

**Project Narrative**

**I. Background**

- a. Describe the need, gap, or problem your project addresses, its intended audience, and its significance to advancing the field of neuroscience and society.
- b. Justify the significance and need for the work:
  - i. Discuss the challenges, limitations, or opportunities motivating this work.
  - ii. Provide references to evidence that informs or supports your project's goals or framework as well as its relevance to the intended audience. This may include scholarly literature, community knowledge, industry standards, and/or best practices.
  - iii. Explain how this work aligns with or intersects broader societal needs and goals, and (if applicable) the consequences if this work is not pursued.

**II. Goals**

- a. Please frame your goals in terms of intended impact (*e.g., increase understanding, increase trust, strengthen relationships, broaden representation, increase opportunities, etc.*)
- b. Please aim to make your goals specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time bound.

**III. Strategy**

*This section should describe the overall progression of activities leading to deliverables.*

**a. Activities**

- i. What activities will you undertake to make progress towards your goals? (*e.g., convene a community advisory board, host listening sessions, create an internship/training program, recruit trainees, host a professional development workshop series, etc.*)
- ii. Please identify which specific methodologies you will utilize (*e.g., human-centered design vs. focus group methods, specific pedagogies such as inquiry-based or experiential learning, embedded ethicist model, collaborative communities, etc.*)
  1. Please comment on the appropriateness and feasibility of your approach, and the way in which your approach is grounded in the field's current best practices, literature, and/or evidence from prior work.

**b. Deliverables**

- i. Describe the products, tools, or other outputs/deliverables you aim to produce (*e.g., event(s), curricula, website(s), institutional change(s), novel partnerships, etc.*).
  1. Please describe how the deliverables will be effectively and sustainably disseminated to the target audience.
- ii. How will the Dana Foundation be acknowledged in deliverables produced through the grant?

**c. People and Environment**

*This section should identify the intended audience, who will do the work, why they are qualified, and any potential collaborators.*

- i. Audience and impact: How will the intended audience contribute to the planning, development, and implementation of the project? How receptive will they be to this work? How will they benefit from their involvement?
  1. Please provide any evidence you have for the above answers.
- ii. Team and expertise: Who will perform the work and why are they well-suited to the project?

- iii. Please describe any collaborations (internal or external to your organization) needed to provide expertise relevant to the project. Please specify which partnerships are confirmed and which are still in development.
- iv. Will the project benefit from unique features of your organization (*e.g., the geographical location, existing relationships with local communities, collaborative arrangements, academic environment if applicable*)?

## II. Evaluation

*This section should describe your planned evaluation methods. Evaluations may be quantitative and/or qualitative to assess efficacy of the chosen approach towards goals, including, for example, impact(s) on participants and/or the field.*

- a. How will you evaluate your progress and the impact of your activities toward your goals?
  - i. How will the impact of the project's deliverables and outputs be measured? What metrics will you use to evaluate success, and how do these align with the project's stated goals and objectives?
    - 1. If possible, please provide examples of key measures or questions that you may use to evaluate the project.
  - ii. How does your evaluation strategy address the demonstrated need for the project and its connection to neuroscience and society?
- b. If you are not successful at achieving the project's goals, what will we still be able to learn?
- c. **Future plans and sustainability:** Share your plans for future work on this project.
  - i. Will this work continue? If so, how do you intend to fund this work moving forward? For example, do you expect to apply for funding for this work or its continuance from other funding sources (*e.g., federal funders, foundations, industry, etc.*)?

## III. Timeline

- a. Please provide a description of the project timeline (**table formatting is preferred**).

## IV. Alignment

- a. Please address how this project is aligned with the [goal and objectives](#) of the Dana Foundation program to which you are applying.
- b. Please also describe how the project aligns with **both** the Dana Foundation's [mission and each of the Foundation's values](#).

### **Additional application components, in addition to the full proposal narrative**

#### I. Detailed Budget

- a. Line-item budget rounded to the nearest \$100 (please use the template provided) uploaded as an Excel spreadsheet.
- b. *Please note that to maximize the impact of our grants, we generally do not fund indirect costs or operational overhead.*

#### II. Budget narrative, including project start and end date (uploaded as a separate PDF)

- a. *Please note that this section should not be used to include additional details about the project.*

#### III. Biosketch for PI and any co-PIs with a maximum page limit of 5 pages per biosketch (uploaded as a single PDF containing all biosketches)

## Full Proposal Guidelines

### **Formatting Guidelines**

- Suggested length for the full proposal narrative is 6-10 pages.
- PDFs can be single-spaced.
- Font should not exceed 12-point (Arial, Calibri, or Times New Roman only).
- Margins should be at least 1 inch on all sides.
- References should be included in the full proposal narrative, but they do not count towards the page count.

