



GIVE-A-HAND.tech

Abandoned Implant Technology Support Grants

APPLICATION GUIDE

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GIVE-A-HAND.tech is pleased to announce the first ever “Abandoned Implant Technology Support Grants”, available to anyone in the neurodevice field.

Please carefully review these guidelines before submitting an application for funding from GIVE-A-HAND.tech.

IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES	
July 10, 2026 5:00 p.m. (Eastern Time)	Full Grant Application (FGA) Due via Proposals@give-a-hand.tech
September 30, 2026	Grant Awards Announced (Anticipated)
January 1, 2027	Awarded Grants to be Funded (Anticipated)

Our staff invites questions relating to submission of grants to GIVE-A-HAND.tech. Contact the Program Officers via email at [**Proposals@give-a-hand.tech**](mailto:Proposals@give-a-hand.tech).

PART 1: GIVE-A-HAND.tech Abandoned Implant Technology Support Grants

A. Overview and Objectives

GIVE-A-HAND.tech's Mission:

GIVE-A-HAND.tech's mission is to serve as an adoptive home for people with, or who could benefit from, abandoned implantable medical devices. GIVE-A-HAND.tech will enable people to gain access to, and keep benefitting from, these devices for the remainder of their lifetimes.

The purpose of Abandoned Implant Technology Support Grants (AITSG) is to support the activity of investigators and other interested parties to provide support to individuals who have been involved in their implantable device studies and who desire to continue to utilize their implanted device. We believe that the best way to address the problem of implantable technology abandonment is to enable investigators and other interested parties to perform their own support activities. In our experience, many investigators want to continue to support their research participants in using their implanted devices beyond the end of funded research studies, but they cannot obtain the resources to do so. Granting agencies have historically ignored the abandonment problem and, even when acknowledged, granting agencies rarely provide any support for long-term follow-up. GIVE-A-HAND.tech seeks to fill this gap through the AITSG program.

AITSGs are intended to provide investigators with funding for *any* need they experience in their own efforts to provide long-term support to their research participants. As such, GIVE-A-HAND.tech allows significant flexibility in the details of the proposed work. Investigators are encouraged to think creatively to achieve sustainable solutions to providing long-term support. Discussion between research teams and GIVE-A-HAND.tech during the development of grant submissions is encouraged. AITSGs do *not* need to describe a research plan. Investigators who can establish long-term support strategies that ultimately can be sustained independent of GIVE-A-HAND.tech are strongly encouraged, but not required.

GIVE-A-HAND.tech strongly encourages the inclusion of individuals with implanted neuro-devices as part of the investigative team and as participants in providing long-term support.

Finally, GIVE-A-HAND.tech is very supportive of open-source implantable hardware efforts. Proposals that include open-source hardware, or work together with existing open-source hardware, such as cosmiic.org or opennerve.org, are strongly encouraged.

B. Eligibility and Other Requirements

ELIGIBILITY

The following applies to all AITSGs:

- Applicants (the Principal Investigator, PI) must have active interaction with individuals who require long-term support of their implantable devices. However, applicants do not need to have advanced degrees or direct ongoing research programs.
- Applicants must demonstrate that they have the necessary resources and institutional support to carry out the proposed work. The grantee organization must have the capability to conduct grant-funded human research with access to any required regulatory approvals (typically an Institutional Review Board).
 - Each application must include the appropriate endorsement of an institutional official responsible for administration of grant funds (hereafter known as the “Grants Administrator”).
- A PI may submit only one application in each grant cycle.
- A proposal may be submitted by a Multi-PI team if the proposed work benefits from this organizational structure. The proposal should describe how the MPI team will interact and communicate to carry out the work proposed.
- Multiple PIs from an institution may submit concurrent, independent applications in a given grant cycle. In such cases, each project must be distinct, with non-overlapping aims.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS AND CONSIDERATIONS

- All application materials and communications (including IRB approvals) must be in English, and budgets must be in U.S. dollars.
- Annual funding for multi-year awards is contingent on acceptance of annual progress and expenditure reports.
- Perceived or real conflicts of interest (e.g., company shareholder providing a device for a study or program) must be disclosed in the biosketch. Such conflicts do not necessarily prevent funding, and should be discussed with GIVE-A-HAND.tech prior to submission.
- The grantee organization retains title to Intellectual Property developed with this funding.
- GIVE-A-HAND.tech reserves the right to modify this guide as necessary. Check give-a-hand.tech for the most recent version prior to submission.

