



Paralyzed Veterans of America

Small But Mighty

Cheryl L. Vines, MS
Director of Research and Education





- Paralyzed Veterans of America is a Congressionally Chartered VSO
- Established in 1946 by a ‘band of brothers’, veterans living with SCIs at the Birmingham VA Hospital in Los Angeles, CA.
 - They had survived now wanted to thrive
- Dedicated to serving veterans—and to medical research, advocacy and civil rights for all people with disabilities
- A not for profit organization



Our Mission

***Paralyzed Veterans of America**, a congressionally chartered veterans service organization founded in 1946, has developed a unique expertise on a wide variety of issues involving the special needs of our members – veterans of the armed forces who have experienced spinal cord injury or dysfunction.*

PVA will use that expertise to be the leading advocate for:

Quality health care for our members,

Research and education addressing spinal cord injury and dysfunction,

Benefits available as a result of our members' military service,

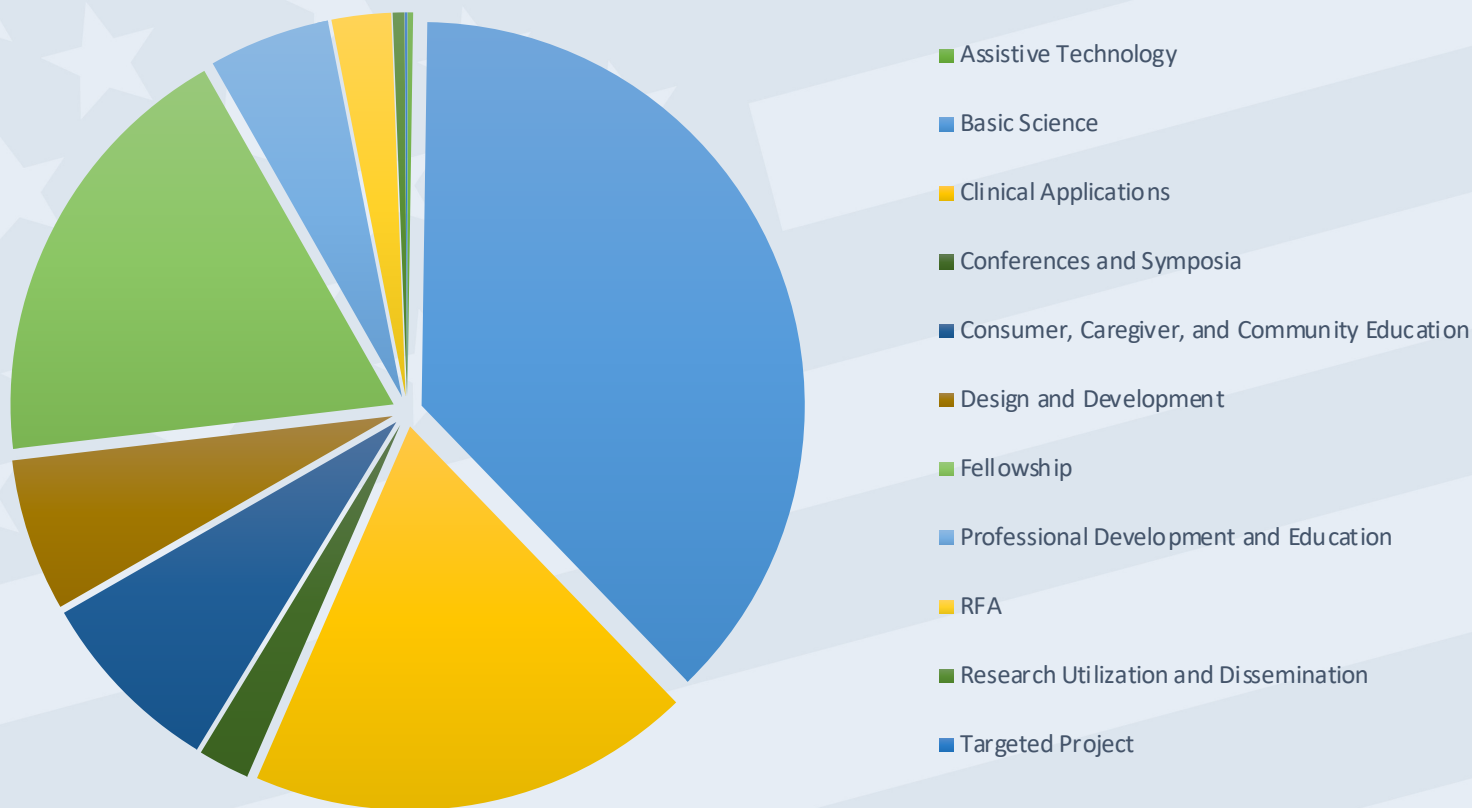
Civil rights and opportunities that maximize the independence of our members.



