Science Director

Position Type: Part-time, approximately 10–15 hours per week

Location: Remote

Compensation: Commensurate with experience and qualifications

Position Overview

The KAT6 Foundation is seeking a part-time Science Director to provide scientific leadership and help accelerate research toward a better understanding of KAT6A- and KAT6B-related disorders and, ultimately, the development of effective therapeutics.

Working closely with the Executive Director, Science Committee, Board of Directors, and research partners, the Science Director will help shape the Foundation's research strategy, identify gaps and opportunities, coordinate funded research, evaluate new projects, interpret patient registry data, and help ensure the Foundation is making strategic research investments that move the field forward.

The ideal candidate combines a strong scientific background with strategic thinking, excellent organizational and communication skills, and experience in rare disease research.

Key Responsibilities

- Help develop and advance the Foundation's research strategy with a long-term goal of accelerating progress toward therapeutic development.
- Identify critical gaps, opportunities, and next steps in KAT6 research and advise Foundation leadership on where research funding can have the greatest impact.
- Coordinate and monitor Foundation-funded research projects, including progress, milestones, timelines, and deliverables.
- Maintain regular communication with funded researchers and facilitate collaboration and sharing of knowledge across projects.
- Collaborate with the Science Committee to evaluate research opportunities, review proposals, and make funding recommendations to the Board of Directors.
- Analyze and interpret data from the KAT6 Patient Registry to identify trends, research questions, and opportunities for further study.
- Help coordinate the Foundation's biobank and biospecimen resources, including working with research partners to facilitate appropriate access to and sharing of available biospecimens and cell lines for approved research.

- Stay informed about developments in KAT6 and relevant rare disease research, including emerging approaches to therapeutic development.
- Translate scientific findings, research updates, publications, and registry data into clear, accessible information for families, donors, Board members, and other non-scientific audiences.
- Help plan the Foundation's scientific conference, including identifying scientific priorities, developing the agenda, and coordinating with researchers and speakers.
- Participate in Science Committee, Board, researcher, and other scientific meetings as needed.

Required Qualifications

- PhD in genetics, molecular biology, neuroscience, biomedical sciences, or a related field.
- Laboratory research experience (wet or dry lab).
- Experience analyzing and interpreting scientific, clinical, or patient-derived data.
- Strong strategic thinking, organizational, and project management skills.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, including the ability to explain complex scientific information to non-scientific audiences.
- Strong interpersonal and collaboration skills.

Preferred Qualifications

- Experience in rare disease research or a closely related field.
- Experience with translational research and/or therapeutic development.
- Experience with patient registries, natural history studies, patient-reported outcomes, or clinical datasets.
- Experience reviewing research proposals or scientific grants.
- Experience working with a patient advocacy organization, research foundation, or nonprofit.

How to Apply

Interested candidates should submit a CV and cover letter outlining their relevant experience and interest in the position to aimee@kat6.org.

Please include "Science Director Application" in the subject line.

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis.