



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR IUPS-AAPS YOUNG INVESTIGATOR RESEARCH GRANT SCHEME

Background

The African Association of Physiological Sciences (AAPS) is a non-governmental, non-profit making organization that aims to unite African scientists involved in teaching and research on human or animal physiology in Africa. The Society is the umbrella body of all physiologists in Africa, having many regional and national physiological societies as its affiliates, including the African Society of Physiology and Pathophysiology (SA2P), Physiology Society of Southern Africa (PSSA), East African Society of Physiological Sciences (EASPS), Physiological Society of Nigeria (PSN), Egyptian Society of Physiological Sciences (ESPS), Zambia Physiological Sciences Society (ZAPSS), Sudanese Physiological Society (SPS), among others. The AAPS is a regional affiliate of and in a very close partnership with the International Union of Physiological Sciences (IUPS).

The IUPS, having recognized the need to build the capacity of African researchers, has initiated a research grant scheme in partnership with AAPS to support young Africans who are conducting research in physiological sciences. This scheme, called the IUPS-AAPS Young Investigator Research Grant, will be fully funded by the IUPS but autonomously administered by the AAPS.

Eligibility

To be eligible for the grant, applicants must satisfy the following conditions:

- i. Be a citizen of any African country
- ii. Be affiliated with a Higher Learning Institution or Research Institute based in any African country for at least 2 years before the application deadline.
- iii. Be an early career physiologist whose terminal Ph.D. degree is not more than seven (7) years from the date of application. Young scientists who are yet to obtain a Ph.D. degree may be considered if the proposal is compelling and potentially has a high impact on the African population (this is on a case-by-case basis)
- iv. Be at the academic rank of Senior Lecturer and below (must not be in a Professorial rank [Associate or Full Professor])
- v. Be a registered member in good standing of any of the regional or national societies affiliated to the AAPS (The standing of the applicants in their affiliated National or Regional physiological societies under AAPS will be confirmed internally).

- vi. Proposals involving collaborations among scientists from more than one African country would be given higher priority.

Funding ceiling

The IUPS is funding this scheme with a total sum of thirty thousand dollars (30,000 USD). The AAPS intends to fund at least six (6) research proposals with a maximum of five thousand dollars (5,000 USD) each. Funds from the grant may be used to buy laboratory consumables, small equipment, conduct assays, collect experimental data, just to mention a few, as long as the purpose of spending is directly linked to the funded project and with tangible outputs. The fund is not meant for travel logistics or administrative purposes. The funding duration should not exceed 24 months.

Application process

Applicants should submit their research proposals along with the annexes, according to the provided template (see attached), to the AAPS secretariat via aaps.office1@gmail.com not later than 15th September, 2025. If needed, the AAPS can organize webinars for potential applicants during August/September to help them in preparing their proposals and answer any queries.

Reviewing the proposals

Submitted proposals will be screened by the AAPS committee for preliminary eligibility based on fulfillment of application requirements, compliance with the provided template, and scientific merit. Proposals found to be eligible in the first round of screening will be shortlisted and sent to external reviewers for a full review. The full review of each proposal will be done by a panel of 3 independent reviewers according to a standardized review form. Each panel will include senior African and international reviewers who have proven experience in reviewing grants. Results will be announced in December 2025, and successful candidates can start their research projects in January 2026.

Reporting

Successful applicants will be required to submit a scientific and financial report every 6 months to the AAPS secretariat via aaps.office1@gmail.com. Also, publication of peer-reviewed articles in indexed journals (with acknowledgement of IUPS and AAPS) would be compulsory for successful projects.

Tentative timeline

1 st August, 2025:	Announcing the call & inviting applications
August – September 2025:	Webinar on how to write a winning proposal (exact date TBA)
30 September 2025:	Deadline for receiving proposals
December 2025:	Announcing the winners

January 2026: Signing contracts with the institutions of successful applicants

For inquiries about this research grant scheme (if any), applicants should direct their questions to the Secretary-General of AAPS, Prof Abdullateef Alagbonsi, via a.i.alagbonsi@ur.ac.rw.

**Prof. Susan Wray,
President, IUPS**

**Prof. Yasser El-Wazir,
President, AAPS**