Our Services

- Veterans Benefits
- Medical Services
- Government Relations
- Architecture and Access
- Veterans Career Program
- Sports and Recreation
- Women Veterans Empowerment
- **Research and Education**
- National Service Officers and appellate attorneys

Commitment to Research and Education



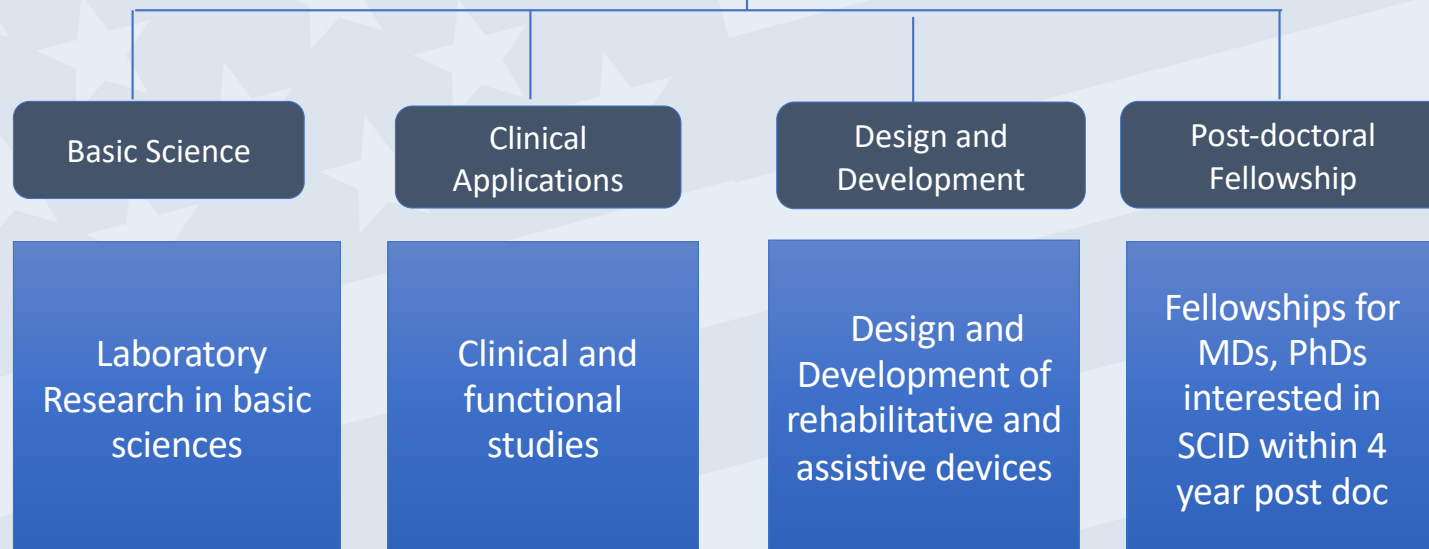


Research Foundation Mission

The Mission of the PVA Research Foundation is:

- To promote innovative research to find better treatments and cures for paralysis.
- To support efforts to improve the quality of life for individuals with spinal cord dysfunction until treatments are found.
- To train post-doctoral fellow investigators and encourage them to specialize in the area of spinal cord research.

