



National MS Society Information Sourcebook

www.nationalmssociety.org/sourcebook

Research Funding

The nationwide network of National MS Society chapters provides the lion's share of support for the Society's research program. Of the unrestricted income that chapters share with the Home Office, half goes toward MS research programs.

These programs also receive half of the Home Office's share of direct mail net income and 100 percent of all donations restricted to research. This includes gifts received through the Research Honor Roll—a program that recognizes Society chapters that facilitate research gifts or provide research-restricted money from reserves, which is above and beyond the share that normally goes to the Home Office.

The research programs' budget supports research grants and contracts and training fellowships, the peer review process, funding for national and international scientific workshops and conferences, and staff and other administrative costs involved in running the program.

The National MS Society does not itself perform research or run a research facility. It provides money to investigators to conduct research and to receive research training. The Home Office of the Society centrally coordinates the evaluation of research and research training proposals that are either initiated by the Society or initiated by the investigators.

The decisions to fund a research or training project follow recommendations made by peer committees, made up of prominent and respected investigators in the fields of research related to multiple sclerosis. Each grant application is reviewed by these experts for its quality and relevance to MS. Many proposals may be recommended for funding, but it sometimes happens that more high-quality research proposals are recommended for funding than there are funds available to support them. Investigators who have submitted the best of the qualifying proposals are given grants, to the extent that research monies are available.

The National MS Society funds more MS research than any other voluntary agency in the world. Additional funds for multiple sclerosis research are provided by federal granting agencies such as the National Institute of Neurologic Disorders and Stroke (NINDS), the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), the Veterans Administration, the Department of Education's National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research, by foreign MS societies and governments, and by the pharmaceutical industry. Together with the U.S. government's National Institutes of Health, the National MS Society is currently co-funding six research

projects focusing on gender differences in the immune response. The Society has also collaborated with the American Academy of Neurology to create the NMSS-AAN MS Clinician Scientist Development Award, in an effort to foster young clinician-scientists with demonstrated potential to make significant contributions to MS clinical research.

See also...

Sourcebook

- Research

Society Web Resources

- Funding Programs
www.nationalmssociety.org/ResearchFunding
- FAQ about Society-Funded MS Research
www.nationalmssociety.org/ResearchFAQ
- Research Fact Sheet
www.nationalmssociety.org/ResearchFactSheet

The National Multiple Sclerosis Society is proud to be a source of information about multiple sclerosis. Our comments are based on professional advice, published experience, and expert opinion, but do not represent individual therapeutic recommendations or prescription. For specific information and advice, consult your personal physician.

To contact your chapter, call **1-800-FIGHT-MS** (1-800-344-4867) or visit the National MS Society web site: www.nationalmssociety.org.

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