



American
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AHA FUNDING OPPORTU

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SRA INTERNATIONAL
ANNUAL MEETING
CHICAGO 2024
OCTOBER 26-30

BREAKING BARRIERS:
TOGETHER TOWARDS TOMORROW





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Agenda

- Introduction
- Grant Funding Opportunities at AHA
- Overview of the Grant Submission Process
- Career Development Opportunities
- Final tips and takeaways



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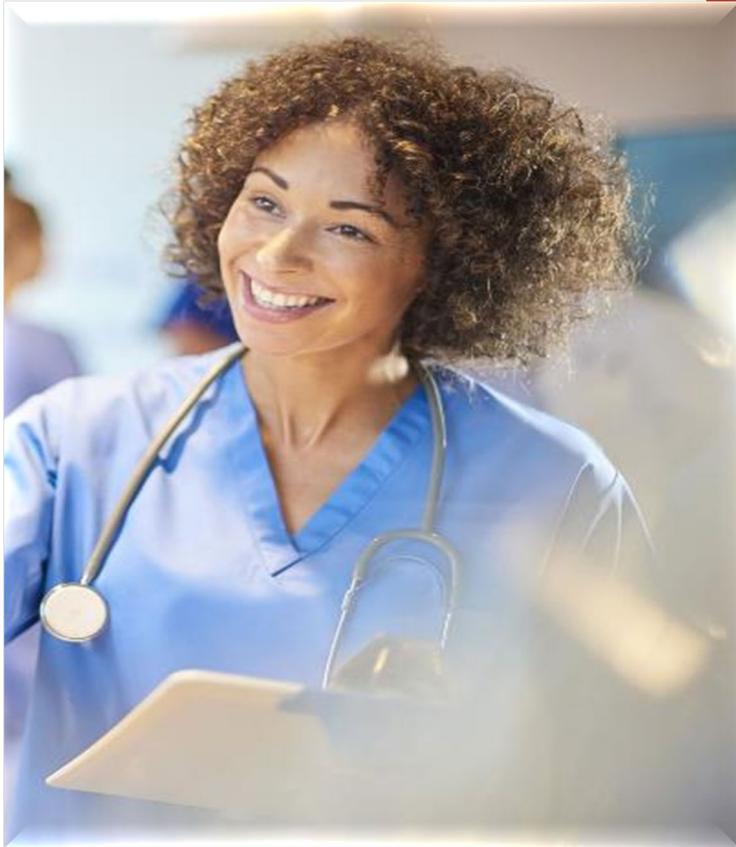
AHA MISSION

To be a relentless force for a world of longer, healthier lives



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AHA Research



- **\$5.9 billion since 1949**
- **1,800 active awards**
- **Nearly \$490M committed**
- **FY25:**
 - **> 2,400 volunteers reviewed nearly 5,000 proposals**



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Research: The Foundation of Our Work

\$5.9 billion
since 1949

1,800 active awards
totaling
\$488 million



2,445 volunteers
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5,000 proposals



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Grant Funding Opportunities at AHA