Research Foundation Funding Categories





Funding Levels

➤ **Basic Science**

Grants funded up to \$200,000 for 2 or 3 years.

➤ **Clinical Applications**

Grants funded up to \$200,000 for 2 or 3 years.

➤ **Design and Development/Assistive Technology**

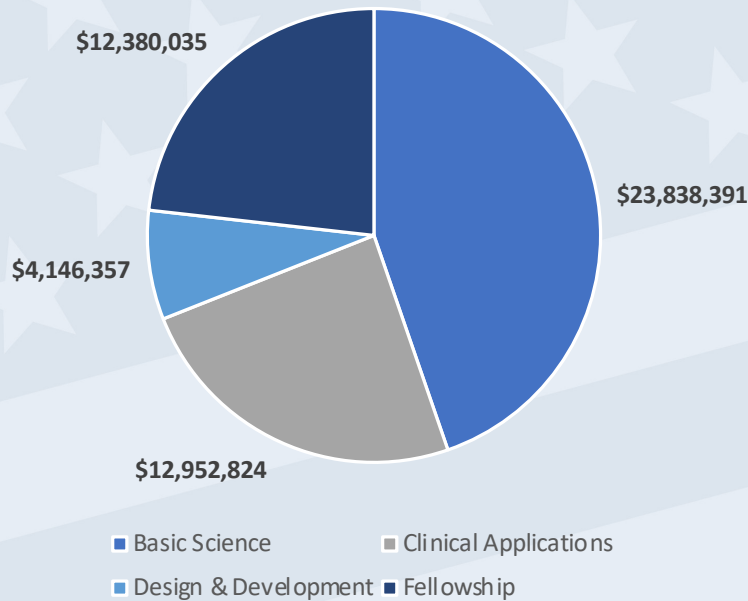
Grants funded up to \$200,000 for 2 or 3 years.

➤ **Post-doctoral Fellowships**

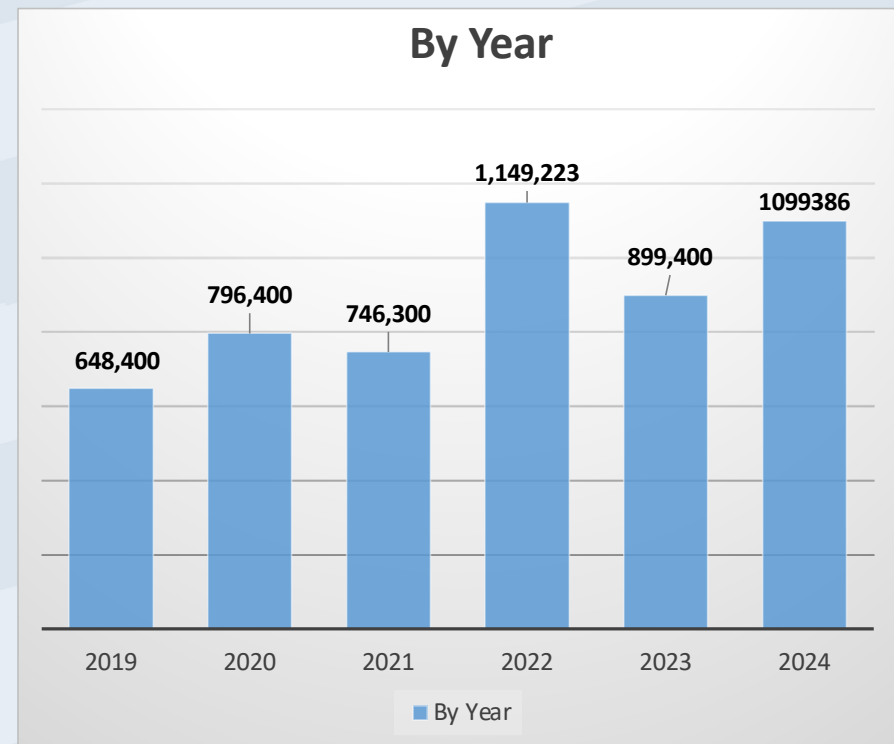
Grants funded up to \$150,000 for 1, 2 or 3 years.

