



2016 Psychosocial: Launch Grant Application Guidelines

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Applications will be accepted for projects with an approved 2016 Letter of Intent.

The Psychosocial: Launch Grant will fund \$100,000 over two years.

The Grant is not renewable.

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 research and find new cures for all childhood cancer patients. ALSF has raised more than **\$120 million** since 2006 to fund **OVER 550** childhood cancer research projects at **more than 102** top hospitals and institutions in the U.S. and Canada.

The Psychosocial: Launch Grants are designed for early career researchers within (7) years of receiving their terminal degree. Funding will support studies that aim to explain and/or improve psychosocial outcomes of those affected by childhood cancer. Demonstration of outstanding mentorship and a career plan that shows commitment to pediatric cancer investigation are important components of a successful application. A maximum of \$50,000 per year for two years may be requested.

Contact:

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Psychosocial: Launch Grants

Description

ALSF is committed to addressing the psychosocial and behavioral health outcomes for children diagnosed with cancer and their families. Our Psychosocial Grants fill a direct need for research funding by supporting studies that aim to explain and/or improve psychosocial outcomes of those affected by childhood cancer. These grants are designed to fund researchers who have novel approaches to understanding the psychosocial aspects of pediatric cancer and whose proposals will have clinically significant impact.

Eligibility Criteria

- Applicants must have completed all formal training and must have a full-time position that includes research activities devoted to pediatric cancer.
- Demonstrated track record of psychosocial research in pediatric cancer commensurate with their early career status.
- Applicants may be Ph.D., Psy.D., M.D., D.O., Ed.D., D.N.P., or M.D./Ph.D.
- Applicant must be within (7) years of receiving the terminal degree.
- The applicant must not currently hold an independent NIH grant (R or P Award). Applicant may currently have a NIH K Award but in this case may not receive any salary support from ALSF as part of this grant application.
- A research mentor must be clearly identified and the application must document his/her involvement in experimental design and execution, as well as training and mentorship.

Resubmissions: Up to two resubmissions of a previously reviewed but not funded Psychosocial Grant proposal are permitted.

Budget

A maximum of \$50,000 per year for 2 years will be awarded to applicants. A detailed budget with justification is required, using the form provided on the ALSF website. A maximum of two years of funding may be requested. Budget items may include salary, fringe, travel, supplies and small pieces of equipment (less than \$5000). ALSF adheres to the NIH salary cap for the current year and does not pay tuition or indirect costs.

Restrictions

- ALSF will only consider applications from non-profit institutions in the U.S. or Canada. However, PIs need not be U.S. or Canadian citizens.
- Institutions must have non-profit tax status.
- ALSF does not pay tuition or indirect costs.
- Applicant must have completed any/all fellowships by the time funding would begin.
- The Launch Grants are not transferrable to another investigator or to the mentor.
- Applications not following these guidelines will be administratively rejected.

Review Process

- Proposals must fall within the scope of Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation's mission 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.

Required Reports

- Progress Report: A second year of funding is contingent upon a non-competitive review of a report which demonstrates satisfactory progress toward proposed research objectives and appropriate budget expenditures.
- Final Report: At the conclusion of funding the PI will submit a report of findings. Publications, posters, and presentations which acknowledge ALSF funding must be sent via email to Grants@alexslimonade.org.

Grant Application

All applications must be submitted using ALSF's 2 part online submission process. Applicants must first complete the online form and then upload the application in one PDF (max 10 MB). Applicants can request a password and start an application from the [Grant Guidelines & Submissions](#) page.

Part I: Online Form

A. Contact Information

Confirm, and update if needed, any contact information for the applicant, institution, and mentor. In addition, applicants are asked to submit contacts for accounts payable, grants management and media or public relations should the project be funded.

B. Project Overview and Layman's Summary

Specify the project title, request amount, human and animal subject requirements, and type of childhood cancer to be investigated. A 250 word summary of the research project in layman's terms is required. The Layman's Summary will be formatted automatically; text may be copied and pasted into this section. ALSF requests release of the summary for use, at ALSF's discretion, should the proposal be funded. Greek symbols will not be recognized.

Part II: Application Outline

Important:

- All sections described below should be combined into one PDF (max 10 MB) and uploaded to the ALSF online form. Please include the scanned signed Cover Page. Additional Biosketch(es) may be attached in a second PDF if applicable.
- All necessary templates and forms can be found on ALSF's [Grant Guidelines & Submissions](#) page.
- 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 followed, adhering to the maximum number of pages allowed for each subsection indicated in parentheses.

A. Cover Page (1 page): Use the document provided on the ALSF website noted above.

B. Table of Contents (1 page): Please provide a Table of Contents with page numbers to the corresponding sections.

C. Project Information

- 1. Scientific Abstract (1/2 page):** Please summarize the research objectives and rationale.
- 2. Overall Impact Statement (1/2 page):** Describe how this project will lead to new or improved cures or impact pediatric cancer patients.
- 3. Budget/Justification (3 pages):** Use ALSF's budget template. The signature from an institutional representative on the cover page of the grant application acknowledges and accepts the provision that no indirect costs will be paid.

D. Research Plan

1. **Resubmissions (1 page, if applicable):** If this proposal was submitted previously and did not receive funding, please describe any changes in the application, i.e., respond to the reviewers' critiques in terms of changes in the research design or new data.
2. **Specific Aims (1 page):** State the hypotheses to be tested and relevance to pediatric cancer research. List the goals and long-term objectives. State the specific objectives this project intends to accomplish.
3. **Research Strategy (6 pages)**
 - i. **Significance:** 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. Describe how this project will modify or add to the body of knowledge within the area of research and how it will impact youth with cancer and their families clinically.
 - ii. **Innovation:** Describe how the proposed research challenges and shifts paradigms, or introduces a novel concept, approach or technology.
 - iii. **Approach:** Describe the overall strategy to accomplish the aims of the project. Describe methodology, analyses, and how research aims will be realistically accomplished within the proposed funding period. Provide an account of the PI's preliminary studies pertinent to the application. A time line is highly encouraged. Anticipation of potential problems and plans to deal with these is expected.
4. **Human Subjects (1/2 page):** Include IRB approval letter. Please note if letter is not applicable or if letter is pending. Funds awarded will be held until letter is received.
5. **Literature Cited:** Please use Vancouver or APA format.
6. **Collaborators, Co-Investigators, and/or Consultants:** Include any appropriate letters from individuals confirming their roles in the project. Biosketches do not need to be attached again if they were previously submitted with the LOI. Biosketches for collaborators, or consultants added after the LOI submission should be uploaded in a separate document.
7. **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, in addition to the mentoring plan.*

E. Appendix

A brief appendix is allowed.

- Appendices should be included only if they are essential to the understanding of the application and are limited to one accepted but not yet published manuscript or two pages of additional information. Additional information can include a summary of the protocol, the approval number (or CTEP number) if applicable and supplementary figures.
- Excessive appendices will result in the application being administratively rejected.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES AND GRANT ADMINISTRATION

**All applications must be submitted online by October 14, 2016 at 11:59 PM (EST)
We cannot accept late applications.**

2016 Grant Cycle Dates

Application Due Date	October 14, 2016 (11:59 pm ET)
Award Notification Date	Early December 2016
Project Start Date	January 15, 2017
Project End Date	January 14, 2019
Progress Report	December 15, 2017 (with estimated financials through the end of November)
Final Report	February 15, 2019 (with final financials ending January 14, 2019)

Submitting Your Application

All requests must be submitted using ALSF's online application.

In order to submit a Psychosocial: Launch Grant application, a 2016 Letter of Intent (LOI) must have been approved. A second stage online application form will be automatically generated for approved LOIs and partially filled in with data from the LOI. To access the online form please follow the directions below.

Login:

- On the ALSF website, navigate to the [Grant Guidelines and Submissions page](#).
- Under "Get Started" click the orange LOGIN button.
 - o **Enter the email and password used to submit the Letter of Intent.**
 - o A password reminder may be requested.

Complete Online Form and Upload Application:

- Click the Stage Two Application link under the **New** tab to open the application.
 - o Part 1 – Complete the contact and project information sections of the form.
 - o Part 2 – Upload the main application as a single PDF document that is not more than 10 MB. See format guidelines on following pages. (Biosketches for newly added collaborators should be clearly labelled, and attached as a second PDF if needed.)
- You may save your application and return at a later time to complete.
- You may review and print your application before submitting.

Once you have submitted your application, you will receive an email confirmation. After submission the application cannot be changed or updated.

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