

VRSI Call for Research Proposals:

Advancing Vitreoretinal Science

Submission Deadline: 10th April 2026

The Vitreoretinal Society of India (VRSI) is pleased to invite applications for research proposals aimed at advancing innovative ideas and projects in the field of vitreoretinal diseases. This initiative focuses on fostering long-term, high-impact research that addresses critical challenges in retinal diseases.

Two-Stage Submission Process

Stage 1: Letter of Intent (LOI) Submission

LOI Requirements: Applicants are required to submit a 1-page Letter of Intent (LOI) that outlines the key details of their proposed research, including specific aims, significance, innovation, and an overview of the study approach.

Selection: From the submitted LOIs, 10 will be selected based on originality, feasibility, and alignment with the research focus areas.

Notification of Selection : 30th April 2026

Stage 2: Full Proposal Submission : 15th May 2026

The letter of Ethical approval or submission to Ethics committee to be attached.

You will be invited to present the proposal virtually to VRSI Research Committee between 22-23 May 2026

Full Proposal: The 10 selected applicants will be invited to submit a full research proposal within two weeks, detailing the study design, methodology, budget, and expected outcomes.

Presentation: These applicants will present their proposals to the VRSI Research Committee, highlighting the significance and potential impact of their research.

Final Selection: Four full proposals will be selected for funding based on the research committee's evaluation.

Preference and Funding Details

Study Design Preference: Preference will be given to multi-centric, prospective studies that effectively address the research question posed.

Stage Study Duration: The proposed study should be completed within a maximum of 18 months

Funding Reimbursement: Funds will be reimbursed every 6 months based on the achievement of specified milestones. **The maximum funding allotted for each study is INR 20, 00,000.**

Areas of Focus Proposals should target key issues in retinal diseases, including but not limited to:

- Surgical Retina
- Inflammation and Infections
- Retinal Vascular Diseases
- Retinal Degenerations
- Public Health
- Retinal Imaging

Application Components

For those invited to submit a full proposal, the following components will be required:

a) Specific Aims (1-page limit): Concisely outline the goals and expected outcomes of the proposed research.

b) Research Strategy (10-page limit): This section should be organized under three headings:

c) Significance: Describe the importance of the problem being addressed and how the project will advance scientific knowledge.

d) Innovation: Explain how the project challenges current paradigms and introduces novel concepts or methodologies.

e) Approach: Detail the overall strategy, methodology, and analyses. Include potential problems, alternative strategies, and benchmarks for success.

f) Budget and Justification: Provide a detailed budget plan with justifications.

g) Biographical Sketches: Submit a 3-page biosketch for each investigator.

Project Summary and Narrative: Include a succinct description of the project's long-term objectives and its relevance.

Final Notification of Results: 25 May 2026

Expected date for Initiation of Research project : 1st June 2026

Duration of Project : 18 months

We expect the final results to be presented in VRSI Annual meeting in 2027.

Monitoring and Reporting The VRSI Research Committee will actively monitor the progress of funded projects through regular updates from Principal

These updates will be reported to the VRSI Governing Council to facilitate informed decision-making.

Submission Instructions Submit your 1-page LOI via email by 10th April to convenervrsi@gmail.com

We eagerly anticipate your contributions to advancing vitreoretinal science and enhancing patient care through innovative research.