2026 SOCIETY FOR PEDIATRIC SEDATION SCHOLARLY GRANT

DUE: MAY 1, 2026 by 5:00 pm EST

SPS MISSION

Setting the standard for evidence-based pediatric sedation through research, multidisciplinary education, and high-quality care**.**

GRANT INTRODUCTION

The SPS Scholarly Grant was created to support sedation-related quality improvement projects, research activities, or educational (teaching) initiatives that aim to advance the mission of SPS. The proposed project can be any form of research (i.e., retrospective, prospective, observational, randomized, survey, qualitative study, implementation study, etc.), quality improvement initiative, or educational or teaching initiative. The awarded project results will be presented (via abstract, workshop, or other appropriate medium) at the 2028 SPS Conference and should result in products that can be disseminated to other sedation providers/institutions. Funding is available for one year and the projects should be completed within a two-year period.

AVAILABLE FUNDING

Up to $22,500 - $35,000* (depending on quality of submissions and number of grants funded) in direct costs for 2 years. Indirect costs are not allowed.

- SPS recognizes that robust research, quality improvement, and educational projects are expensive and the amount of the Scholarly Grant may not cover all costs. It is acceptable to apply for the Scholarly Grant to cover a portion of a project that is also partially funded by another institution or governing agency.
- The Scholarly Grant supports travel to the SPS Annual Conference to present the results 2 years after the award.
- The Scholarly Grant does not support travel to present results at other conferences.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

All SPS members are eligible to apply for the Scholarly Grant. A non-SPS member may submit a letter of intent (LOI). If accepted to apply, the applicant should obtain SPS membership before the application is accepted for review.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Applicants must use the application form provided. Enter text in the shaded areas on the form in the space provided.

Face Page (1 page)

The *Principal Investigator* (PI) is the person responsible for the technical direction of the project and is the primary contact for the SPS Scholarly Grant. Provide full name, degree(s), title, department, institution, mailing address, telephone number, and e-mail address.

Funds Requested. Enter the budget amount for your project. **** The Society for Pediatric Sedation® reserves the right to reallocate the $12,500 for the PSRC Research Support Grant towards the Scholarly Grant or other SPS endeavors if the quality of PSRC Grant Applications in any given year does not merit awarding a PSRC Research Support Grant.***

Regulatory Approvals. Please check the appropriate box to indicate the use of animals (IACUC) or human subjects (IRB) in the proposed project. Note that the PI must provide a copy of the IACUC and/or IRB letter to the SPS Scholarly Grant Review Board before award funds will be released. Pending approvals at the time of application submission are acceptable, but to avoid delays, you are strongly encouraged to have your protocol in process at the time the grant application is submitted.

Certifications. Provide the electronic signatures of the PI, mentor (if applicable) and PI's Section/Department Chief, by typing the names in the shaded box and checking the 'Confirm Signature' box.

Page Two: Project Summary/Abstract – Co-Investigators (1 page)
Enter text in the shaded areas of the form provided in 11-point Arial font, single spacing.

Project Summary/Abstract. Provide a succinct and accurate description of the proposed work suitable for dissemination to the public. State the application's broad, long-term objectives and specific aims. Describe concisely the design and methods for achieving the stated goals.

Co-Investigators. In addition to the Principal Investigator, Co-Investigators are defined as individuals who contribute to the scientific development or execution of the project in a substantive, measurable way, whether or not salaries are requested. List the Principal Investigator, last name first. Then list all other co-investigators in alphabetical order, last name first. For each individual, provide name, department/division affiliation and role on the project.

Research Plan (2 pages)
Enter text into the shaded areas on the form provided in 11-point Arial font, single spacing. Limit length to the space provided.

Specific Aims. State concisely the hypothesis to be tested and the specific aim(s) to be achieved during the grant period. The review panel will consider: (1) whether the aims are reasonable to achieve during the one-year period; (2) if successful completion of the aims will improve scientific knowledge, technical capability and/or clinical practice; and (3) if the project will advance the SPS Mission and be able to be spread to other sedation providers/institutions.

Background and Significance. State the significance of the proposed project to the field. The review panel will ask: Does the project address an important problem or critical barrier to progress in the field? Does the application challenge and seek to shift current research or clinical practice paradigms by utilizing theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation or interventions that are novel to one field of research or novel in the broad sense?

Project Design and Methods. Concisely present your design and the methods to be used to accomplish your specific aims. Also, indicate how the results will be interpreted and how they will lead to future investigations. The review panel will ask: Are the overall strategy, methodology and analyses well-reasoned and appropriate to accomplish the specific aims of the project? Address statistical methods, if indicated.

Anticipated Result(s). Present hypothesized findings/outcome of the study as clearly and as detailed as possible.

Alternate Strategies. Develop and indicate alternative strategies for potential problems in the research plan.

Next Steps. Identify how this funding will facilitate further funding toward this project or how the quality improvement or educational products will be spread to other sedation providers.

Human Subjects and Vertebrate Animals (1 page)
Enter text into the shaded areas on the form provided in 11-point Arial font, single spacing.

If applicable, summarize your plan to protect human/vertebrate subjects according to the following: Risk, Adequacy of Protection against Risks, Potential Benefits of the Proposed Research, Importance of the Knowledge to be Gained, Data and Safety Monitoring Plan.

Budget (1 page)
Use the form provided to present a summary of the proposed budget.