AHA Research Awards

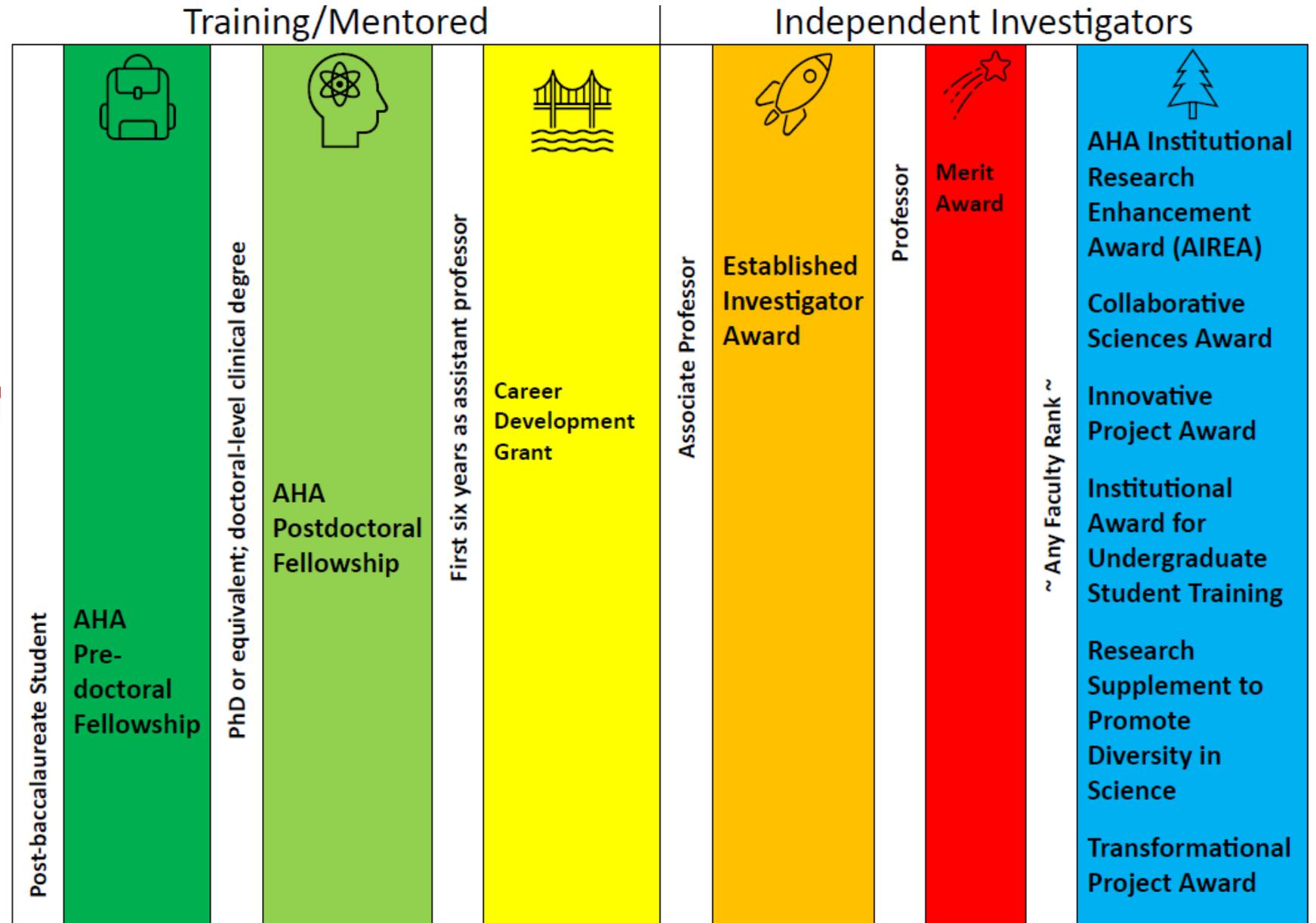
- open to all **academic** and health professionals
- broadening our reach – engineers, psychologists, computer scientists, etc.
- clinical, translational, population, behavioral, and basic science
- strongly encourage applications by women, those from groups under-represented in research, those with non-traditional career trajectories
- strong interest in health equity, social determinants of health, structural racism





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AHA Funding Across Career Stages



RESEARCH PROGRAM OFFERINGS FY24-25

Program	Description/Target	Award Amount	Duration
Institutional Undergraduate Student Award	To institutions that can offer a meaningful research experience to undergraduate college students.	Total Award Amount: \$160,000 Sept 11th, 2024	3 Years Jan 1 start
AHA Predoctoral Fellowship	Enhances the training of promising students in pre-doctoral or clinical health professional degree training programs and who intend careers as scientists, clinician-scientists, or related careers. Supports non-citizen, non green card holders.	Total Award Amount: Approx. \$70,000 for 2 years Mirrors NIH Scale Sept 4th, 2024	1 or 2 Years Jan 1 start (flexibility)
AHA Postdoctoral Fellowship	Enhances the training of postdoctoral applicants who are not yet independent. The applicant must be embedded in an appropriate investigative group with the mentorship, support, and relevant scientific guidance of a research mentor. Supports non-citizen, non green card holders.	Total Award Amount: Approx. \$150,000 for 2 years Mirrors NIH Scale Sept 5th, 2024	1 or 2 Years Jan 1 start (flexibility)

