ALTA
Alpha-1-Antitrypsin
Laurell’s Training Award

GRIFOLS
SCIENTIFIC AWARDS

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ALTA

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THE ALPHA-1-ANTITRYPsin LAURELL’S TRAINING AWARD

A primary goal of the Alpha-1-Antitrypsin Laurell’s Training Award (ALTA) is to identify and engage investigators (both physicians and scientists) who are early in their careers in a longstanding commitment to investigating alpha-1-antitrypsin deficiency (AATD). In awarding 2 grants, the goal/intention is to award one grant for a clinical proposal and a second for a basic research proposal. Another objective of the ALTA award is to strengthen the network between scientists and clinicians working in the field of AATD, facilitating the collaboration between research institutions.

ABOUT THE ALTA PROGRAM

Grifols is a global biotherapeutic and biotechnology company that discovers, develops and produces treatments and services for patients with AATD. Grifols is committed to identify and support innovative clinical and scientific research by young investigators aimed at gaining more insight into AATD. By offering these 2 ALTA Awards, Grifols helps to identify new standards of care for this disease. The ALTA Program was launched in 2004 and has supported 13 years of research in AATD. This program ensures Grifols continual presence in the AATD research field. Two fellowships per year are funded by Grifols with 50,000E each for a 12-month period. Research projects aimed at providing new insights into the epidemiology, pathophysiology, clinical course, or treatment of AATD are invited to enter. Because Alpha-1-Antitrypsin is increasingly appreciated to play a role in a variety of disorders, proposals addressing AATD-associated diseases will also be considered.

WHO CAN APPLY

The ALTA award is available to early career clinicians, fellows-in-training, scientists, and other Alpha-1 health care professionals under the age of 40. Individuals who are already working in the extended field of AATD as well as those new to the field are eligible to apply for the grant. Investigators seeking to conduct all or some of their research during the ALTA fellowship at another national or international institution are especially encouraged to enter the competition. The successful candidate will articulate both her/his candidacy for the award (i.e., a candidate who is well trained to conduct the proposed research, an impactful project that can be materially completed in the 1 year funding window, a favorable environment that is conducive to the proposed research, and strong and committed research mentorship) as well her/his vision of the impact of this award on their sustainable and long-term commitment to AATD-based research. Other favorable features of the successful application will include evidence of collaboration across centers in the proposed work, scientific relevance and impact.
EVALUATION AND SELECTION OF RESEARCH PROPOSALS

Applications are evaluated based on merit, innovation, impact, and research environment/qualifications of the applicant. Emphasis in the review of proposals will be placed on:

1. The candidate’s personal statement of career goals and clear articulation of the impact of the award on the candidate’s long-term involvement with AATD,

2. The caliber of the proposed research (i.e., impact, feasibility, relevance), and

3. The environment in which the work is conducted (i.e., the contribution of the setting, the commitment and caliber of research mentorship). A Review Board of external experts and one Grifols expert in Alpha-1-Antitrypsin will assess and rank the grant applications.

TIMELINES FOR THE ALTA PROGRAM

Deadline for submission of letter of intent: 1st March 2019
Deadline for submission of full proposal: 31st May 2019
Award ceremony: September 2019 at the ERS Congress, Madrid, Spain
Start of funding period: September/October 2019

HOW TO APPLY

The application form and additional information can be found at: www.alta-awards.com