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Cure JM Mental Health Grant - Request for Proposals 2026

The Cure JM Foundation (Cure JM) announces its Request for Proposals for 2026 for advancing mental health to improve the lives of children and families living with juvenile myositis

Cure JM is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization established in 2003. The mission of Cure JM is to find better treatments and a cure for Juvenile Myositis and improve the lives of families affected by JM. Approximately 2 to 4 children in a million in the United States are diagnosed with JM each year.

In 2026, Cure JM has committed to funding a mental health grant up to \$15,000 for up to 18 months.

Grant Application Process

Proposals should be submitted electronically as one single PDF file to suzanne.edison@curejm.org and must be received by the submission deadline for applications stated in the research announcement timeline. (See Grant Application for specific information.)

Project Purpose and Description

The proposal should outline and detail the following:

- What is the project description—goals and mechanisms for promoting more mental health care for the JM patients and families in your clinic/care
 - Who will be the lead PI on the project
 - Who else will be involved in the project
 - What are the proposed time commitments for the project and for each project member
 - Timeline for the project as a whole
 - How will the end product be disseminated
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- What would be your Next Steps or Future Vision
 - What is the Budget for the project
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Timeline for Grants

Request for Proposals Begins:

- February 1st, 2026.
- Application Deadline July 31st, 2026.
- Review of Submitted Applications Completed September 2026.
- Anticipated Date for Notification of Awards November, 2026.
- Anticipated Funding Start Date January 1, 2027

The proposal is up to **4** pages long **maximum**, and the following are also required but do NOT count toward page limits:

- A 1-page lay summary of the program and its expected outcomes, impact and method of dissemination
 - A ½ page timeline of the suggested program with budget and key milestones identified
 - A curriculum vitae/biosketch in NIH format
 - A letter of support from the institution—Rheumatology Division Chief or Quality Improvement Director
 - A letter of collaboration submitted by each and all investigators involved in the grant proposal
 - If samples (blood, muscle, skin, etc.) are to be studied and they were not obtained with IRB-approved informed consent by the PI, then a letter of collaboration is needed from the investigator as to who did obtain those samples, citing the IRB #
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Eligibility

Applicants must hold a Ph. D. or M.D. degree or equivalent and work in an accredited medical school, university, hospital, or research institute, which must agree to supply the clinical and/or laboratory facilities. Grant applications are called for across programs relating to all aspects of; basic research, clinical trials, translational studies, diagnosis, and clinical care of juvenile myositis. A pertinent but not exhaustive list of priorities includes:

- Clinical protocols for assessment of mental health for patients or caregivers
 - Clinical interventions for mental health support
 - Novel diagnostic strategies, including the development of biomarkers
 - **If application includes disease populations other than JM patients, applicants must have additional funding from other sources.**
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Grants Review

Research proposals are reviewed by selected members of the Cure JM Mental Health Review Committee utilizing the NIH Grant Application Scoring System. The proposal scores, along with feedback from the reviewers, will be shared with the Cure JM Research Committee for evaluation. The Research committee will make recommendations for funding to the Cure JM Board for a final funding decision. Applicants will be notified by the Cure JM Mental Health Coordinator or Research Committee Chair.

Reports and Payments

Annual or semi-annual progress reports are required to be submitted by the Principal Investigator and shall be due no later than 30 days after a reporting schedule to be detailed in the grant agreement. A Final Report, including a full financial report and progress report, is required within 60 days after the end of the grant period. Both annual and final reports are required to include an expenditure report detailing how the award has been spent. A layperson summary (200-300 words) of major accomplishments and relevance to JM patients shall accompany each Progress report and the final report. Award payments will be made at the beginning of the project year and at 12 months after receipt of the annual progress report. (See Appendix for report templates)

Budget

A detailed budget should provide itemized detail for each major category of the budget report included in the application. The award does not provide for indirect costs. Award funding may be used for salary support, consumable supplies, equipment, travel (< \$1500), and other items necessary to conduct the proposed research.

Data Sharing

All successful grantees are encouraged to share data. The Cure JM Foundation does not anticipate that researchers will share all scientific data generated in a study. Grantees should indicate which scientific data will be shared based on ethical, legal, and technical factors and provide the rationale for these decisions. The foundation encourages researchers to make scientific data available for as long as they anticipate it being useful for the larger research community, institutions, and / or the broader public.

Proprietary Information

All Cure JM-funded proposals must contain a layperson abstract for Cure JM's use in press releases. Cure JM Foundation must be acknowledged in all dissemination materials (e.g. publications, scientific exhibits, scientific presentations, press releases, etc.) related to research supported in full or in part using this grant, and one copy of any published reports must be sent to Cure JM **within 30 days of final production**.

A stipulation of award acceptance is to present research outcomes, upon invitation, at either a virtual or in-person Cure JM medical conference and/or Cure JM annual or other global interruptions, should Cure JM be unable to hold its family conference, award recipients agree to present research outcomes virtually at a Cure JM Town Hall webinar.

This information also appears at <http://www.curejm.org/research/funding.php>