## **Dana Foundation Programs**

### **Dana Education**

**Goal:** Strengthen neuroscience's positive role in the world by sparking interest in and supporting education around neuroscience and the many ways it interfaces with our everyday lives.

*The [Dana Education program](#) supports education both inside and outside the classroom to capture people's interest and strengthen their knowledge of neuroscience and its relevance to their everyday lives. We seek to support projects that go beyond teaching basic neuroscience to explore the field's connections to society and its intersections with ethics, law, policy, humanities, the arts, education, and other disciplines through comprehensive, sustained programming that extends past singular events.*

#### **Objectives:**

1. Empower people of all ages to use neuroscience in their everyday lives by strengthening their knowledge of the field's real-world applications and ethical considerations through sustained informal education programs.
2. Engage K-12 students in learning about neuroscience through structured education opportunities (formal and non-formal) that integrate relevant, real-world topics and issues to capture their interest and inspire continued study.
3. Facilitate greater understanding and informed decision-making among professionals by supporting new education approaches on neuroscience topics related to their practice.

### **Dana NextGen**

**Goal:** Strengthen neuroscience's positive role in the world by preparing the next generation of scholars to think reflexively and responsibly apply neuroscience knowledge to benefit society by supporting innovative training opportunities, workforce development, and collaboration across disciplines.

*The [Dana NextGen program](#) aims to catalyze a new generation of interdisciplinary experts who transform neuroscience and neurotechnology research and development by centering consideration of societal needs throughout the process. We seek to support projects that provide neuroscience and society training opportunities and workforce development at the early career stage, inclusive of undergraduate students through pre-tenure faculty or equivalent, with an emphasis on cross-disciplinary collaboration between neuroscience and non-science disciplines. NextGen trainees will be demographically and intellectually diverse, bridging the divide between neuroscience and the publics it's meant to serve. We welcome projects that go beyond traditional pedagogy and focus on experiential learning to broaden a trainee's education such that they are equipped with the necessary resources and collaborators to answer the complex problems raised by advances in neuroscience.*

#### **Objectives:**

1. Prepare trainees at early career stages to think critically and reflexively about the ethical, legal, and societal implications raised by real-world neuroscience applications through experiential learning and innovative curricula.
2. Strengthen workforce development for careers within academia and beyond, empowering a new generation of scholars in neuroscience and society who will shepherd neuroscience's positive role in the world.

3. Encourage rigorous, collaborative, and cross-disciplinary work between neuroscience and non-science disciplines to solve complex problems that cannot be answered by neuroscience alone.

### **Dana Frontiers**

**Goal:** Strengthen neuroscience’s positive role in the world by increasing collaborative engagement with diverse publics, supporting opportunities for all people to shape neuroscience and benefit from its power and promise.

*The [Dana Frontiers program](#) supports multidirectional community engagement to collaboratively identify and address key issues at the intersection of neuroscience and society. We seek to support projects that improve the quality of relationships between communities of people, including patient groups, technology end-users, industry, researchers, clinicians, regulators, ethicists, professionals, policymakers, and more. Frontiers-supported projects also test novel approaches to ensure these different perspectives and voices shape neuroscience research and relevant policies. By supporting neuroscience community engagement, the Frontiers program ultimately aims to build capacity for communities and organizations to collaboratively respond to societal challenges and opportunities related to neuroscience. The Frontiers program’s grant portfolio includes the development of new tools or resources for trust-building and deep listening with communities, support for individual leaders in civic neuroscience, and seeding new opportunities for community collaboration across sectors and identities.*

### **Objectives:**

1. Develop engagement resources to cultivate trust and improve the quality of relationships between neuroscience practitioners, policymakers, and communities of people.
2. Pilot innovative multidirectional engagement opportunities to embed community perspectives in research, policy, and decision-making.
3. Support and empower neuroscience and society practitioners who champion inclusive, effective models of multidirectional engagement with diverse publics so that more communities can use neuroscience to address their priorities.

### **Dana Opportunistic**

Our grants are organized around the three program areas listed above (Dana Education, NextGen, and Frontiers), with a focus on strengthening neuroscience’s positive role in the world. However, we recognize that we don’t have all the answers and it’s our job to keep looking. If you have a project idea that you believe would strengthen neuroscience’s positive role in the world in alignment with our mission, vision, and values (see <https://dana.org/about-dana/>), but your idea does not align with one of our three primary program areas (Dana Education, NextGen, and Frontiers), please submit it under the Dana Opportunistic program.