**Purpose:** The Commonwealth of Virginia established the Award Fund in 1982 to promote research into Alzheimer’s and related diseases. Because of a commitment to program balance, the Fund encourages scientifically rigorous applications from a broad spectrum of disciplines. Studies may involve:

1. the underlying causes, epidemiology, diagnosis, or treatment of Alzheimer’s and related diseases;
2. policies, programs, and financing for care and support of those affected by Alzheimer’s and related diseases;
3. or the social and psychological impacts of Alzheimer’s and related diseases upon the individual, family, and community.

**Funding:** The size of awards varies, but is limited to $45,000 each. Number of awards is contingent upon available funds.

**Eligibility:** Applicants must be affiliated with colleges or universities, research institutes, or other not-for-profit organizations located in Virginia. The Fund encourages partnerships between community-based agencies/facilities and academic institutions in Virginia.

**Schedule:**

- **Letter of Intent:** By **February 15, 2019** prospective applicants are required to submit a non-binding letter of intent that includes a tentative project title, contact information for the principal investigator, the identities of other personnel and participating institutions, a non-technical abstract, and a 4-5 sentence description of the project in common, everyday language for press release purposes. Letters on letterhead with signature affixed must be uploaded to [bit.ly/ardraf-loi](http://bit.ly/ardraf-loi).

- **Applications:** Applications sent by carriers who date stamp on or before the due date, with an electronic copy also e-mailed on or before the due date, will be accepted through the close of business **March 15, 2019**. NOTE: significant changes to the application form and guidelines were instituted in 2018.

- **Announcement of Awards:** Award decisions will be announced by June 24, 2019.

- **Funding Period:** The funding period begins July 1, 2019 and projects must be completed by June 30, 2020.

**Review:** Three qualified technical reviewers, one of whom is identified by the applicant, will review proposals for scientific merit. The Awards Committee will make the final funding decision.

**Application:** Application forms, guidelines, and further information may be found at [go.vcu.edu/ardraf](http://go.vcu.edu/ardraf) or by contacting the Award Fund administrator:

Constance L. Coogle, Ph.D.
Phone: (804) 828-1525
E-Mail: ccoogle@vcu.edu

For door-to-door delivery (FedEx, UPS, etc) the street address is 730 E. Broad St., 2nd Floor–Rm 2088, Richmond, VA 23219