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EBAA and ARVO Announce New EyeFind Research Grants

The awards assist researchers in need of human eye tissue to advance the field of corneal transplantation. EyeFind is a searchable database of human eye tissue and eye banks.

Washington, D.C., November 18, 2019 —The Eye Bank Association of America (EBAA) and the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO) announced the creation of a new grant program that provides financial support to researchers in need of human eye tissue for their research.

The EyeFind Research Grants offer up to \$5,000 per project to underwrite the cost of human eye tissue needed in projects advancing the field of ocular research, including cornea transplantation.

EyeFind was launched in May 2019 by EBAA and ARVO. It is the first searchable online database allowing researchers to select criteria they're looking for in human eye tissue and find eye banks with tissue that matches that criteria.

"The EyeFind Research grants are the next step in advancing corneal research," said EBAA President and CEO, Kevin Corcoran. "EyeFind makes it easy for researchers to find the tissue they need, and EBAA is happy to work with ARVO to provide these grants to help alleviate the financial burden of critical studies that will help preserve or restore sight to millions around the world."

EyeFind grant applications will be accepted from January 1 – April 1, 2020, with the first round being disbursed by June 2020. Grants have been made possible through sponsorship from BrightFocus Foundation and with additional funding support through EBAA and ARVO. More information can be found on the EyeFind Research Grant website.

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The **Eye Bank Association of America (EBAA)**, established in 1961, is the oldest transplant association in the U.S. and sets standards, provides education, and engages in advocacy to support eye donation, cornea transplantation, and research. EBAA leads the transplantation field by establishing medical standards for eye banking, and comprehensive training and certification programs for eye bank personnel. Over 73

member eye banks operate in the United States, Canada, Europe, the Middle East and Asia. These eye banks made possible 80,000 sight-restoring corneal transplants, and provided nearly 23,000 corneas for research and education purposes, last year. To learn more, visit www.restoresight.org.