



Rheumatology Research Foundation

Advancing Treatment | Finding Cures



MARSHALL J. SCHIFF, MD MEMORIAL FELLOW RESEARCH AWARD

Request for Applications
FY2027



Issued
April 1, 2026



Foundation@rheumatology.org



RheumResearch.org



OUR MISSION

Advance research and training to improve the health of patients living with rheumatic diseases.

Purpose

The *Marshall J. Schiff, MD Memorial Fellow Research Award* was established with the aim of supporting outstanding scholarship in the field of rheumatology research and to recognize and celebrate fellows presenting an abstract at ACR Convergence. This award was created to honor the memory of Marshall J. Schiff, MD. Dr. Schiff grew up in Denver, Colorado before attending Stanford University. He then graduated from UCSF medical school with an MD and MS in Healthcare Research. Prior to his untimely passing at age 30, Dr. Schiff had just begun his second year of orthopedic residency, and he had planned to perform clinical research in musculoskeletal disease.

ACR Convergence

The meeting features the latest innovations, science, clinical and business best practices in rheumatology. Attendees will get first-hand access to the latest discoveries and research that are transforming rheumatic disease care as well as clinical applications that will improve the health of patients. It is an opportunity to experience personalized learning that allows attendees to expand their knowledge and to develop new areas of interest and focus within rheumatology. For more information about ACR Convergence, check out [ACR Convergence 2026](#).

Award Amount

\$1,500 award and a reimbursement of up to \$1,000 for travel-related expenses (including airfare, ground transportation, hotel, and meals), plus complimentary registration to attend ACR Convergence 2026.

All applications must be submitted by 5:00 pm ET on the deadline day through [ProposalCentral](#).

Questions about your eligibility or submitting your application? Please contact Award & Grants staff at 404-365-1373 or foundation@rheumatology.org.

Timeline

Application Open	Application Deadline
June 1, 2026	August 3, 2026

Award Eligibility and Guidelines

Eligibility

- All award recipients must abide by Foundation [Awards and Grants Policies](#) at all times.
- Applicants must be a rheumatology fellow-in-training enrolled in an adult or pediatric rheumatology training program at an U.S. ACGME- accredited institution.
- Additional requirements:
 - Applicant must be an author or co-author of an abstract submitted to ACR Convergence 2026 via the ACR/ARP abstract submission portal by the **June 9, 2026** deadline.
 - Applicants will only be considered for funding based on the abstract(s) listed in their application. Multiple abstracts may be listed in the application, but the applicant's involvement must be justified for each abstract in the application.

Review Criteria

Abstracts must be accepted by the ACR to be eligible for consideration and applications are prioritized based on corresponding abstract scores. Applications are then evaluated using the following criteria:

- Applicant's demonstrated interest in the field of rheumatology
- Applicant's accomplishments, track record, and relevant experiences
- Applicant's contribution to each abstract submitted for consideration
- Demonstrated mentor support
- When necessary, priority may be extended to applicants listed as first author

Applicants will be notified as to the status of their award in September.

Award Terms and Funding

Awardees will receive an award of \$1,500, plus complimentary* registration for ACR Convergence. Awardees are also eligible for reimbursement of up to \$1,000 for travel-related expenses (including airfare, ground transportation, hotel, and meals) to attend ACR Convergence 2026.

*ACR membership is required to receive complimentary registration to attend ACR Convergence. Membership is free to all student and resident awardees. Join ACR online at [ACR Membership](#).

Attendance at ACR Convergence 2026 is required, or award funds must be returned to the Foundation within 30 days.

Based on federal tax guidelines, individuals receiving an award or grant of at least \$600 will receive a [Form 1099-MISC](#) for the calendar year in which payment was disbursed.

Funding Source

Funding for this award is made possible through an endowment from the Marshall J. Schiff family.

Application Instructions

Before starting the online application, you will be required to create a Professional Profile account in Proposal Central to begin creating your account [at this link](#).

All files must be saved as a PDF. Documents that do not have a required template should be formatted with ½ inch margins, 11-point Arial Font, and single-spacing (does not apply to figures and tables). All applications and documents must be written in English and avoid use of jargon. If terms are not universally known, spell out the term the first time it is used and note the appropriate abbreviation in parentheses. The acronym may be used thereafter.

Note: The Foundation does not require an official signature from an authorized institutional research office at the time of application. However, many institutions require an application to be reviewed prior to submission. Please check with your research office for your institution's requirements.

Applicant Information

You will be asked to confirm your eligibility and provide contact information in this section.

Applicant Biosketch

Applicant must submit a Biographical Sketch using the provided template. A [SciENcv-generated biosketch](#) will also be accepted. The biosketch is limited to five (5) pages, regardless of format.

Abstract Information

You will be required to provide the following information for each abstract on which you are listed as an author or co-author. Applicants will only be considered for funding based on the abstract(s) listed in their application.

- Abstract Title(s)
- Author(s) Names
- Abstract control number(s) (from ACR/ARP submission portal)

Required Documents

Statement of Applicant (Limit 1 page)

The applicant must include the following:

- Details regarding their contributions to each project
- Details regarding their past achievements and future career goals.

Abstracts not addressed will be excluded from funding consideration.

Letter of Recommendation (Limit 1 page)

The mentor must provide a letter of recommendation detailing the applicant's contributions to the project(s) and any achievements.

ACR Convergence Abstract Submission

A copy of the complete abstract(s). Applicants will only be considered for funding based on the abstract(s) listed in their application.

Please note that the Foundation does not have any information regarding the status of your abstract submission. The ACR/ARP abstract selection process and the Foundation award selection process are conducted independently.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Applicants should provide the following information. This information may also be requested for Co- Principal Investigator, Key Personnel, Other significant contributors, and mentors. Follow this format for each person.
DO NOT EXCEED FIVE PAGES.

NAME:

POSITION TITLE:

EDUCATION/TRAINING (Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, include postdoctoral training and residency training if applicable. Add/delete rows as necessary.)

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE (if applicable)	COMPLETION DATE MM/YYYY	FIELD OF STUDY

- A. Personal Statement
- B. Positions and Honors
- C. Contributions to Science
- D. Additional Information: Research Support and/or Scholastic Performance

CONTACT US



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404-365-1373



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Website:
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