The MSIF Du Pré contributes to the goal of a stronger MS research and clinical workforce in low- and middle-income countries. Following the award, we expect applicants to use the newly developed expertise and networks, and continue MS research and/or clinical practise in low- and middle-income countries.

**How will this award contribute to your continued work in MS related work in low- and middle-income countries? (Please keep this section concise, approximately 350 words)**

Your answer should include: How you would use the research or clinical expertise developed during this award in your work in low- and middle-income countries? Will this address a gap in MS care or research in the local setting?

Stronger MS research and clinical workforce in low- and middle-income countries

2. High quality MS research by scientists and clinicians from emerging countries

To contribute to our goal of high quality MS research we are looking for applicants with demonstrable scientific background, experience in a relevant field, such as neurology or immunology. Your qualifications, skills and achievements should highlight why you stand out as an applicant.

A) Applicant qualifications, skills and achievements.

Education and qualifications

A list of relevant academic accomplishment including: dates,institutions and results.

Professional research experience

A list of key work experience, these could be clinical work or research projects, including: dates, institutions, position held, job role and key skills.

Skills and expertise

Relevant skills could be laboratory, clinical, research related or linguistic.

Grants and award

Relevant to your grant proposal.

Key publications

Relevant to your grant proposal.

Applicant supporting statement. (Max 350 words)

Your answer should include scientific/medical experience or accomplishments that make you appropriate to undertake this project. How will this award aid your scientific or clinical development in the field of MS?

B) Proposal: (Maximum 1200 words including citations and figures)

Select one of two formats (Research proposal OR Clinical training proposal) for this section.

Research proposal: summary of your proposed research, including the central question you are aiming to address and how this will be undertaken, including your timeframe

Please use the following structure: abstract, background, objectives, methodology, expected outcomes and citations.

OR

Clinical training proposal: summary of your proposed clinical training, demonstrating an understanding of the skills to be developed and how they will be learnt and utilised.

Please use the following structure: background, training objectives, outline of how this will be learnt and applied in patient care.

Proposal

Section 2 C) should be written by the host supervisor.

C) Host statement of support. (Please keep this section concise, at approximately 350 words)

Please outline your support for this application, including: (a) what expertise and supervision will be provided for this project (b) host facilities, collaborative networks or equipment that make your institute a suitable host for this project (c) the suitability of the applicant for this project.

3. International collaboration involving scientists/clinicians from low- and middle-income countries

These awards contribute to international collaboration by enabling researchers and clinicians to undertake MS research at centres outside of their own country. It is important to us that the links formed during this work continue to flourish after the project has been completed. (Please keep section 3 concise, maximum 350 words)

Collaborative aspects

The recipient of a joint award is expected to build a link with the partner organisation, the partner will provide support to form this link.

All awardees become part of the MSIF research alumni. MSIF aim to develop a lifelong relationship with our alumni, engaging you in global MS research and clinical networks. Alumni will receive information on MSIF funding opportunities, newsletters and reports, an invitation to MSIF's alumni networking event at ECTRIMS, at which alumni will be expected to present their work. Being a part of the alumni network of junior and senior MS researchers enables new collaborations to form between hosts and awardees from around the world.

Research alumni contribution

How are you planning to contribute to the research alumni network? (50 words)

4. New or stronger MS groups and organisations in low- and middle-income countries

MSIF aims to build a stronger global movement by empowering organisations and groups working to improve life for people with MS. We encourage the formation of connections between applicants and MS organisations, and can provide contact information for interested applicants.

Relationships with researchers and clinicians can strengthen MS organisations by providing expertise, scientific advice, spokespersons and support for initiatives such as raising awareness or funds.

Lay Summary (500 words)

To support MS organisations it is important that you are able to provide scientific and clinical information in an accessible way. How would you briefly describe your project to a person with MS, including what you are investigating or learning and how this work could benefit people with MS? A useful guideline is - can you explain your proposal to a 15-year old with no scientific background? Please write as clearly and as detailed as possible.

Current involvement

What is your current involvement with MS groups and organisations in low- and middle-income countries and how are you planning to contribute in the future? (350 words). This could include: ongoing interactions, support of fundraising and awareness, prospective contributions to medical/scientific advisory boards or leadership roles.

COVID-19 contingency plan

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, travel restrictions may limit visa applications or travel itself. We are trying to be as flexible as possible with our applications this year, but require a contingency plan for the project in case you are unable to travel to your host institution. Can you use a lab in the neighbouring region to carry out some of the work? Can your host mentor you virtually? Write a plan for how to conduct the work proposed, either in part, or in full, in case you are unable to travel.