adverse events, and ensuring safe practices are embedded in all care processes.
- ***Effective.*** Providing services based on scientific knowledge to all who could benefit and avoiding unnecessary or ineffective care. This domain addresses both underuse and overuse of treatments.
- ***Patient-Centered.*** Respecting and responding to individual patient preferences, needs, and values, ensuring that patient values guide clinical decisions.
- ***Timely.*** Reducing waits and harmful delays for both patients and providers, ensuring care is delivered when needed.

- ***Efficient.*** Avoiding waste of resources such as equipment, supplies, ideas, and energy, while delivering care without unnecessary costs.
- ***Equitable.*** Providing care that does not vary in quality because of personal characteristics such as geographic location, socioeconomic status, or race

Live in Motion Foundation does not fund:

- Research from non-US based institutions as primary site applicant
- Research focusing on engineering/device prototyping and/or pre-commercialization testing

Eligibility Requirements

The Principal Investigator must be:

- A currently enrolled masters or doctoral student,
- A current orthotics and/or prosthetics resident,
- A practicing orthotic, prosthetic, and/or pedorthic clinician, or
- A researcher engaged in clinically relevant orthotics and prosthetics research
- If the PI is a trainee (student or resident), the project must include a faculty mentor from the trainee's academic program or residency site.

Project Requirements:

- The primary project site must be in the United States.
- The primary research site may either be a for profit or a non-profit organization/entity.
- The proposed research must include a clinician trained and certified in orthotics, prosthetics, and/or pedorthics as a member of the project team.
- The proposed research must be clinically relevant to OP&P practice
- The proposed research must meet the requirements outlined in Live in Motion Foundation's research priorities.

Submission Requirements

☐ **Application Cover Page**

- Applicants will complete the cover page in the Live in Motion Foundation online portal.
- The Application Cover Page is also available for review/download on the Live in Motion Foundation website

☐ **Abstract** (250 words)

- Provide a concise statement of the goals of the proposed project/activity.
- Describe how the project/activity is clinically relevant to OP&P practice

- Describe how the project/activity benefits or advances the field of OP&P rehabilitation.

Project Information

The project information should be uploaded as a PDF document with a maximum of 2 pages (12 pt font, single spaced, ½" borders, 8.5" x 11" page size). This page limit only includes the sections with an asterisk (*).

☐ **Background and Significance***

- Identify a clinically relevant need or gap in OP&P. This could be a lack of training in a specific area, a need for improved practice guidelines, or a desire to pursue a research project or implement a new intervention.
- Explain how the proposed research or activity will address this gap.

☐ **Aim/Objective and Hypothesis** (if appropriate) **or Expected Outcome***

Clearly state the aim or objective of the project. If applicable, state testable hypotheses. If hypotheses are not appliable (e.g., the proposed research is qualitative or exploratory in nature), describe the expected outcomes.

☐ **Description of the Project/Activity***

- Describe the methods/approach you will take to complete the project.
- Describe the target population for your proposed activity and eligibility criteria if human subject research.
- If applicable, describe any interventions that will be evaluated.
- If applicable, describe any outcomes that will be evaluated as part of this project.
- If applicable, describe how you will collect and analyze any data collected.
- Discuss potential problems, alternative strategies, and benchmarks for success anticipated to achieve the aims.

☐ **Equipment, Training, and Skills Required***

- Describe any equipment, training, or skills that will be required for the successful completion of the project.
- Note if the equipment, training, or skills are already available to the project team, or if it will be purchased with budgeted funds from the Microgrant.

☐ **Project Timeline** (include milestones and deliverables) *

- Depict the project timeline with a graphic that shows the timing and duration of each element of the proposed activity.
- Indicate when each milestone is to be achieved.

☐ **Dissemination Plan***

- Describe how you will share the information learned or how you will use the skills developed to further the OP&P profession. How will others learn about this work and gain from the outcome of the proposed project?
- Dissemination plans can include traditional dissemination means (e.g., manuscripts, conference abstracts, posters), professional webinars, presentations to consumer or advocacy groups, information on your institution, organization, company's webpage, or similar approaches to sharing results of the project.

☐ **References**

- Include a list of references used within the application to support the need, rationale, and approach for the proposed activity.
- Format your citations and references using an accepted citing/referencing style (e.g., AMA or Vancouver).

☐ **Risks and Considerations for Human Subjects Research**

- Describe any potential risks that might keep the project from being successful.
- Note if you will be conducting Human Subjects Research requiring IRB approval. If yes, please name the IRB that will be responsible for approving the project.

☐ **Collaboration and/or Mentorship Plan**

- Biosketch for the principal investigator.
- List all personnel participating in the project/activity. Include personnel name, credentials, institution, and a 2-3 sentence biosketch for each, illustrating roles, expertise, and planned contributions to the proposed project.
- Provide a detailed description of the role, scope, and activities of the trained and certified orthotist, prosthetist, and/or pedorthist on the proposed project.
- List all organizations that will be involved in the project.

☐ **Budget, Justifications, and Facilities Description**

- Provide a budget that itemizes the cost of each item to be paid for with the award in a table format.
- When budgeting, consider if the funds are to be disbursed to an individual, the microgrant is considered taxable income and will be subject to taxes at the individuals selected tax rate.
- A budget justification should accompany the budget and should provide a narrative description of the costs included in the budget to include individual line items leading to the total cost of the project.
- Provide a budget that itemizes the cost of each item to be paid for with the award. Present this information in a table format.

- No indirect (i.e., facilities and administrative) costs will be allowed under this program.

☐ **Letters of Support**

- Include a letter or letters that indicate that the applicant's institution/organization is aware that this application is being submitted and will support the research if funded.
- If applicable, include a letter or letters that provide evidence that the PI has access to any additional resources or support needed to complete the proposed research.

