



2011 'A' AWARD GUIDELINES

In this booklet you will find the following:

- Overview – page 2
 - Program Goals, Review Process, Highlights, Eligibility Criteria
 - Progress Reporting & Restrictions

- Application - pages 3-4
 - Online Application Information
 - Application Outline

- Submission Procedures and Important Dates – page 5

Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation (ALSF) evolved from the front yard lemonade stand of cancer patient Alexandra "Alex" Scott (1996-2004) into a national fundraising movement to find a cure for all childhood cancer.

The 'A' Award is a three-year grant designed for young scientists who want to jump-start their career in pediatric oncology research. The ideal candidate has an original project that is not currently being funded. Demonstration of outstanding mentorship and a future commitment to pediatric cancer investigation are critical components of a successful application.

Contact: Kay Schaul

333 E. Lancaster Avenue, #414, Wynnewood, PA 19096

Ph. 610-649-3034 or 866-333-1213, Fax 610-649-3038

www.ALSFgrants.org

Grants@AlexsLemonade.org

2011 'A' AWARD

'A' Award Program Goals

- To encourage the best and brightest young researchers to build a life long career and become a leader in the pediatric cancer field.
- To further research that will lead to cures or impact children with cancer.

Review Process

- Applications, Progress Reports, Final Reports and respective Budgets will be reviewed by a scientific review panel.

Highlights

- Three-year grant, \$125,000 a year
- Recipient will have the opportunity to speak at and attend Foundation events
- Recipient will be given a choice of reference books to enhance their personal pediatric oncology library

Eligibility Criteria

- Candidates may have their M.D., Ph.D. or M.D., Ph.D. and must not have achieved an appointment higher than assistant professor.
- A minimum of 75% of the candidate's time during 'A' Award must be allocated to research related activities.
- Candidates MAY have other research grants during the 'A' Award period, but there must be clear documentation of mechanisms to avoid scientific and/or budgetary overlap.
- Proposals must fall within Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation's 'A' Award Program goals.
- Applicants currently funded by ALSF are not eligible for an 'A' Award.
- Applicants who have applied for a Young Investigator, Innovation, Program Infrastructure or Epidemiology Award in 2010 or 2011 are not eligible for a 2011 'A' Award.
- A mentoring plan for career development must be clearly articulated with appropriate letters of support.
- Funds must be granted to non-profit institutions or organizations operating in the United States or Canada.
- Researchers need not be U.S. citizens.

M.D. and M.D., Ph.D. Candidates

- M.D. or M.D., Ph.D. candidates must be no more than 6 years after finishing 3-year fellowship. (i.e., if the fellowship ended in 2005 or later, applicant is eligible for 2011 'A' Award).
- M.D. candidates who did not do a 3-year fellowship must have 3 years of research experience after M.D. was awarded and be no more than 9 years after receiving M.D.

Ph.D. Candidates

- Ph.D. candidates must be no more than 6 years since being awarded Ph.D. (i.e., if Ph.D. is awarded in 2005 or later, applicant is eligible for 2011 'A' Award).

Progress

- Continued support for second and third years is contingent upon a non-competitive review and demonstration of satisfactory completion of proposed goals and appropriate budget expenditures.
- Periodic verbal updates with the Scientific Advisory Board will be scheduled.
- A final progress report is required at the conclusion of funding.

Restrictions

- Indirect costs are not allowed.
- Applications which do not fall into ALSF's mission will not be considered.
- Previous recipients of the 'A' Award may not apply for a renewal.
- Applications not following the guidelines and submission process or are received after the due date will not be considered.
- Applications in psychosocial aspects of pediatric cancer and/or cancer control are not eligible. Please see our Nurse Researcher grant categories for psychosocial research topics.

2011 'A' AWARD

'A' Award Application Submission Process

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 request a password and start an application by visiting the Guidelines and Submission section of the website: www.ALSFgrants.org.

I. Online Form

A. Contact Information

Applicant will be asked for basic contact information for themselves, their mentor, and their institution. In addition, applicants must submit a payable contact from their institution, should the project be funded.

B. Project Overview and Layman's Summary

Enter project title, request amount, type of childhood cancer the project is focused on as well as a 250 word 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.) You may copy and paste information from other documents into these sections.

