

UMD CATALYST GRANT APPLICATION

GUIDELINES AND REQUIREMENTS

UMD Catalyst Grant Process

This application is intended for investigators who want to catalyze research projects which aim to improve and/or accelerate diagnosis, treatment and care of patients and families with an inherited metabolic disease. Therefore, only projects that meet the following criteria are eligible for funding:

- The project fits within the objectives of the UMD,
- The project fits within one (or more) of the UMD themes,
- The project fits within the research questions of the [Kennisagenda](#),
- The project contains a clear financial substantiation,
- The project is a collaboration between two or more UMD academic centers, or a patient organization and one or more academic centers. The contribution of each partner is clearly specified.

In case an application does not meet (one of) these criteria, please indicate the reason for deviation.

There will be four UMD Catalyst Grant rounds per year and thus there will be a quarterly deadline for submitting applications. Exact dates for the quarterly deadline will be announced on the [UMD website](#). Decisions will be made and communicated within six weeks after the submission deadline.

The number of projects that is selected for funding depends on the quality of applications as well as on the available budget. The overall success rate in the period 2019-2023 was 48%.

Each proposal is initially reviewed by 3 members of the UMD Catalyst Grant committee and evaluated according to the following criteria:

- quality of the project design
- novelty of the proposed project
- eligibility based on criteria (incl. financial substantiation, project is a collaboration between different centers)
- impact on lives of metabolic patients
- feasibility of the project (incl. budget)

The possible outcomes of this assessment are

- appropriate for funding
- awarded in case of sufficient funding
- extensive revision and/or more data required
- not appropriate for funding

The Catalyst Grant committee reserves the right to inquire additional (minor) information from the applicants for proposals evaluated by the committee as 'appropriate for funding' and 'awarded in case of sufficient funding'.

In addition, these proposals will be reviewed by a patient panel, which focuses on the 'impact on lives of metabolic patients' and 'layman summary' sections. Based on their assessment, the panel advises the Catalyst Grant committee to either 1) select the project for funding, or to 2) request revision of the 'impact on lives' and/or 'layman summary' sections. The final decision will be taken by the Catalyst Grant committee.

Kennisagenda

In 2023, the '*Kennisagenda voor erfelijke metabole ziekten*' (Research agenda for inherited metabolic diseases) has been published, where the priorities of metabolic research for the coming decade have been specified. UMD places high importance on research proposals that align with the priorities outlined in the *Kennisagenda*.

To consult the *Kennisagenda*, please refer to

https://www.unitedformetabolicdiseases.nl/resources/Kennisagenda_digitaal.pdf. *

* An English translation can be requested via info@umd.nl.

Requested budget

Applicants can submit a UMD Catalyst Grant application for one of the three categories (0-5 K, 5-10 K and 10-15 K). In case the total budget for the proposed work exceeds the budget of the specific UMD Catalyst Grant category, applicants are required to specify the part that will be covered by the UMD Catalyst Grant fund and how additional funds will be obtained. In the case additional funding has already been requested, please also indicate if the additional funding is awarded how this will affect the amount that is requested in the UMD application. Please note that institutional overhead charges will not be covered.

Reporting

A short report summarizing the findings and financial reporting (incl. specification of expenditures and deviations from the submitted budget) will be due after the indicated completion date of the project. These reports should also include a short Dutch lay summary which can be used for communication to the public (~ 150 words).

General requirements and information

- The main applicant should either be affiliated to an UMC or a registered patient organization and should be appointed at their institution for the entire duration of the submitted project. By submitting an application, all applicants endorse the UMD mission and approve listing of their name as UMD health professional / researcher.
- Per Catalyst Grant round, a researcher can submit *one* proposal as an applicant, he/she can be involved in more applicants as a participating investigator.
- Proposals must be written in English.
- A digital version of the application must be submitted through the UMD website before the deadline to be taken into consideration for the quarterly funding round. Dates of upcoming deadlines will be communicated through the UMD website.
- Proposals can only be resubmitted when reviewers have indicated that more data or information is required and the proposal has been (substantially) revised.
- In case the Catalyst Grant is awarded, the applicants are expected to present their study results at a future UMD meeting or UMD symposium upon request. The laymen summary will be published



on the UMD website.

- In case the Catalyst Grant is awarded, the financial contribution should be acknowledged in the following manner: 'This work was funded by a Catalyst Grant from United for Metabolic Diseases (YYYY-CG-XXX) which is financially supported by Metakids.'
- The UMD affiliation ('United for Metabolic Diseases, The Netherlands') should be mentioned on all publications that arise from this project.
- In case of questions please contact Evelien de Ruiter: e.m.deruiter@amsterdamumc.nl or info@umd.nl.