Fall Microgrant Program Funding Cycle

The following are key dates and deadlines for the Live in Motion Foundation's 2026 Fall Microgrants Program. Applicants are responsible for ensuring all materials are received by the due dates.

Proposal submission portal opens..... September 1st 2026
Proposal submission deadline..... October 6th, 2026
Award notification*..... November 2026

**Award notification date is approximate and based on anticipated number of submitted applications. A greater number of submissions than expected may delay notification. Applicants will be notified if delays occur.*

Grant Disbursement

- Grant funds may be paid directly to the award recipient or the host institution/organization
- Any financial or tax liabilities associated with accepting the award will be the responsibility of the recipient (individual or organization).
- Grant funds will be made in one single payment
- The grant period begins when the funds are disbursed
- No indirect (i.e., facilities and administrative) costs will be allowed under this program.

- If human or animal subjects are included in the proposed research, the applicant will be required to provide evidence of Institutional Review Board (IRB) or Animal Care and Use Committee (ACUC) approval from the host institution before funds are disbursed. Approval is not due at the time of submission, but it will be required to receive award funds.
- The IRB approval date must be within six (6) months of the Award Letter date.
- Approval documentation must explicitly correspond to the funded project scope.
- Grant funds will not be released until acceptable IRB/IACUC approval documentation is received and verified by the Live in Motion Foundation.
- Failure to obtain or submit qualifying approval within this timeframe may result in delayed disbursement, modification of the award timeline, or forfeiture of the award, at the discretion of the Live in Motion Foundation.

Grant Reporting

☐ **Final Report**

- The final report should detail the work performed during the study period, summarize the expenditure of the award budget, and include a list of any submitted and/or anticipated publications and further research directions, including additional grant opportunities that may result from the funded research.
- Grant recipients must submit a 1–2-page final report no later than 30 days after the end of the grant period.
- The principal participant is responsible for the timely submission of the final report.
- The report should be typed and single spaced using 10–12 point font
- Legible figures may be included in the report.

Review Process

- All Live in Motion Foundation grant submissions will be reviewed by a Review Panel composed Research Committee members and ad-hoc members, as needed.
- Composition of the panel will be determined by the type and number of submissions.
- The Live in Motion Foundation Research Committee Chair and the Microgrant Program Manager will serve as the Review Chairs and serve as points-of-contact for the award program.

Review Panel

- The function of the Review Panel is to evaluate applications, including the clinical relevance of the topic, the merit of the activity/project design, the feasibility of the activity/project, and the appropriateness of the personnel and environment.

Review

- Complete applications will be assigned to two or more Review Panel members for review.
- Proposals will be evaluated and scored using a standardized review rubric on their merit and clinical relevance
- All submissions will be given a numerical score by each reviewer, and a consensus score will be generated.
- Masked consensus scores and written reviews will be provided to all applicants upon completion of the review process.
- The Live in Motion Foundation reserves the right to reduce the terms of the award, both in time and in funds, as deemed appropriate by the scope of the proposed research.
- The Review Panel may also request that applicants respond to reviewer comments regarding any part of the submission prior to rendering a final award decision.

Conflict of Interest Procedures

- The Review Panel is required to maintain confidentiality regarding all aspects of the grant review process, the proposed research, and the identity of award applicants.
- The Live in Motion Foundation will strive to review all submissions fairly and without bias.
- Reviewers for each application are required to complete the Live in Motion Foundation Conflict of Interest, Confidentiality, and Non-Disclosure Statement prior to review.
- If a submission includes proprietary or confidential information, this should be noted on the cover sheet and relevant sections of the proposal.

Notification of Applicants

- All applicants will be notified of the status of their application following review.
- Notification will include the masked consensus scores and written reviews.
- For the successful applicant, notification will also include an Award Letter, Terms and Conditions of Acceptance and information about the disbursement of funds.

No-Cost Extension

- One 6 month no-cost extension may be applied for by investigators who have been awarded a Microgrant if their project requires additional time to complete.
- A written request for a no-cost extension must be submitted to the Live in Motion Foundation Program Administrator or Research Committee Chair 30 days prior to expiration of the current award.

Ownership of Work

- Ownership of intellectual property arising from the Live in Motion Foundation sponsored funding is vested in the award recipient, per the policies of the applicant's host institution.
- The Live in Motion Foundation reserves the right to publicize all materials received while funding a particular research project; (e.g., proposals, progress reports, final reports, etc.), except for materials marked "confidential" or "proprietary."
- Award recipients are required to acknowledge the Live in Motion Foundation funding in any publication or presentation of the funded research by including the following statement:

"This presentation/work was supported (or "supported in-part" if the project was also supported by other sources) through funding from the Live in Motion Foundation."

Resubmission

- Proposals that are not awarded the Microgrant may be resubmitted for another award cycle.
- A maximum of two resubmissions following the original submission will be accepted.

- The cover page should indicate that the proposal is a resubmission, and a separate document should indicate any changes made to the proposal in response to reviewer concerns from the previous submission.
- This supplemental document should be no more than one page in length (page count is not included in the submission page limit).

Portal Instructions

- Applicants will create an account in the Live in Motion online application portal
- Once an account has been created in the portal, applicants may select the Fall Microgrant program and follow the prompts for application and proposal submission.
- Applicants can invite collaborators to the application and can track completeness and status of their submission in the portal.
- Emails generated from the Live in Motion Foundation portal may be routed to spam mail, ensure you receive emails from our system.

Contact Information

Questions may be directed to the program administrator at info@liveinmotion.org or to the Research Chair directly at research@liveinmotion.org