

ASSOCIATION FRANCE ALZHEIMER ET FONDATION VAINCRE ALZHEIMER

2026 IMPACT ALZHEIMER APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Statement of Purpose:

The “Programme Impact Alzheimer”, coordinated by the Association France Alzheimer et Maladies Apparentées (FA) and the Fondation Vaincre Alzheimer (FVA), funds translational research projects.

Proposed projects are evaluated primarily on their ability to demonstrate how integrating fundamental and clinical research generates added value, and how this synergy more effectively addresses the project’s central hypothesis. Eligible Projects must either advance our understanding of Alzheimer’s disease pathophysiology and related dementias, or develop therapeutic/diagnostic strategies.

Note that applications involving groups that focus on Alzheimer’s Disease related dementias (ADRD) are accepted. All applications are reviewed together on a competitive peer review basis.

It is understood that more senior dementia investigators will have other funding in related areas of research, but the application to the “Programme Impact Alzheimer” should not be used to simply subsidize these other efforts or to compensate for grant cutbacks. **Therefore, the applicant is advised to focus on a specific project that can be addressed in terms of a clear and well-defined hypothesis and specific aims and completed within a reasonable time.** Please keep this in mind when preparing the research/work plan section of the application.

Terms and Restrictions for the grant application:

Grant is awarded to:

- Public universities
- Public research Institutions (EPST, EPSCP or CHU only)
- The group to which the Principal Investigator (PI) is affiliated (not to individuals).

Funds cannot be used for:

- Salary of the PI
- Large capital equipment (more than €50.000)
- Construction of buildings
- VAT

Institutional or administrative overheads and other indirect costs: up to 2% of costs excluding salary.

Board decision

FA and FVA are funding meritorious research proposals that have a high potential for success, their Board of Directors (BOD) base their funding decisions on the results of a formal, rigorous peer-review process. In line with this, the Common Scientific Committee FxVFA and BOD of each organisation will select the grant that has received the highest rank, thereby guaranteeing the quality of the research.

Funding Overlap

FA and FVA only fund projects for which they are the main financial supporters and require that the proposed research does not overlap scientifically or financially with any current or pending grants held by the PI, co-PI, or collaborators. Overlap includes identical or redundant research activities already funded by other

organizations. While complementary, non-overlapping co-funding is permitted, applicants must fully disclose all applications submitted to and grants received from other sources, **along with a clear justification for any complementary funding**. Failure to provide this information renders the application ineligible. If overlapping funding is discovered during the grant period, FA and FVA may, at its sole discretion, require full or partial reimbursement of awarded funds, including any costs incurred to recover the grant. Written permission from FA and FVA is mandatory for any exception to this policy.

Information about the “Programme Impact Alzheimer”

- The call for applications opens once every two years.
- Project duration is four years, with a maximum budget of 500,000 €.
- Budget distribution will be in the form of yearly payments of up to 125,000 €.
- The 2026 call opens on 7 April 2026 and the deadline for application is 11 May 2026 at 23:59
- A PI cannot apply to another application submitted in the same year to the annual call of FVA and FA. They can be a consultant (time spent <5%), which should be mentioned in the embedding section of the application.
- An Impact Alzheimer Grant cannot overlap in funding or in topic with that of an active FVA or FA grant or with a FA or FVA grant that has been extended.
- **By exception, Principal Investigators (PIs) currently receiving funding from FVA or FA through their respective 2025 calls for proposals or earlier calls are eligible to apply to the Impact Alzheimer programme**
- The starting date of the projects applied for should be between 1 January 2027 and 1 July 2027. Please note that any project starting after 1 January will already be considered as a budget neutral postponement. The organisation allows for a maximum budget-neutral postponement and extension of up to 1 year. Projects cannot start before 1 January 2027 as the formal awarding only occurs at the end of the year in November (please also see Table 1).
- In the grant application, the scientific research plan should be hypothesis driven, coherent and focused. The research plan should be efficiently worked out and it should be described in a convincing manner that the proposed research can be completed within the time available.
- We strongly encourage applicants to discuss the project budget with a financial controller of their institute prior to applying, to make sure their budget is realistic and takes cost increases due to inflation into account.
- Clinical research projects may involve the investigation of drug candidates, provided that such research is conducted and initiated by academic researchers and does not involve any sponsorship from the pharmaceutical industry.
- Researchers from the same lab requesting funding cannot apply.

Grant Cycle Procedure

Awards are granted based on scientific merit and quality of the applicant’s research proposal, and its relevance for improving our understanding of the aetiology of Alzheimer’s Disease or other related dementias. Funding decisions are based on the results of a formal, rigorous peer-review process, taking program goals into consideration.