C. Detailed Submission Requirements

Long-term Support Grants (AITSG)

Overview: This funding supports a wide range of activities necessary for the long-term support of individuals with abandoned implantable devices. Proposals must describe the activities that will be carried out as a result of the funding. Proposals should also demonstrate that the implantable devices are abandoned and yet provide significant impact to the existing users of the technology. The proposing team should demonstrate that it has access to the technical, regulatory, and clinical resources necessary to support the individuals with the implanted technology. Meaningful incorporation of people with lived experience in the development and management of the activities is encouraged.

Examples of long-term support for individuals with abandoned implantable devices include developing a program to repair or replace external components when they fail, performing replacement surgeries with specific participants to enable them to continue using their device, or developing a replacement device for an obsolete component that can then be used to support abandoned users. However, these are only a few examples, as GIVE-A-HAND.tech recognizes that each situation can be fairly unique and can present with unusual long-term support requirements.

The funding period can be up to ten years, with unlimited opportunities for no-cost extension requests (non-competitive). Requests for additional (supplemental) funding can be made on a competitive basis.

Funding for these projects is typically less than \$25,000, up to a maximum total cost of \$100,000, over the duration of the grant. Specifically, the total request cannot exceed \$100,000 when summed over the entire grant period, including both direct and indirect costs. *GIVE-A-HAND.tech reserves the right to request the submission of a revised reduced budget based on funding availability.*

It is important to note that investigators must enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with GIVE-A-HAND.tech **prior to the start of funding**. An MOU template can be found on the GIVE-A-HAND.tech website, but the MOU can be tailored to the needs of each cohort of implant users. The MOU identifies GIVE-A-HAND.tech as the source of long-term support if the investigator is unable to continue; and obligates the investigator to provide all necessary documentation, regulatory approvals, and, in certain instances, device inventory, as necessary for GIVE-A-HAND.tech to provide long-term support. In some cases, the investigator's institution may require that they be a party to the MOU. It is *not* necessary to execute the MOU prior to grant *submission*.

Additional Details:

- PIs must have an active appointment at the grantee institution at the time of submission and can be at any stage of their career.

- Allowable Budget Categories: Funding from GIVE-A-HAND.tech may be used to support any activities, purchases, salaries, services, legal support, insurance premiums or other expenses that are necessary to provide support to individuals with abandoned devices. However, each expense needs to be sufficiently explained and justified in the proposal.
- Fringe Benefits: These will be supported at the institution's standard levels, up to 50% of salary for any listed personnel; institutionally defined fringe rates above this level are not acceptable.
- Equipment: An item having a useful life of more than one year and an acquisition cost of \$10,000 or more per unit is considered equipment.
- Indirect Costs: The maximum amount allowed for indirect costs (i.e., administrative, overhead, per capita infrastructure costs, etc.) is 10% of the total cost of the grant. Indirect costs are not allowed on purchases of equipment.

PART 2: APPLICATION AND AWARD PROCESSES

A. Submission Requirements

The 2026 application process begins with submission of a proposal from an eligible organization.

ON-TIME SUBMISSION

All application deadlines, dates, and times are strictly enforced.

If you need assistance as you prepare the application, contact GIVE-A-HAND.tech staff (Proposals@GIVE-A-HAND.tech) and they will be happy to assist you. Late submissions will not be considered, including those due to technical difficulties at the deadline.

APPLICATION TEMPLATES

There is no standard template for applications. Proposal details are described below in the section “Proposal Content and Review.”

Completed applications must be submitted online, via email to Proposals@GIVE-A-HAND.tech. Applicants will receive an automatic email confirmation of submission, which should be retained for future reference.

INFORMATION CONSISTENCY AND ACCURACY

- The Applicant should carefully proofread all sections of the application materials for consistency and accuracy before submitting via email and verify that all PDF documents are legible.
- Inaccurate or incomplete submissions will be disqualified.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

For technical questions regarding the online submission process, contact staff via email at Proposals@give-a-hand.tech. *There is no technical support available on evenings, weekends or holidays.*

B. Proposal Content and Review

REQUIRED INFORMATION TO INCLUDE

- A Front Page should be the first page of the proposal and is not included in the page-length limitations. The Front Page should clearly state the following proposal components:
 1. Principal Investigator Name
 2. Applicant Institution
 3. Title of grant
 4. Project Period (Start Date; End Date)
 5. Total Budget Requested (including indirect costs)
 6. Name of Signing Official for Applicant Institution

7. Signature of Signing Official for Applicant Institution

A project narrative should be provided that includes the following components:

- Relevance to the mission of GIVE-A-HAND.tech.
- Description of technology to be supported and the expected support that will be required.
- Benefits gained by users of the technology.
- Population of users who will be supported and expected duration of support for the users.
- If applicable, past efforts at providing the users with long-term support.
- Strategies for sustaining long-term support beyond funding through GIVE-A-HAND.tech.
- Explain why the proposing team is the appropriate team to provide the long-term support to the specific users of implantable technology.
- Describe the regulatory landscape (IRB approvals, IDE approvals, etc.) and any needs to update these approvals in order to maintain long-term support.

