



## **2012 Grant Application Guidelines for Young Investigator Awards**

In this packet you will find:

- General and Submission Information
- Descriptions and Criteria for the Young Investigator Awards
- Grant Deadlines
- Application Outline and Format

New for 2012: The funding amount has increased to \$50,000 per year for two years.

***Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation***  
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[www.ALSFgrants.org](http://www.ALSFgrants.org)

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# **Young Investigator Awards**

**Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation** is a unique not for profit foundation that has evolved from a young cancer patient's front yard lemonade stand to a national foundation for childhood cancer.

**Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation Grant Program** is committed to eradicating childhood cancer through basic research, career development and helping to streamline translational clinical research.

## **Submission Process:**

All requests must be submitted using ALSF's online application process. Applicants can request a password or sign in by going to the Guidelines and Submission page of [www.ALSFgrants.org](http://www.ALSFgrants.org). Once you have signed in you may:

- Start the a grant application
  - o Part 1 – Complete online form
  - o Part 2 – Upload application as 1 PDF (max 10 MB) – see format guidelines on following pages
- Save your application and return at a later time to continue working or submit
- Copy and paste information from another document into the form

## **Restrictions**

We will not consider medical grant applications in psychosocial aspects of pediatric cancer and/or cancer control. Please see our Nurse Researcher grant categories for inquires regarding psychosocial research topics.

We encourage you to contact us if you have any questions about the appropriateness of your research ideas for this funding mechanism. [Grants@AlexsLemonade.org](mailto:Grants@AlexsLemonade.org). Applications not following the guidelines will be administratively rejected.

## **Review Process**

- Proposals must fall within the scope of Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation in order to be considered.
- Grants will be reviewed by an independent panel of experts according to the NIH recognized peer-review process and overseen by ALSF's Scientific Advisory Board.
- Funds will be granted to non-profit institutions or organizations operating in the United States or Canada. Researchers need not be U.S. citizens.

# **Young Investigator Awards**

Description

These grants are designed as start-up funds for new scientists at the end of their fellowship training or early in their research career. Demonstration of outstanding mentorship and demonstration of a career plan that shows commitment to pediatric cancer investigation are critical components of a successful application.

### Criteria

- Applicants should be at the early stages of their research careers as defined below.
  - M.D. (D.O.) or M.D.,Ph.D. applicants must either be finished the third year of an accredited fellowship program at the time funding will start or within six years from the completion of a three-year fellowship program at the time the funding will start.
  - Ph.D. applicants must be within six years from the granting of the Ph.D. at the time the funding will start, i.e. those with Ph.D. received in 2006 are eligible to apply for a 2012 grant. Post-docs are encouraged to apply but must also be within the six year time frame.
- The applicant must not currently hold an independent NIH grant (R or P Award). Applicant may currently have a NIH K Award.
- A research mentor must be identified and the application must document his/her involvement in experimental design and execution.

### Budget

Maximum \$50,000 in total costs will be awarded to applicants annually. Budget items may include salary, fringe, travel, supplies and small pieces of equipment (less than \$5000). A detailed budget and justification is required using the form provide on the ALSF website. A maximum of two years of funding may be requested. Funds from ALSF may not be used for indirect costs.

### Progress

- Continued support for a second year of funding is contingent upon a non-competitive review and demonstration of satisfactory completion of proposed research objectives and appropriate budget expenditures.
- A final report is required at the conclusion of funding.

## **2012 Grant Cycle Dates**

Application Due Date	December 15, 2011 (11:59 PM ET)
Award Notification Date	Late-April, 2012
Project Start Date	July 1, 2012
Progress Report	June 15, 2013 (with financials ending 5/31/13)
Final Report	July 15, 2014 * (with final financials ending 6/30/14)

\*Young Investigators Awards are not eligible for renewal.

