



---

## Innovations Program

### I. Introduction

The Innovations Program is an initiative that will provide funding to support new scientific, educational, and professional development programs and services proposed by AAA's members. **All initiatives must benefit the broad AAA membership and directly connect to the organization's [strategic plan goals](#):**

- AAA will advance knowledge and its application in anatomical sciences through research and education
- AAA will promote lifelong professional development of a diverse membership within the association
- AAA will lead in science communication
- AAA will infuse diversity, inclusion, and equity into all aspects of its activities
- AAA will strengthen the infrastructure and governance necessary to fulfill its strategic goals and mission

### II. Innovations Program Objectives

This initiative is designed to improve member engagement in innovation efforts for the association. The Innovations Program should not be confused with AAA's [Outreach Grants](#) or the [Fellows Grant Award Program](#) (FGAP). This program focuses on looking inward - advancing the organization and aiding AAA members in obtaining support for ideas that create and advance resources for our membership; while outreach grants focus on looking outward - expanding the organization's reach and visibility with other organizations.

The Innovations Program is established to creatively support Innovations by:

- 1) Facilitating the development and expansion of learning and research relating to the [mission of AAA](#);
- 2) Providing resources to support the practice of Innovations in the scientific community.

### III. Innovations Program Funding Mechanism

The 2018 Innovations Program will provide awards of up to \$50,000 each with financial support coming from the organization's Journal Trust Fund. The funds are for total direct costs only. Indirect costs are not allowed.

### IV. Innovations Program Eligibility

The intended audiences for the Innovations Program are AAA members, Anatomy Connected Communities and/or Committees. Members, Communities, and Committees directly support the organization's **mission of advancing anatomical science through research, education, and professional development**. Volunteers involved with committees provide broad scientific expertise as well as a commitment to AAA's success. NIH-style research grant proposals for single or multiple PI projects will generally not be considered. Queries regarding possible project proposals can be made to Senior Director, Communications and Marketing, [Elizabeth Austin](#), who will pass along the query to the executive committee.

## **V. Application Submission Process**

A one-page letter of intent is due June 15, 2018. This letter should provide an abstracted version of the larger proposal. Please provide a short overview (in one page) of the proposed project, including intended audience, intended use of funds, and benefit to AAA and its members. The Letter of Intent should be [submitted online](#). Applicants will be notified the week of July 9 about whether they are approved to submit a full proposal. Full applications are due by September 4, 2018. Proposals will receive their initial funding in the 2019 calendar year.

## **VI. Innovations Program Guidelines**

Each applicant and/or group (Committee/Community) invited to submit an full application proposal must do so in the following format.

1. Proposal Abstract (one-half page)
2. Specific Aims (no more than one page)
3. Significance (this section, Innovations and Approach should not exceed 6 pages)
4. Innovations
5. Approach (be sure to include how success will be assessed)
6. References Cited
7. Budget and Budget Justification
8. Biosketch of Principal Investigator or description of committee/community member's responsibilities with respect to grant (grant submitted by a Committee/Community)

## **VII. Peer Review Process**

A two-tier review process will include an initial review of letters of intent by the executive committee, and then an independent review committee for the full proposals, which will make recommendations to the AAA Board of Directors.

## **VIII. Award Requirements**

Upon award, 75% of the award amount will be distributed initially, 15% after acceptance of the mid-term progress report and 10% after acceptance of the final report. Recipients are required to present results from their projects/research to the AAA Board of Directors and in a session at the annual conference (Experimental Biology).

## **IX. Contact Us**

For additional information or questions about the Innovations Grants Program, please email Elizabeth Austin, [eaustin@anatomy.org](mailto:eaustin@anatomy.org). Examples of funded grants may be found on the website at [www.anatomy.org](http://www.anatomy.org).