Research Foundation: The Numbers

By Category (since inception)



By Year





Of Note

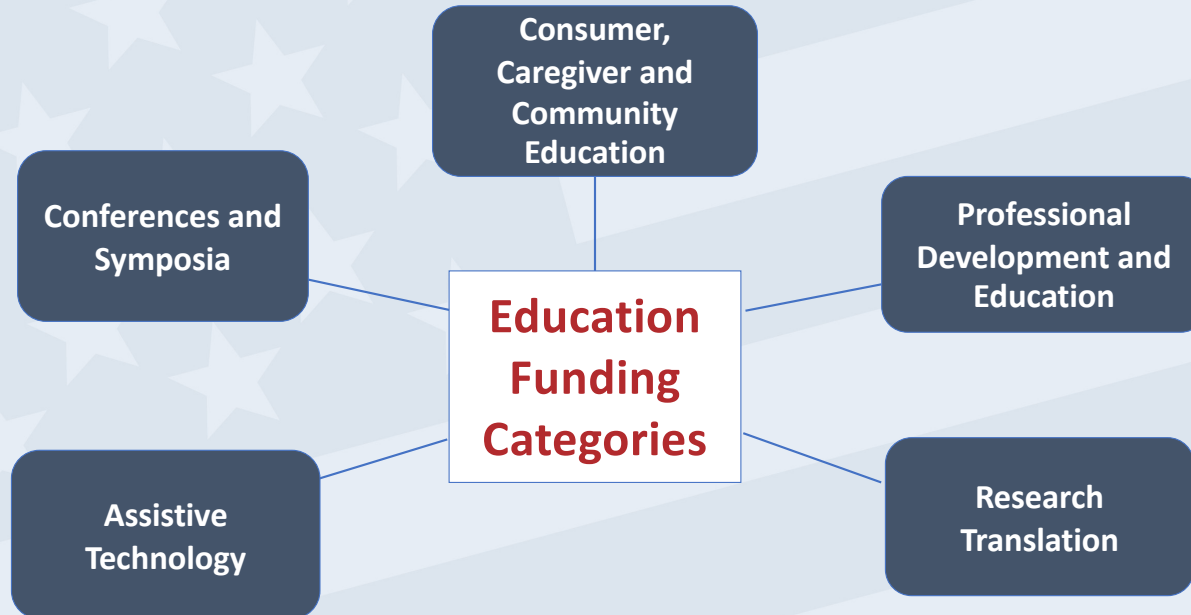
- All PVA grants applications must include an *involved* individual with SCI lived experience (SCILE), we call SCI Advocates.
- Funding for grants in SCI/D, MS, ALS
- Voting Board are all PVA members
- Grants are peer reviewed and scored at two levels in collaboration with our review organization
- Grant cycle opened April 1, closes July 1, 2024 – OPEN NOW
- Grant awards announced by November 30, 2024, January 1, 2025 start
- Apply at <https://pva.org/research-resources/research-foundation/>



Education Foundation Mission

The mission of the PVA Education Foundation is to fund innovative educational projects that enhance the quality of life of individuals with spinal cord injury or disease (SCI/D), including multiple sclerosis (MS) and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) and/or increase the knowledge and effectiveness of health professionals in SCI/D, MS and ALS communities. Key components of the Foundation's mission are:

- To support efforts to improve the quality of life of individuals with SCI/D, MS and ALS.
- To educate consumers about the consequences and secondary health effects of SCI/D, MS and ALS.
- To improve the knowledge and skills of health-care professionals who serve people with SCI/D, MS and ALS.
- To prevent the occurrence of secondary health effects in individuals with SCI/D, MS and ALS.