Applicants are asked to submit their project via a full application form to:

recherche@francealzheimer.org

AND

m.levy@vaincrealzheimer.org

Eligibility and project preselection are determined by the coordinators of this programme and members of the common scientific committee, in accordance with the Funding Guidelines, the missions of FA and FVA, and their respective thematic priorities. FA and FVA reserve the right to deny applications that do not meet these criteria.

Organisation staff is not authorized to provide information on eligibility check outcomes, priority scores, ranking, or likelihood of funding of applications prior to written notification of applicants. Please do not contact staff members to request such information. Your application will be handled in a confidential way at all times.

Applications will be peer reviewed by 3 external experts and selected based on:

- expertise and experience of the PI(s);
- environment (research teams and equipment);
- scientific rationale, methods and feasibility;
- budget coherence.

In November, the best applications based on external expertise will be discussed and ranked at a joint meeting with the coordinators and the common scientific community.

Table 1: Timetable Impact Alzheimer 2026

Call for applications opens	7 April 2026
Deadline for applications	11 May 2026 at 23:59
Confirmation application was received and is eligible is sent to the applicant	Within 1 month
Denial letters of the first stage are sent to the applicant	Mid-September
Final decision is communicated to the applicants by FVA	November 2026 *
Research project start	Between 1 January and 1 July 2027

*Applicants should be notified in writing of the FA and FVA BoD's decision concerning their application by November, but at least before **December 31st**.



Additional information and rules after funding approval

Shifting dates of the grant

After the approval of the grant the grantee should inform the organisations immediately if the project is delayed (max. 6 months).

Budget

The project will receive funds **only when operational**.

Grant payments are made on a half-year basis.

If budget revisions are necessary, requests must be made in writing to FA and FVA with a clear justification:

- A cost-neutral prolongation (6 months maximum)
- Transfers of more than € 5 000 from one budget category to another requires approval

We prefer that grant funds be expended in a timely manner in accordance with the research plan presented in the grant application. If there is more than 15% of the total grant award remaining in the grant account at the end of the grant period, permission may be requested to extend the grant period with no increase in funding. A written requests/justification must be submitted for this.

Human/Animal Research Subjects

We require that research supported by FVA and FA meets or exceeds national regulations regarding the use of human subjects or animals in research. Applicants must provide written certification of approval by the appropriate Ethic Commission before funding begins.

Concerning research involving animals, FVA and FA require that applicants follow the “Animal Research: Reporting In Vivo Experiments” (ARRIVE) guidelines.

Applicants who wish to use post-mortem human brain tissues are strongly encouraged to request samples from the national biobank [Neuro CEB](#).

Sharing of Reagents

We believe that biological reagents (e.g. recombinant DNA clones, cultured cell lines, hybridoma cell lines, mutant or unique organisms etc.) developed during the course of organisations-sponsored research must be made available to qualified investigators after the publication of reports using or describing the reagents. These materials represent a valuable resource for the scientific community at large, paid for by the generous contributions of our donors. The availability of these reagents directly affects the ability of the members of the scientific community to replicate the experiments of others and the pace and cost of future research. Therefore, we require that the PI and the grantee institution accept the responsibility of providing biological reagents developed during the course of organisation-sponsored research to investigators who request them.

Public Education and Acknowledgement

Both organisations are a publicly supported charitable organization funded by donor contributions and has an active public education program that informs donors and other interested individuals about the research we sponsor. Information provided to the public by us may include the title of the project, the name and institutional affiliation of the PI, the amount of the award, and the non-technical project description provided by the applicant. Therefore, the non-technical description should not contain confidential information. The submission of this application shall be deemed consent of the applicant to the publication of this information should a grant be awarded. Awardees are aware that they may be asked by the organisations to assist in the information of the general audience, e.g. by providing information on new developments in their research field or by giving an interview, a presentation or lecture at meetings and events, lab tours or workshops supported by us. Photos of the PI and his/her team must be made available without restrictions.

All publications, papers, book chapters or presentations, resulting from research sponsored by us must be acknowledged as follows: “*Funding was provided by Association France Alzheimer and Fondation Vaincre Alzheimer through the Programme Impact Alzheimer*”, followed by the grant application number.

Open Access Publication

We support open access and follow the national French law (Loi n° 2016-1321 du 7 octobre 2016 pour une République numérique). We strongly encourage researchers to publish in open access journals or to publish in a repository that is freely accessible.

Discontinuation of Grant Funding

Although FA and FVA have committed grant funding for the stated term of the grant, they reserve the right to discontinue the grant at any time in the event the work performed is in breach of the terms and obligations stated herein.