A Budget Justification should be provided:

- Include a table that summarizes the expected budget expenditures. Expenditures can be summarized in commonly-used categories such as: Salaries; Fringe Benefits; Equipment; Supplies; Travel; etc.
- All expenditures should be described in detail in the Budget Justification Narrative. GIVE-A-HAND.tech recognizes that it is often not possible to predict the future needs of the users, and thus considerable flexibility will be provided. However, successful proposals will describe how funding will be utilized and how decisions regarding expenditures will be determined as support needs progress over time.

Proposal Format, Sections, and Page Limits

- Proposal Narrative may not exceed six pages, including all text, figures, tables, etc.
- Use only Arial 11-point font with 0.5" margins, single line spacing. Font sizes for figures and legends may be reduced as long as legibility is conserved.
- Description of existing resources, including existing inventory of technology and facilities for treating users, should be described as part of the proposal narrative (i.e. within the six-page limit).
- The budget justification may be up to three additional pages and must include a table of all expected expenditures and the total requested funding, including indirect costs. The Budget Justification is not included in the Proposal Narrative page limit.
- References can be included as a separate file with no page length restriction. References are not included in the Proposal Narrative page limit.
- The PI must submit a biosketch with a maximum of five pages. Biosketches may also be provided for other key investigators, collaborators, and team members, but are not required. There is no specific format for biosketches, but they should include a

description of the individual's expertise relevant to providing long-term support for individuals with abandoned implantable device. Any potential conflicts of interest should be noted and described. Biosketches are not included in the Proposal Narrative page limit.

- Inclusion of URLs relevant to the technology and to the long-term support of the users is acceptable.
- Letters of support are allowed but are not required.
- Resubmissions—Applicants are allowed to resubmit previously reviewed but not funded proposals. An additional page may be added to the proposal to respond to previous review comments and describe the updated information in the revised proposal.
- The entire proposal should be submitted as a single, combined PDF file. The components should appear in the following order:
 1. Front Page
 2. Resubmission Description (optional – only if resubmitting previously un-funded proposal)
 3. Project Narrative
 4. Budget Justification
 5. References (optional)
 6. Biosketches (PI first, then others alphabetically)
 7. Other optional material
- This file should be emailed to the submission email, Proposals@give-a-hand.tech, prior to the due date. An automatic reply should be received from GIVE-A-HAND.tech, which will indicate a successful submission. GIVE-A-HAND.tech is not responsible for any technical issues that prevent on-time submission, but will work with investigators if unavoidable and unexpected issues do occur.

C. Grant Application Submission and Review

PROPOSAL EVALUATION CRITERIA

AITSGs are reviewed by members of the GIVE-A-HAND.tech Board of Directors. The Board of Directors may, at their discretion, enlist additional peer-reviewers to assist in the review of proposals. The critique and evaluation of an AITSG will be based on creativity and relevance to the mission of GIVE-A-HAND.tech. Reviewer comments and a summary statement, if applicable, will be available to the Applicant after the current grant cycle results are announced.

D. Award Process

After review is completed, GIVE-A-HAND.tech will notify Applicants, via email, whether an application has been approved by the GIVE-A-HAND.tech Board of Directors or declined for

funding approximately two months after the submission deadline.

Applicants approved for funding may be required to submit additional documentation before the grant is issued. This may include documentation of regulatory approvals, additional justification for proposed expenditures, and additional information regarding the resources available.

INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD (IRB) APPROVALS

Prior to receiving funding for an award, the PI must provide documentation of IRB approval for use of human subjects; or documentation showing that IRB approval is not required for the proposed work.

DISBURSEMENT OF GRANT FUNDS

After the required documentation is accepted by GIVE-A-HAND.tech and our due diligence process is complete, funds will be disbursed to the grantee organization.

FINAL REPORTS

At the end of the grant term, grantees are required to report on final progress and expenditures. Grantees that do not comply with this requirement, or submit unsatisfactory reports, will not be eligible for future GIVE-A-HAND.tech funding until receipt of acceptable required report(s).

E. Resubmission

Applicants are permitted resubmission of a revised AITSG that was reviewed but not funded in a prior grant cycle. Prior to resubmission, PIs are encouraged to reach out to the Program Officers for insight into key issues that drove the not-funded decision.