Allowable Cost Items:

- Personnel: Allowable personnel expenses include salary and application fringe benefits for post-docs and graduate students (if they receive a salary) and other technical staff (including statistical support). Staff education costs are allowable. Salary support for physicians will not be supported.
- Study Participants: Costs of recruitment (e.g., purchase of advertising), payments to subjects (limited to $1,000 total), patient care and other costs associated with the use of participants in the study.
- Study Equipment
- Study Supplies
- Travel: To facilitate presenting the grant-awarded project results at the 2028 SPS Conference, up to $500 of the grant may be budgeted for the PI's travel/lodging for the conference; the PI's registration fee for this conference will also be waived.

Unallowable Cost Items
Funding will not be provided for the following items:

- Personnel expenses (including salary and applicable fringe benefits) for the PI or other physicians
- Consultant Costs
- No indirects allowed
- Subawards
- Stipends
- Office equipment and furniture
- Tuition
- Dues and membership fees
- Maintenance/service contracts
- Construction, alteration, maintenance or rental of buildings or building space
- Recruiting/relocation expenses
- Entertainment/social expenses
- Pre-award costs

Budget Justification
In the space allocated explain and justify the costs presented, providing calculations to demonstrate how amounts were determined. Enter text into the shaded areas on the form provided in 11-point Arial font, single spacing.

Special Appendix: Biographical Sketch (maximum of five pages)
Provide a biographical sketch for the principal investigator and co-investigator. Each biographical sketch should not exceed five pages in 11-point Arial font, single spacing. Use the NIH form which can be downloaded from – http://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm

Additional Resource: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sciencv/

SUBMISSION PROCESS

1. Create a single PDF document named as follows: PI's Last Name_SPSGrant_2026. This document should include the application form as well as all biographical sketches and additional forms.
2. Email the completed application document to Joye Stewart – joye@societyhq.com, by **May 1, 2026, at 5:00 pm EST**.
3. Questions? Contact Joye Stewart, Grant Administrator

EXPECTATIONS, REVIEW PROCESS AND CRITERIA

SPS seeks proposals of high scholarly merit from investigators who show promise of disseminating their work at the SPS Annual Conference, at other high-impact conferences, and in peer-review scientific journals, as well as obtaining continued external funding.

The SPS Research Committee's Scholarly Grant review panel will review all applications for scientific and technical merit as well as feasibility.

As part of the initial review, all applications:

- Will receive written critique
- Will undergo a selection process in which only those applications deemed to have the highest scientific merit, generally the top half of applications under review, will be discussed and assigned a priority score
- May receive a second level of review from the review panel, which makes the final award decision.

The peer review panel will evaluate proposals according to the following criteria, adapted from the NIH:

1. *Significance*. Does the project address an important problem or a critical barrier to progress in the field? If the aims of the project are achieved, how will scientific knowledge, technical capability and/or clinical practice be improved? How will successful completion of the aims change the concepts, methods, technologies, treatments, services or preventative interventions that drive this field?

2. *Investigator*(s). Are the Principal Investigator (PI), collaborators and other researchers well suited to the project? If the project is collaborative, do the investigators have

complementary and integrated expertise? Are the leadership approach, governance and organizational structure appropriate for the project?

3. *Innovation*. Does the application challenge and seek to shift current research or clinical practice paradigms by utilizing novel theoretical concepts, approaches and methodologies, instrumentation or interventions? Are the concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentations or interventions novel to one field or novel in a broad sense? Is the refinement, improvement or new application of theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies instrumentation or interventions proposed?

4. *Approach*. Are the overall strategy, methodology and analyses well-reasoned and appropriate to accomplish the specific aims of the project? Are potential problems, alternative strategies and benchmarks for success presented? If the project involves clinical research, are the plans for protection of human subjects from research risks justified in terms of the scientific goals and research strategy proposed?

5. *Environment*. Will the environment in which the work is done, contribute to the probability of success? Are the institutional support, equipment, and other physical resources available to the investigators adequate for the project proposed? Will the project benefit from unique features of the scientific environment, subject populations or collaborative arrangements?

6. *Budget*. The reasonableness of the proposed budget and the requested period of support in relation to the proposed research plan.

The grantee will submit a progress report to the SPS Research Committee once every 4 months after the grant is awarded. The progress report should include work completed to date, anticipated next steps and timeline for completion of proposed next steps.

The grantee will be assigned a liaison from the SPS Research Committee who will assist with maintaining timelines.

Awardees are expected to present their results 2 years after awarded the grant at the annual SPS Annual Conference (i.e., 2026 awardees are expected to present at the 2028 conference)

The awardee must submit a manuscript to a peer-reviewed journal within two years of when the award was granted. The manuscript does not have to be accepted within this time frame. Prior to submission for publication, the manuscript must be submitted to the SPS Research Committee for review and approval. Please remember to take into account the time required for the SPS Research Committee to review and approve your study prior to journal submission as per standard PSRC policy (est. 4-6 weeks).

Investigators who do not meet these expectations and timeline (unable to present 2 years after award at SPS or, unable to submit manuscript within 2 years of grant being awarded) need to meet with Chair and/or Vice-Chair of the Research Committee to formulate a plan to complete these milestones. Non-compliance with these expectations can result in cessation of remaining funding and grant may be subject to revocation.

TIMELINE

LOI Submission Deadline: April 15, 2026 - 5:00 pm EST
Application Submission Deadline: May 1, 2026 - 5:00 pm EST
Application Review: May to June 2026
Award Announcement: July 2026 (via email) and at the September 2026 SPS Annual Conference
Anticipating start date of the project: August 1, 2026
Funding is for two years: August 1, 2026 – July 31, 2028
Presentation of the project results at the SPS Annual Conference: September 2028