



Bob Sammons Clinical TMS Research Grant Application Cover Sheet

Applicant Information (Please complete all information below)

Principal Investigator (Full name):

Position Title:

Institution/Healthcare Practice:

For M.D. applicants, year residency was completed:

For Ph.D. Applicants, year degree was awarded:

Mentor (Please list full name):

Number of peer-reviewed publications (total/first authored, last authored):

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Foundation for the Advancement of Clinical TMS (FACTMS) is to raise awareness of TMS as a treatment option, provide education about TMS therapy, and expand access worldwide.

Please provide a 250-statement on how your proposal best fits the FACTMS mission.

2026 Bob Sammons Clinical TMS Research Grant Application Guidelines

Application Acceptance Period: **December 8, 2025 to March 31, 2026**

The **Foundation for the Advancement of Clinical TMS (FACTMS)** is the non-profit sister organization of the Clinical Society of Clinical TMS Society. The mission of FACTMS is to raise awareness of Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS) treatment options, provide education about TMS therapy, and expand treatment access worldwide. **The FACTMS Bob Sammons Clinical TMS Research Grant (BSRG)** offers **up to \$25,000 a year for up to two (2) years** to enable promising investigators to fund pilot research in the field of TMS.

The BSRG program is intended to facilitate and support innovative, translational and/or clinical research using TMS. All research must be relevant to our understanding, treatment and prevention of serious psychiatric disorders such as: schizophrenia, bipolar, mood or anxiety disorders, dementia, and other brain or behavior disorders.

This Grant can be used to support the full range of relevant neurobiological and psychobiological clinical science, which can include careful studies using qualitative research approaches or which generate preliminary data to explore new hypotheses generated by clinical experience or large sample studies.

The **FACTMS Bob Sammons Clinical TMS Research Grant** is not sufficient to support expensive large sample patient-based studies, but may possibly attach a study to a clinical project already underway, or one which is already partially funded. Some examples of preliminary clinical studies include:

1. Supporting an add-on study identifying biomarkers in the course of an ongoing TMS clinical trial.
2. Determining if a computer-based cognitive or other remediation enhances TMS effectiveness.
3. Proof of principle study to detect efficacy with a new type or variation of TMS treatment.
4. Testing a novel hypothesis within an already established data set.

These examples do not define the Foundation's specific goals but rather illustrate the feasibility of clinical research in the context of the **BSRG** Program. The Foundation is committed to spending all contributions for direct support of research. Administrative cost of review is low, because reviewers are members of the Foundation's Grant Award Committee, volunteering their time to evaluate grant applications. Therefore, **no feedback can be provided to applicants regarding their proposals.**

GRANT REQUIREMENTS:

1. **BSRG** welcomes diversity with applications including gender, race, ethnicity, and culture of the applicant, and geographic location of their proposed work.
2. Applicants must have a doctoral degree, and be early in their research careers. *Pre-doctoral students and faculty who already serve(d) as a principal investigator (PI) on a NIH R01 grant are not eligible.*
3. Applicants must have a mentor or senior collaborator who is an established investigator, preferably with clinical or research experience in the area relevant to the proposal. The mentor role is necessary for early career investigators or those newly embarking in research, but a more senior colleague/advisor is sufficient for a more seasoned investigator prepared to initiate independent scientific studies. Assistance is available in identifying a mentor through FACTMS.
4. Only one principal investigator is allowed per application.