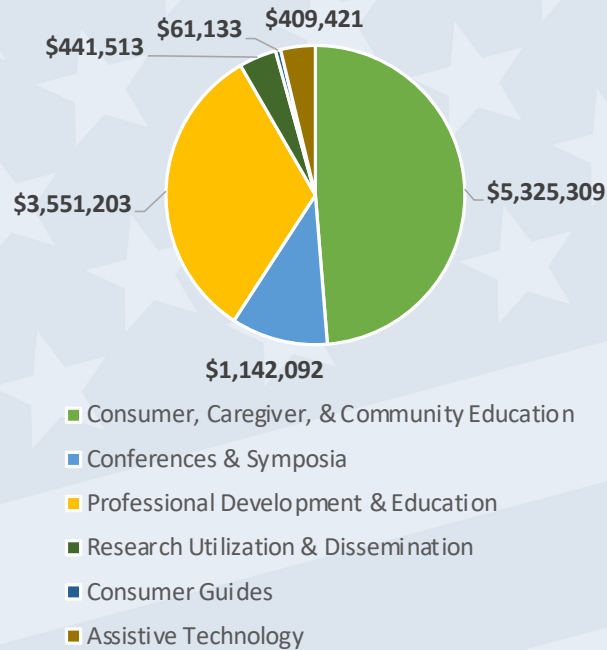


Funding Levels

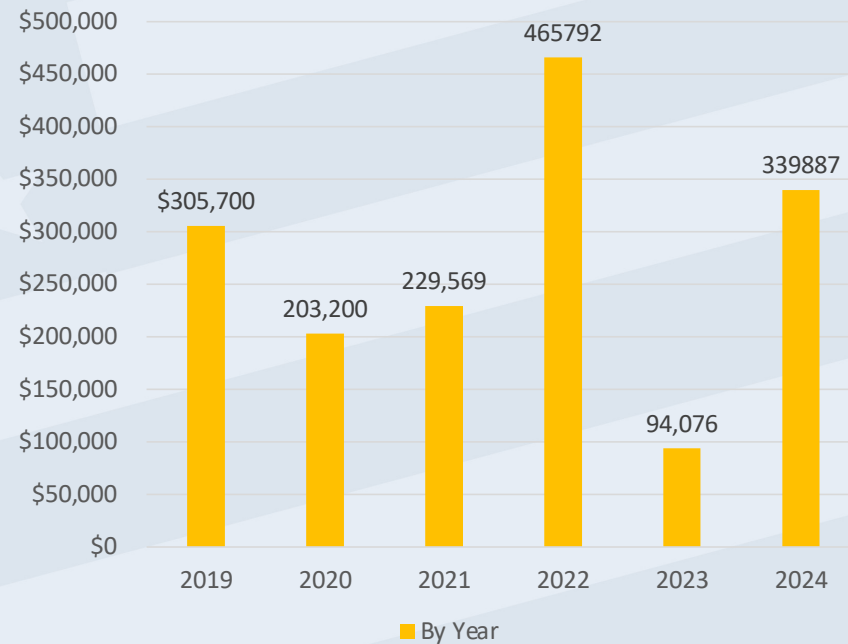
- **Project Grants – All categories**
 - Grants funded up to \$75,000 for 1 years.
- **Conferences and Symposia**
 - Funded for 1 year
 - Virtual only- \$10,000
 - In person and/or hybrid \$20,000

Education Foundation: The Numbers

By Category (since inception)



By Year





Also of Note

- All PVA grants applications must include an *involved* individual with SCI lived experience (SCILE), we call SCI Advocates.
- Funding for grants in SCI/D, MS, ALS
- Grants are peer reviewed and scored at two levels in collaboration with our review organization
- Voting Board are 50% + PVA Members
- Grant cycle opens September 1, closes December 1, 2024
- Grant awards announced by April 30, 2025, June 1, 2025 start
- Apply at <https://pva.org/research-resources/education-foundation/>



Successful Grants

- Don't try to put a square peg in a round hole – read eligibility criteria
- Budget should match the narrative, is commiserate with aims and justified in detail.
- Your timeline/milestones account for full grant cycle, data compilation, analysis, report preparation are given a reasonable time to complete.
- When people are your subjects, explain how you will recruit and retain, in detail.
- Lay Abstracts should be written for those who the project aims to impact.



Questions?

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