

The Vicki Lord Larson and James R. Larson Research Grant

This research grant is sponsored by Vicki Lord Larson, Ph.D. and in memory of her husband James R. Larson. Both Vicki and James were born and raised in rural northern Wisconsin and attended the University of Wisconsin Madison. Dr. Larson received her bachelors, masters, and doctorate from the University of Wisconsin Madison in communication sciences and disorders. She worked for 2 years as a Wisconsin public school speech-language pathologist and then 30 years in the University of Wisconsin System at Whitewater, Eau Claire, and Oshkosh as a faculty member, Dean of Graduate School and Research, and Provost and Vice Chancellor. The intent of this research grant is to support scientific inquiry that will advance the discipline of communication sciences and disorders. The amount of the award is \$1,000. The money is to be used to support the student's research for a thesis or dissertation.

Eligibility

Any student majoring in speech-language pathology or audiology at the master's or doctoral level who is enrolled in an ASHA-accredited college or university in the State of Wisconsin is eligible. Research to be conducted as master's thesis, doctoral dissertation, or independent study research with a faculty mentor is appropriate for this funding mechanism. Funding requests for completed research will not be considered.

Deadline Date for Receipt of Proposals

The completed application **must be received by the WSHA Foundation on or before June 20, 2009**. Incomplete or late applications will be disqualified.

Award Amount

\$1,000

Application Process

The application has 3 parts:

1. A summary of the research plan and an abstract of the proposed research
2. The student's vita, along with a letter of support and a short curriculum vita from the student's mentor
3. Approval by the relevant Institutional Review Board (IRB); that is, human subjects review

Application Format

Abstract

The abstract is limited to 150 words and should detail the significance, hypothesis, methods, and predicted outcomes of the proposed research.

Research Plan

The research plan should not exceed 5 single-spaced pages using 12-point type with 1-inch margins. The plan must include the following information.

1. *Research objectives.* Provide a clear and concise description of the research question(s) addressed.
2. *Background and significance.* Provide a brief summary of the existing research (with citations) relevant to the proposed research, and state clearly how the proposed research is projected to resolve theoretical or clinical issue(s) in speech-language pathology or audiology.
3. *Methods and procedures.* Provide a clear description of the subjects who will participate in the research and how they will be recruited. Give details regarding the procedures to be followed to collect the data, including the frequency and duration of the testing/therapy sessions and how the data will be reduced for analysis. Describe the facilities and resources available to conduct the proposed research, including space, access to subjects or clinical populations, and sources of computing or expert advice.
4. *Evaluation and data analysis.* Describe the data analysis methods to be used to answer the research question(s).
5. *Management plan and budget.* Describe the scope, including a timeline of the major activities of the project. Provide a budget and a budget justification.

Review Criteria

Three veteran researchers in speech-language pathology or audiology will complete an independent review of each proposal. These reviewers will use the following scale.

1. *Research objectives.* Research objectives are clearly stated. **(10 points)**
2. *Background and significance.* Significance of the research and its potential impact on clinical needs are relevant to speech-language pathology or audiology. **(20 points)**
3. *Methods and procedures.* Design answers the research question(s). A detailed account of the methodology is given. Space, resources, and access to subject populations to which the applicant will have access in order to conduct the proposed research are included. **(50 points)**
4. *Evaluation and data analysis.* An adequate evaluation of the project's results is provided. **(10 points)**

5. *Management plan and budget.* Project activities and timeline are outlined. A detailed budget and a budget justification are given. **(10 points)**

Total

Points: 100

NOTE: Each proposal should include documentation of IRB approval.

Send 5 copies of the research application to:
Wisconsin Speech-Language-Hearing Association Foundation
PO Box 8063
Eau Claire, WI 54702