5. Funding is for one or two years, at up to \$25,000 per year. **The Foundation does not pay institutional overhead on this Grant Program.**
6. The Foundation allows considerable flexibility in the use of funds: equipment, stipends, etc., which are all acceptable as long as they support the service of the research project.
7. Applications must be submitted by **March 31, 2026, no later than 11:59 pm Eastern Time.**
8. Grant approval notifications should be mailed in **April 2026.** **It is the Foundation's policy to provide no feedback on applications,** except funding notifications. The earliest Grant funding date is **July 1, 2026.**

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

- Email applications to info@factms.org in **a single PDF document**, beginning with the cover sheet attached below.
 - Each section must start on a separate page, and must not exceed the maximum page limit for each item, and must follow the order of documents listed below.
 - Label each section, including the applicant's name in the upper right corner of each page.
 - Follow NIH format guidelines: Arial, Helvetica, Palatino Linotype, or Georgia fonts sized 11 or larger with a minimum of ½ inch margins.
- a) **Mission Statement** – A **250-word** statement must describe how both your background and your proposal best fit the Foundation's mission (*see below for more information & Mission Statement*).
 - b) **Abstract (maximum 500 words)** – a summary of the research project, written in lay terms. If the proposal is funded, this material may be used in the Foundation's announcements.
 - c) **Applicant C.V. (maximum 5 pages)** – **NIH bio sketch** OR the biography portion of the curriculum vitae only, with current grant support listed.
 - d) **Research Proposal (2 page maximum, with no appendices)** – fully outline the project goals to be accomplished within the grant period. The project should be described in sufficient detail to elucidate hypothesis, significance, sample size, feasibility, and central methodology. Figures, tables, diagrams, etc., are included within the 2-page limit.
 - e) **Research Training & Future Career Plans (maximum ½ page)** – brief description of present or recently completed research training and applicant's future career plans related to TMS research.
 - f) **Budget (maximum 1 full page in itemized table format in US \$)** – a full budget description specifying the amount requested, with brief justification, specifying whether the application is for a one or two-year grant. Requests must not exceed \$25,000 per year. The budget should define the unique contribution of this grant to the proposed research activities, noting any impact this grant may have on other institutional support available to the applicant. **Specific assurance that receipt of this grant will not result in duplication of funding or a reduction of support from the host institution is required.** *The Foundation does not pay institutional overhead on the FACTMS Bob Sammons Clinical TMS Research Grant.* The applicant's other research funding sources and amounts must be listed, including support which is still pending.
 - g) **Mentor or Advisor Letter (1 page maximum per mentor)** – a letter from a mentor describing how the grant will enhance the applicant's training or facilitate transition to an independent

investigator of relevance to the Foundation's mission, including the mentor's commitment to facilitate the specific research proposal. If the mentor believes the candidate can complete this research independently, and if the mentor would function more as an advisor, the letter should convey those details. A separate letter from an additional mentor may be included if that mentor provides an area of expertise not otherwise available, and if included, must explain the second mentor's unique role in the project, and not simply be a letter of support.

- h) Mentor/Advisor C.V. (maximum 5 pages per Mentor/Advisor) – NIH bio sketch OR the biography portion of the curriculum vitae only.**
- i) References (maximum 1 page, optional) –** a listing of up to fifteen bibliographical references may be included.
- j) Collaborator Letter (maximum 1 page per collaborator, optional) –** letter of commitment from essential project collaborators (not letter of reference), addressed to the applicant, briefly explaining the specific contribution and confirming a willingness to collaborate.
- k) Institutional or Health Care Practice Assurance Letter (maximum 1 page) –** must include the applicant's **institution's authorized signature (i.e., Grants & Contracts/Sponsored Research Office or clinical practice owner or administrator)**, signifying the institution's acceptance and acknowledgment of these guidelines.
- ❖ IRB approval for human subjects must be verified (do not include IRB information with the application), and institutional acceptance of the Foundation Grant Agreement confirmed, before the Grant is awarded.
- ❖ In fairness to all applicants, extra or supplemental material (i.e., appendices) will **NOT** be considered or reviewed. All application instructions must be followed exactly, since applications not following these guidelines will be administratively rejected.
- ❖ Funds may be granted to universities, institutions, medical practices, or centers. All international applicants are welcome to apply. Researchers need not be U.S. citizens, however if they are currently working under a Visa, it must not expire sooner than 6 months following the end of the BSRG Grant period.
- ❖ Deliverables or preliminary results should be available for presentation or submitted for publication by the end of the Grant Period.

For inquiries, please email: info@factms.org