RESEARCH PROGRAM OFFERINGS FY24-25

Program	Description/Target	Award Amount	Duration
Research Supplement to Promote Diversity in Science	Under the mentorship of a current AHA awardee, this mechanism supports predoctoral and postdoctoral fellows from underrepresented groups in science. <i>Broadened eligibility as of 2023</i>	Total Award Amount: matches NIH scales as per other AHA fellowships Feb 6th, 2025	1 or 2 Years April 1 start
Career Development Award	Highly promising investigators who are newly in or are transitioning into their first non-training position (must have faculty/staff appointment at time of award activation).	Total Award Amount: \$231,000 Dec 5th, 2024	3 Years April 1 start
AHA Institutional Research Enhancement Award (AIREA)	Supports researchers at institutions that have not been major recipients of NIH support. Goals: support meritorious research; expose students to research; enhance research environment.	Total Award Amount: \$200,000 Sept 12th, 2024	2 Years <i>Award size increased</i>

RESEARCH PROGRAM OFFERINGS FY24-25

Program	Description/Target	Award Amount	Duration
Innovative Project Award	High risk/high reward type projects. <i>Preliminary data is not accepted.</i> However, a solid rationale for the work must be provided.	Total Award Amount: \$200,000 Pre-proposal Due Dec 5th	2 Years
Transformational Project Award	Supports next logical step of an investigator's previous work. Should be suggestive of a high probability of success in new avenue; should include preliminary data.	Total Award Amount: \$300,000 Feb 13th, 2025	3 Years
Collaborative Sciences Award	Two or more primary investigators from disparate disciplines to work on a project that is achievable only with combined efforts. <ul style="list-style-type: none">At least one investigator at early or mid-career stage	Total Award Amount: \$1,000,000 Pre-proposal due Oct 3rd	3 Years Award size increased

RESEARCH PROGRAM OFFERINGS FY23-24, FY24-25

Program	Description/Target	Award Amount	Duration
Established Investigator Award	Mid-career investigators (Associate Professors) with great promise, established records, demonstrated commitment.	Total Award Amount: \$550,000 Pre-proposal Due Oct 2nd	5 Years <i>Award size increased</i>
Merit Award	Exceptional scientists with established track records, who propose novel approaches to major research challenges, potential for high impact.	Total Award Amount: \$1,000,000 LOI due Sept 10th	5 Years

<https://professional.heart.org/en/research-programs/aha-funding-opportunities>



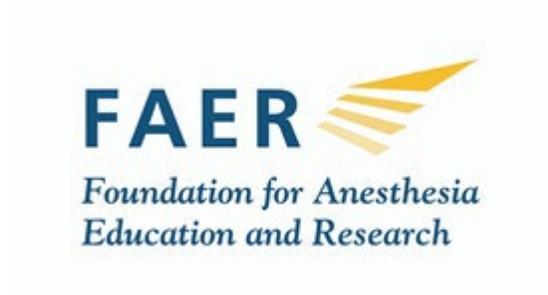
Joint Funding Organizations

Research focused on

- congenital heart defects
- effects of walnut consumption on health-related outcomes
- Barth Syndrome
- Rheumatic Heart Disease

Early Career Researchers in

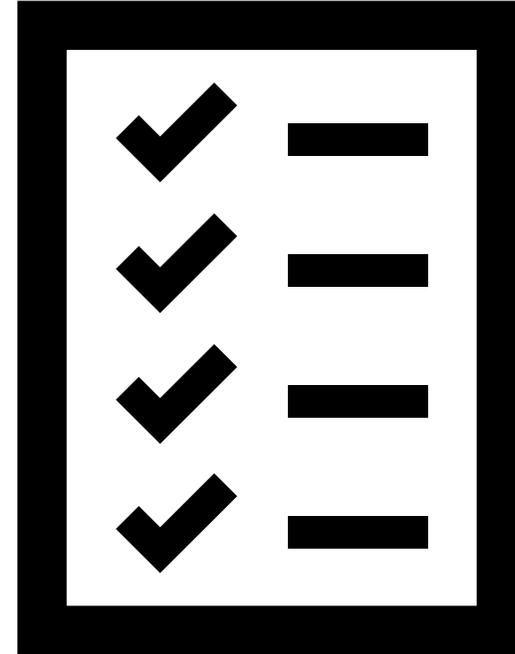
- clinical vascular science
- anesthesiology
- cerebrovascular research related to vascular neurology, stroke and neurocritical care





