



## Hevolution Foundation Geroscience in Latin America (HF-GLA) Program

### Request for Applications (RFA)

#### Overview

The Hevolution Foundation Geroscience in Latin America (HF-GLA) is a pilot initiative that will provide funds for projects in aging biology or geroscience to independent investigators with laboratories conducting biomedical research in Latin America. Hevolution is committing up to \$ 5M USD over 4 years to fund between 20 and 25 projects with a maximum budget of \$ 50,000 USD direct cost/year. Calls for other regions, including Asia, will be announced at a later time.

The Full Proposal deadline for the 2024 program is **October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 5:00 PM ET**, and the expected award start date is early 2025.

#### The Program

HF-GLA is an international effort from Hevolution Foundation to expand, accelerate progress, and foster talent in biology of aging and geroscience research in Latin America. The major goal is to identify and support promising research that will contribute long-term towards the Foundation's overarching mission of improving healthy lifespan for the betterment of all of humanity.

The program provides support for research projects in the basic biology of aging, as well as projects that translate advances in basic research from the laboratory towards translation (geroscience). The work should focus on strategies to improve healthy aging **by addressing basic principles of aging biology or geroscience** (please see the FAQs for definitions and differences between basic biology of aging and geroscience). Projects that deal strictly with clinical problems such as the diagnosis or treatment of disease, or the social context of aging are **not eligible**.

Therefore, this initiative will support research approaches that address:

- The maintenance and/or improvement of the mechanisms underlying aging.
- How this might improve health and delay/improve the outcome of age-related diseases and conditions.

#### Funding Range

Hevolution Foundation Geroscience in Latin America (HF-GLA) will provide up to \$ 5M USD over a period of 4 years to fund between 20 and 25 projects of up to \$ 50,000 USD direct cost/year in aging biology or geroscience in early 2025. The budget allowed will be commensurate with regional levels of government funding for research projects (see the table below and the FAQs for more details).

The requested funds can be used to cover personnel costs, supplies, equipment, travel, and subaward/s if applicable. A maximum of up to \$ 10,000 USD for equipment for the entire award period and up to \$ 2,500 USD for travel per year can be requested. Graduate Student tuition or tuition remission are not allowed.

In addition to the direct cost, overhead/indirect costs of up to 8% of the total research cost of the grant are allowed. To calculate the F&A please exclude the total cost of subaward/s and equipment.

Preference will be given to projects that advance basic biology knowledge towards translation (geroscience). The final project budget will be decided by Hevolution Foundation, based on the likelihood of the project leading to improvements in healthy aging. Hevolution Foundation makes the final funding decisions, these are non-appealable.

**Direct budget (in US Dollars):** The table below should be used solely as a general reference.

Region	Direct Cost
Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Mexico, Uruguay	\$ 50,000 USD/year
Other Latin American countries	\$ 30,000 USD/year

All applications will require the signature of a certified administrator from the Institution qualified to receive and administer the funds (a designated signing official or an Authorized Organization Representative). Funds will not be disbursed to individual researcher's accounts but will be allocated only to accounts of the Institute / University.

Any unspent funds must be returned to Hevolution at the end of the award period.

## Eligibility

### Eligibility criteria:

- The proposed research project must be in the basic biology of aging or geroscience.
- Applicants (including PI, MPIs (Co-PIs), and Co-Is) must all be based in any country in Latin America (please see the [FAQs](#) for a list of eligible countries).
- However, the award will go to the primary institution, where a substantial proportion of the work (at least 60%) must be conducted, including appropriate oversight of all matters related to the grant (scientific, programmatic, and financial). Investigators who received other funding from Hevolution Foundation are eligible, provided they meet all the HF-GLA eligibility criteria.
- Projects can also involve collaborators (but not Co-PIs or Co-Is) working outside Latin America.
- Applicants must be independent academic investigators/group leaders (government-funded or non-profit institutions) with independent research space and the skills, knowledge, and resources necessary to carry out the proposed research.
- Each applicant is allowed to submit only one project as Principal Investigator (PI) or MPI (Co-PI) to the HF-GLA grant program, but participation in multiple applications as a Co-I or collaborator is acceptable.

### The HF-GLA initiative does not provide support for:

- Research on age-related diseases without a clear focus on the underlying biology of aging.
- Projects that deal strictly with clinical topics such as the diagnosis and/or treatment of disease and health outcomes.
- Projects that focus on the behavioral or social determinants of aging, without addressing the underlying biology.
- Projects that include clinical trials.
- Investigators who are conducting research at a for-profit institution.

For eligibility and administrative questions please contact us at [hevolutiongrants@afar.org](mailto:hevolutiongrants@afar.org)

## Selection Criteria

The following criteria will be used to determine the merit of an application:

- Quality of the proposed research.
- Alignment of the research topic with [Hevolution's mission and goals](#).
- Innovation and creativity of the approach.
- Qualifications and track record of the applicant.
- Excellence of the research environment; including the availability of all tools and platforms needed to perform the work proposed.

## Application Process

All applications must be submitted to Proposal Central **by the Authorized Organizational Representative (AOR)** no later than **October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 5:00 pm ET** (please see [instructions](#)).

**Incomplete or late applications cannot be considered. Hyperlinks are not allowed.**

The applications will be reviewed by a Selection Committee composed of international experts in aging biology and geroscience. Programmatic support will be provided by AFAR, but Hevolution Foundation will be solely responsible for funding and other decisions. Neither Hevolution Foundation nor AFAR will provide reviewer critiques to any applicants.

Click [here](#) for our Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs). If you are using rodents or human subjects in your research, please review these [guidelines](#).

## Timeline

Full proposal applications must be submitted by **October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 5:00 PM EST**, and the expected award start date is early 2025.

Phase	Date
Open Submission	July 8 <sup>th</sup> 2024
Deadline to Submit Full Application	October 7 <sup>th</sup> 2024
Candidate Selection	February 2025
Award Start Date	Early 2025

## Award and Reporting Requirements

Awards will be subjected to an annual scientific and financial progress report, as well as final scientific and financial reports. Continuation of the award beyond the first year will be upon approval of the annual reports. Research progress will be assessed by the foundation based on the timeline and yearly milestones submitted by the recipient.

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