

Grant Review

As a Research Advocate (RA), you will play a vital role in the grant review process by providing a patient-centered perspective on research proposals. Your insights help ensure that research is not only scientifically sound but also meaningful and relevant to the patient community.

\ Duration

- Attend grant review meetings
- Turnaround time varies
- Good to know number of grants RA will be responsible for reviewing

\ Common Frustrations

- Science can be high level and difficult to understand
- Turnaround time can be too short
- Very few resources for RA questions

\ Who You Are

- **Curious & Detail-Oriented:** You enjoy reading, researching, and understanding scientific concepts, even if you're not an expert.
- **Confident & Open-Minded:** You're comfortable defending your perspectives in a group setting but also willing to ask questions and seek clarity.
- **Resilient & Patient:** You accept that research is a long-term process and that not all answers will be immediately available—especially in translational research, where patient treatment details may be limited.
- **Organized & Reliable:** You can manage time effectively, meet deadlines, and follow through on commitments.

\ This Role

- Discussions can be complex and sometimes involve disagreement, but your contributions are essential to ensuring that the patient perspective is heard.
- This role requires engagement with multiple stakeholders, including the sponsoring organization, researchers, statisticians, and possibly other advocates.
- If you are passionate about research, willing to navigate uncertainty, and eager to influence the future of science, you may be well-suited for contributing to a grant review panel.

\ What You'll Do

- **Review & Analyze Grants:** Read grant applications carefully, assessing their potential impact on patients and the broader community.
- **Provide Written Feedback:** Submit thoughtful, well-reasoned comments from a patient perspective.
- **Engage in Discussions:** Participate in meetings with researchers, statisticians, and other experts to discuss the grant's scientific merit, feasibility, and relevance to patients.
- **Score & Finalize Comments:** In some cases, provide an initial score before the meeting and revise your evaluation based on group discussion.
- **Meet Deadlines:** Understand and commit to the time-sensitive nature of grant review, ensuring that comments and scores are submitted on schedule.