Other Programs

**Check website for
unique/one-time
programs**



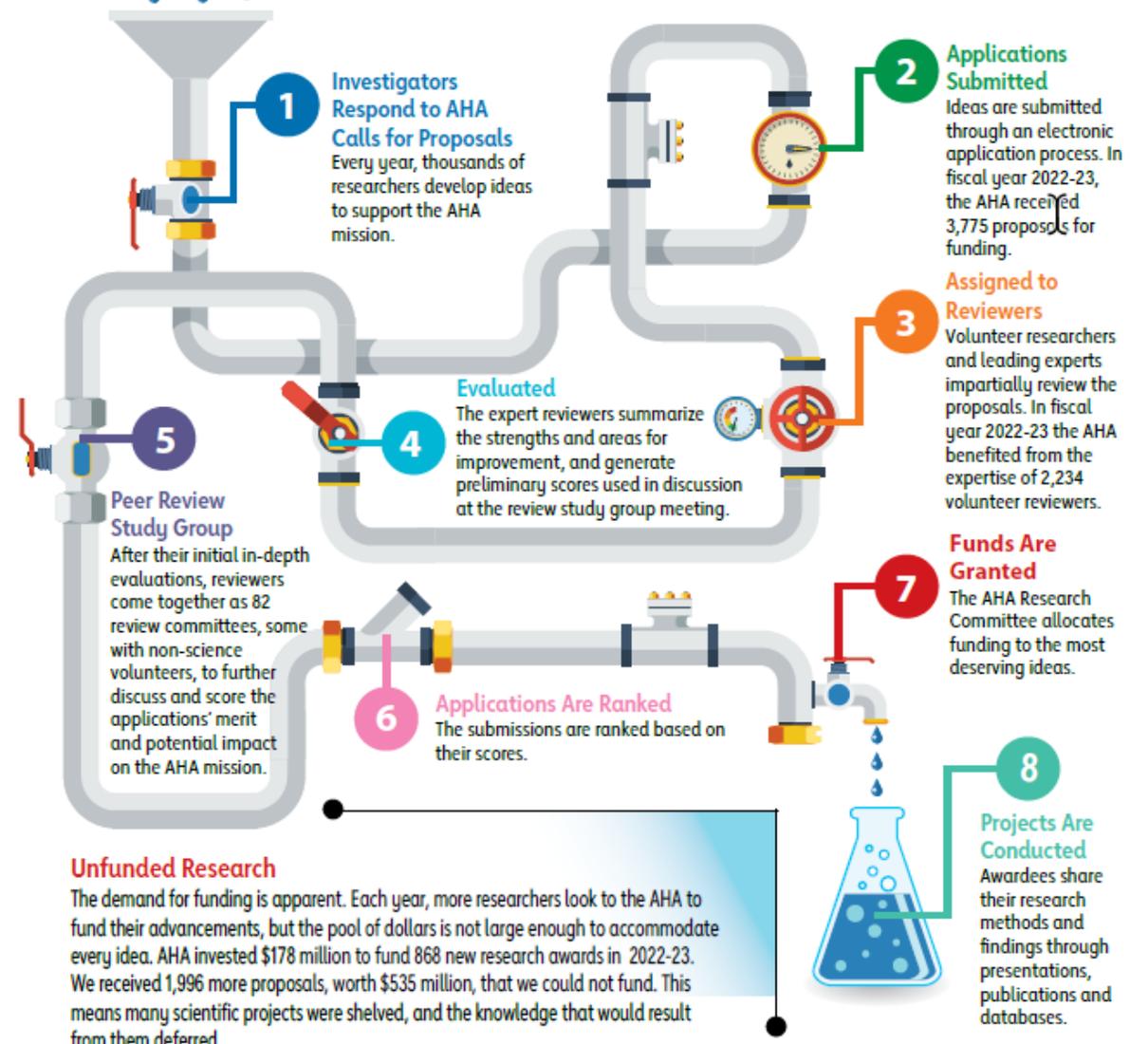
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Overview of the Grant Submission Process