II. Application Outline

Below is an outline for the 'A' Award Application.

- All sections should be combined into one .pdf (max 10 MB) and uploaded to the ALSF online form.
- All templates mentioned are in the Guidelines and Submission section of: 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 font guidelines: Arial, Helvetica, Palatino Linotype, or Georgia fonts with a font size of 11 points or larger with a 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.

A. Cover Page - Use the template provided.

The cover page needs to be signed by an authorized representative of the applicant's institution. The signature from an institutional representative specifically acknowledges the application and accepts the no indirect cost provision.

B. Table of Contents (1 page)

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

C. Principal Investigator and Mentor Commitment

a. PI Statement (1/2 page)

Describe goals and long-term objectives for the PI over the three year funding period. Include what the PI hopes to gain from this experience and any future aspirations and long-term career goals.

b. Environment

i. Mentoring Plan (1 page)

Describe plan for career development including strategies for mentorship, continued education, and future research/funding.

ii. Institution's Commitment (1 page)

Describe the laboratory facilities, office space and equipment dedicated to this project. Include institution's guarantee of protected time for this research.

D. Project Information

a. Impact Statement (1/2 page)

2011 'A' AWARD

State the significance and relevance of your proposed project with respect to pediatric cancer research. How will this project lead to new or improved cures or impact pediatric cancer patients?

b. Scientific Abstract (1/2 page)

Summarize the research objectives and rationale.

c. Budget and Justification

Use the budget template when completing your proposed budget and justification. Acceptable budget items include salary, fringe, travel, research assistant, supplies and equipment under \$10,000. No indirect costs will be paid.

d. Biographical Sketches

Use the PHS 398 four page biographical sketch format for PI and Mentor only.

e. Research 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.

ii. Background (1 page)

Briefly describe the relevant background for the research plan.

iii. Preliminary Studies (2 pages)

Provide the mentor and/or applicant's preliminary studies pertinent to the proposed project.

iv. Experimental Approach and Research Design (3 pages)

Describe the experimental approach to the research question. Emphasize innovation and describe how research will be realistically accomplished within the proposed funding period. Include anticipation of potential problems and plans to deal with them.

v. Human Subjects (1/2 page)

Describe the role that human subjects have in the proposed project. Relevant documentation should accompany the proposal, including IRB approval letter. If pending, please note in this section.

vi. Vertebrate Animals (1/2 page)

Describe the role that animal subjects have in the proposed project. Relevant documentation should accompany the proposal, including I.A.C.U.C approval letter. If pending, please note in this section.

vii. Literature Cited

Maximum of 30 references. Please use "Vancouver" format.

viii. Research Collaborators/Consultants

Include letters from individuals (other than mentor) confirming their roles in the project.

ix. Letters of Recommendation

Include mentor letter and at least one other letter of recommendation. Be sure to address why applicant is a good candidate keeping in mind the goals of the 'A' Award Program.

x. Appendix

Appendices must be critical to the understanding of the application, such as accepted, but as yet unpublished manuscripts, a full protocol, or up to three pages of tables/figures for supplementary data. Excessive appendices will cause the application to be administratively rejected.

2011 'A' AWARD

APPLICATION SUBMISSION AND IMPORTANT DATES

All applications must be received by the September 15, 2011 deadline.

Application Due Date	Thursday, September 15, 2011 (11:59 PM eastern time)
Award Notification Date	End of November 2011
Project Start Date	January 3, 2012
1 st year Report	January 3, 2013
2 nd year Report	January 2, 2014
Final Report	February 2015 (financials as of Dec 31 st)

Submitting Your Application

All requests must be submitted using ALSF's online application process. Please do not send hard copies. Applicants can request a password by going to the Guidelines and Submission page on www.ALSFgrants.org. Once a password has been requested you may:

- Start the 'A' Award application.
 - o Part 1 – Complete online form
 - o Part 2 – Upload application as 1 .pdf (max 10 MB) – see format guidelines on previous pages
- Save your application and return at a later time to continue working or submit.

After your application has been successfully submitted you will receive an email confirmation.

Please contact Kay Schaul at 610-649-3034 if you have any questions about your grant application or email questions to Grants@AlexsLemonade.org