Please contact Kay Schaul at (610) 649-3034 if you have any questions about your grant application and submission or email questions to [Grants@AlexsLemonade.org](mailto:Grants@AlexsLemonade.org)

## **Grant Application**

All applications must be submitted using ALSF's 2 part online submission process. Applicants must first complete the online form then upload the application in one PDF (max 10 MB). Applicants can login or request a password by visiting the Guidelines and Submission page of: [www.ALSFgrants.org](http://www.ALSFgrants.org)

### **Part I: Online Form**

#### **A. Contact Information**

Applicant will be asked for basic contact information for themselves, their mentor, and their institution. Applicants will be asked to submit a payable contact, should the project be funded.

#### **B. Project Overview and Layman's Summary**

In respective sections enter project title, request amount, type of childhood cancer project focuses on as well as a 250 words summary of the research project in layman's terms. (You will be asked to release this summary for use at ALSF's discretion should proposal be funded.) Please note; formatting for Layman's Summary will be done automatically. You may copy and paste information from other documents into these sections.

### **Part II: Application Outline**

- All sections described below should be combined into one PDF (max 10 MB) and uploaded to the ALSF online form.
- All templates mentioned can be found on the Grants Guidelines and Submission page of [www.ALSFgrants.org](http://www.ALSFgrants.org).
- All pages of the application should be numbered; the name of the principal investigator should appear in the upper right-hand corner of each page.
- Please follow NIH format guidelines: Arial, Helvetica, Palatino Linotype, or Georgia fonts with a font size of 11 points or larger with minimum of ½ inch margins.
- The order of the application should be as follows, adhering to the maximum number of pages allowed for each subsection indicated in parentheses.
- Appendices are not allowed.

#### **A. Cover Page (1 page)**

Use the document provided on the ALSF website (link above).

#### **B. Table of Contents (1 page)**

Please provide a Table of Contents with page numbers to the corresponding sections.

#### **C. Project Information**

##### **a. Scientific Abstract (1/2 page)**

Please include a summary of the research objectives and rationale.

##### **b. Impact Statement (1/2 page)**

How will this project lead to new or improved cures or impact pediatric cancer patients?

##### **c. Budget/Justification (3 pages)**

Use ALSF's budget template. The signature from an institutional representative on the cover page of the grant application accepts the provision no indirect costs will be paid.

**d. Biographical Sketch (es)**

Use the PHS 398 four page biographical sketch format for the principal investigator, mentor and any key personnel.

**e. Project Details**

**i. Specific Aims (1 page)**

List the goals, long-term objectives and what the specific research proposed in this application is intended to accomplish. State the hypotheses to be tested and relevance to pediatric cancer research.

**ii. Background and Significance (1 page)**

Describe the relevant background for the current research plan. State the significance and importance of your proposed project with respect to pediatric cancer research. Relate the specific aims to the goals and long-term objectives.

**iii. Preliminary Studies (2 pages)**

Provide an account of the PI's preliminary studies pertinent to the application.

**iv. Experimental Approach and Research Design (4 pages)**

Describe the experimental approach to the research question. Emphasize innovation and describe how research will be realistically accomplished within the proposed funding period. A time line is highly encouraged. Review emphasis will be placed on anticipation of potential problems and plans to deal with these.

**v. Human Subjects (1/2 page)**

Include IRB approval letter. If letter is not applicable please note here. If letter is pending, any funds awarded will be held until letter is received.

**vi. Vertebrate Animals (1/2 page)**

Include IACUC approval letter. If letter is not applicable please note here. If letter is pending, any funds awarded will be held until letter is received.

**vii. Literature Cited**

A maximum of 30 references are allowed. Please use A.P.A. format.

**viii. Collaborators and/or Consultants**

Include any appropriate letters here from individuals confirming their roles in the project.

**ix. Mentoring Plan (1 page)**

Describe plan for career development including strategies for mentorship, continued education, and future research/funding. Include a letter of recommendation from mentor.

**x. Resubmissions (1 page)**

If this proposal was submitted previously and did not receive funding, please describe any changes in the application i.e. respond to the reviewer's critique in terms of changes in experimental design or new data.