AHA Funding Process

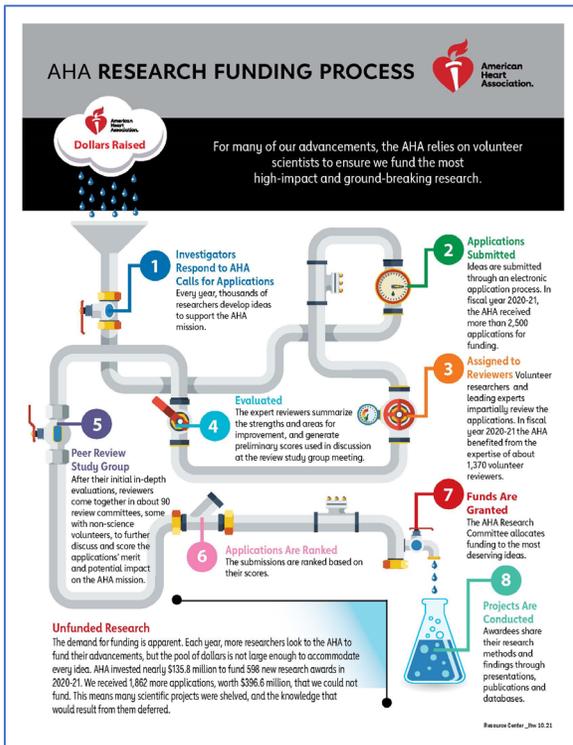


Optimize Funding Chances

Application Resources

<https://professional.heart.org/en/research-programs/application-information#resources>

Internal and external tools: Fact sheets, articles, videos, online tools



- AHA Research Application & Award Process
- Step-by-step application instructions
- Lay summary
- Career development plan
- Biosketch
- Writing a proposal
- Peer Review & scoring



PREPARE YOUR DOCUMENTS

- ✓ Application software is Proposal Central
- ✓ Opens about 60 days prior to deadline
- ✓ Work on your uploads in advance
- ✓ Link to Required Application Documents from top of every RFP page





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Career Development/Service Opportunities



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Becoming an AHA Peer Reviewer

- All ranks
- Basic, clinical and population research expertise
- Research experience needed (funding, publication record)
- Excellent experience
- Scientifically stimulating, see the newest science, important academic service, meet new investigators, establish new collaborations, potential leadership opportunity

JOIN OUR TEAM

- **Peer Reviewer Home Page**
[Peer Review - Professional Heart Daily | American Heart Association](#)

- **Peer Review Contact**
peerreview@heart.org



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Final Tips and Takeaways



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APPLICATION TIPS



- ✓ Some require pre-proposal (LOI)
- ✓ Follow the instructions on ProposalCentral screens & AHA Application Instructions..... document
- ✓ Apply@Heart.org

WEBINARS

Watch our website for webinar schedules. Learn about upcoming AHA Research award offerings.

Get answers to your questions!

Quarterly Overview Schedule:
[Professional.heart.org/
Application-Resources](https://professional.heart.org/Application-Resources)

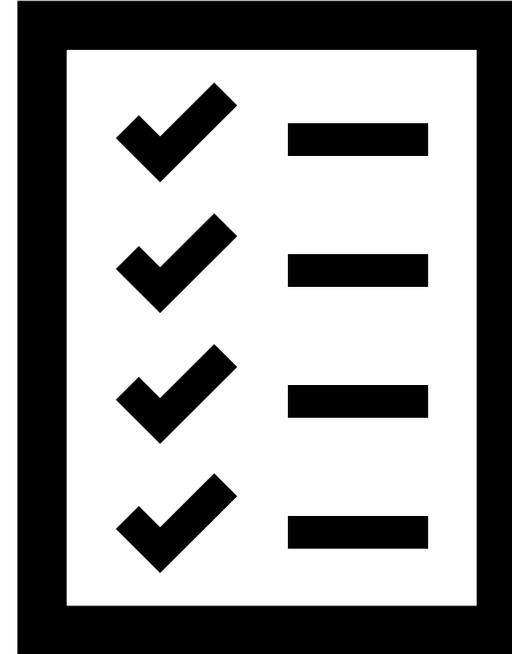
Strategic Award Sessions
Listed on each RFP page

Special webinars for new or
one-time funding opportunities



Website Updated Regularly

**Check for latest
information on
AHA funding**



<https://professional.heart.org/en/research-programs/aha-funding-opportunities>

Thank You

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<https://professional.heart.org/en/research-programs>



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