

## Questions & Answers from 2025 Thome AMD Pre-Application Informational Session, 7/25/2024

**Q:** How does the Thome Foundation handle current and future IP?

**A:** As stated in the [Terms of the Award](#) under the Patents, Copyright, and Intellectual Property: *The Grantor of this Project will not retain any rights to intellectual property including patents, copyrights, trademarks, or other proprietary rights that result from the Project.*

**Q:** Can you describe the experience of the review committee? Do we need to tailor the LOI to a more lay audience?

**A:** The scientific review committee is composed of experts in AMD that sit in academic, federal, and industry positions. Though their knowledge does span the field of AMD, we recommend avoiding jargon and explaining acronyms prior to using them colloquially.

**Q:** Will you give your award in the form of a grant or more of a sponsored research agreement?

**A:** This award is given in the form of a grant. If chosen to receive an award, an Award Agreement will be sent to the Institution to be signed prior to the delivery of funds.

**Q:** How many LOIs do you receive each cycle? How many are invited for a full application? How many are awarded?

**A:** The number of LOIs can vary, but normally ranges between 35-50 applications. Based on the scores, comments, and discussion of the scientific review committee, around 12 applications will be invited to submit a full proposal. Up to five awards will be granted.

Just to note, comments from the scientific review committee about your proposal will be shared with the applicant.

**Q:** Will the funding prioritize applications focused on AI for AMD prognosis?

**A:** No, while projects focused on AI may be funded, the Thome Foundation is focused on projects that fall along the preclinical research spectrum. More details can be found in the [Guidelines](#) under “Research Focus.”

**Q:** How much preliminary data is expected in innovative applications? Do “high-risk/high-reward” applications get funded?

**A:** The ‘preliminary data’ presented for an innovative application must be able to demonstrate the feasibility of the proposed project, along with the appropriate personnel capable of carrying out the project.

**Q:** NIH is shifting toward focusing on significance, innovation, and approach for grant review. Which review criteria will you use?

**A:** Please find the review criteria listed in the [Guidelines](#).

