



## **Request for Application - Martha Clare Morris Emerging Investigator Award**

Rush Institute for Healthy Aging and the Division of Community Epidemiology, in Partnership with the International Alzheimer's Association, are inviting applications for the second year of the Martha Clare Morris Emerging Investigator Award.

The Martha Clare Morris Emerging Investigator Award aims to fund early-career investigators focusing on dietary research and cognitive aging. Dr. Morris pioneered nutrition epidemiology and studied the link between diet and Alzheimer's disease. Her research revealed various nutrients associated with a lower risk of Alzheimer's and cognitive decline. Taking results from her research, she developed the Mediterranean-Dash Intervention for Neurodegenerative Delay (MIND) to prevent cognitive decline. This award is dedicated to honoring her legacy and scientific contributions.

This program aims to provide newly independent investigators with funding that will allow them to develop preliminary or pilot data, test procedures, and develop hypotheses. The intent is to support early-career development that will lay the groundwork for future research grant applications to federal or other funding entities.

### **Eligibility:**

- Applications from early career investigators are encouraged, i.e., post-doctoral fellow, resident fellow, or Assistant Professor at Rush University Medical Center.
- New investigators previously unfunded are preferred but not required.
- Basic science, clinical, and epidemiological research studies will be considered.

### **Proposal Review:**

- Significance of the question being studied.
- Applicant information – including the training of the PI insofar as it enables them to perform the work proposed, qualifications of the collaborators, and the expertise they bring to the project.
- Quality of the work plan – including novelty and innovation of the proposed project; additionally, projects that involve human subjects will be evaluated on planned recruitment efforts.
- Quality and adequacy of available resources and budget.
- Impact-Risk of the proposal and how it will add to the field's overall knowledge and advancement.

### **Funding Amounts:**

- Up to \$20,000 is available per award. Indirect costs are not allowed.

### **Complete Proposal Sections Include:**

#### **Part 1**

- Lay Project Summary/Abstract (maximum 300 words)
- Full proposal (two pages)
- Biosketches for each co-PI – One-page maximum

#### **Part 2**

- A budget and budget justification in NIH format should be included and be separate from the two-page limit.

**Proposal Formatting:**

- The proposal should be two pages long (Arial 11-point font, single-spaced, with one-inch margins).

**Timeline:**

- Application Period Opens: November 1, 2023
- Submission Closes: November 30, 2023
- Award Notice: December 15, 2023

**Proposal Submissions:**

Please compile the documents into two merged PDF documents and submit them via <https://forms.office.com/r/HVLbPLbTJB?origin=lprLink>

Please contact [Rosemarie\\_Folino@rush.edu](mailto:Rosemarie_Folino@rush.edu) if you have questions or require additional information about this award.