



2019 Innovation Grant

Application Guidelines

Due April 8, 2019

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Applications will be accepted for projects with an approved 2019 Letter of Intent.

The Innovation Grant is \$250,000 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 find a cure for all childhood cancers. We are dedicated to fill critical funding gaps in pediatric oncology investigation, especially research into new treatments and cures.

The Innovation Grant is designed to provide critical and significant seed funding for experienced investigators with a novel and promising approach to finding causes and cures for childhood cancers.

Contact:

Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation

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ALSFgrants.org

Grants@AlexsLemonade.org

Innovation Grant Guidelines

Innovation Grant Description

Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation (ALSF) is committed to creating opportunities for new and innovative research into treatments and cures for childhood cancers. Innovation grants are designed as seed funding for researchers with a novel approach to pediatric oncology scientific investigation. *This may represent a change in research direction and/or an innovative new idea that moves away from an investigator's prior research but for which a strong case is made for the potential impact on childhood cancers.* Innovation Grants will support research proposals to be carried out by investigators who are already established, have a track record of peer-reviewed publications and evidence of successfully competing for extramural funding. The grant is for two years up to \$125,000 per year. A no cost extension is permitted if progress is demonstrated and carry-over is properly justified. ALSF does not accept proposals for research utilizing human embryonic stem cells or non-human primates. (Research with human induced pluripotent stem cells is permissible.)

Budget

The award amount is \$250,000 over two years. An annual maximum of \$125,000 in total direct costs may be requested. A detailed budget and justification is required using the form provided on ALSF's website, www.alexlemonade.org/grants/guidelines page.

- Restrictions:
 - NEW: ALSF will accept ONE full application per Investigator.
 - ALSF adheres to the NIH salary cap for principal investigator(s) for the current year.
 - Indirect costs, including tuition remission, are not allowed.
 - The grant may not be renewed; no cost extension requests are allowed.
 - Funds must be granted to nonprofit institutions/organizations operating in the U.S. or Canada. Researchers need not be United States citizens.
- If utilizing a sub-contractor you must include this expense in the budget.
 - No indirect costs will be paid to the sub-contractor.
 - The PI's institution is responsible to disburse funds to collaborators/contractors.

Review Process

- Applications 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.
- Resubmissions of a previously reviewed full application will be scored using the same criteria as a new submission. In addition, responsiveness to the prior critique will be scored.

Grant Report Requirements

- Progress Report: 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. Budget must include justification. If carry-over is excessive, ALSF may elect to adjust year two payment schedule.
- A Final Report is required at the conclusion of funding.

- Publications, presentations and posters featuring results of the experiments funded by ALSF should acknowledge “Alex’s Lemonade Stand Foundation.” ALSF requests copies be sent via email to Grants@AlexsLemonade.org

Important Dates

Application Due Date	April 8, 2019 (11:59 pm Eastern Time)
Award Notification Date	July 2019
Project Start Date	October 1, 2019
Project End Date	September 30, 2021
Progress Report	September 14, 2020 (with financials ending 8/31/2020)
Final Report	November 1, 2021 (with financials ending 9/30/2021)

Application

Part I: Online Form

You will login to <https://ALSFapps.force.com> to complete your online form and upload the application document. The form will appear as “In-Progress” on the portal and will be partially completed based on your LOI submission.

A. Contact Information

Applicant will be asked for basic contact information for themselves, co-PI(s) if applicable, and the grant manager.

B. Project Overview and Lay Summary

In respective sections enter project details, request amount, type of childhood cancer project focuses on, as well as a 250 word summary of the research project in lay 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. Greek symbols are recognized.

Part II: Application Outline

NOTES:

- Application Document: All sections described below must be combined into one pdf (max. 20 MB) and uploaded to the online application form.
- Templates: All templates/forms mentioned can be found at this link under Forms <https://www.alexlemonade.org/researchers-reviewers/applicants>
- Page Header: All pages of the application should be numbered and the name of the principal investigator should appear in the upper right-hand corner of each page.
- Format: Please follow NIH format guidelines: Use Arial, Helvetica, Palatino Linotype or Georgia font type with a font size of 11 points or larger and a minimum of half inch margins.
- Order & Length: The order of the application *must follow the outline below and must adhere to the maximum length allowed for each subsection indicated in parentheses.*
- Tables & Figures: Please imbed in the body of the proposal – do not use the appendix.

A. Application Cover Page (one page): Use the template provided on ALSF’s website (link above).

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

C. Project Information

- 1. Scientific Abstract (half page):** Please include a summary of the research objectives and rationale.
- 2. Impact Statement (half page):** How will this project impact or lead to new or improved treatments for pediatric cancer patients? (*Must be aligned with ALSF’s mission.*)
- 3. Budget**
 - a. Budget Template (Detail and Summary):** Complete the ALSF Standard Grant Budget template (link above). No indirect costs (including tuition remission) are paid. The signature from an institutional representative on the cover page of this grant application

specifically acknowledges and accepts this provision. If listing a subcontractor, please detail their costs.

b. Budget Justification (one and one half pages)

4. **Biographical Sketch(es)**: Include the NIH five page biographical sketch for the Principal Investigator and Co-PI(s).

D. Research Plan

1. **Resubmissions (one page)**: This proposal must have been reviewed by ALSF previously but did not receive funding. Please describe any changes in the application in response to the reviewers' critique in terms of changes in experimental design, new data etc.

2. **Specific Aims (one page)**: List the goals, long-term objectives and what the specific research proposed in this application is intended to accomplish. State the hypothesis to be tested and relevance to pediatric cancer research.

3. Research Strategy

a. **Significance (half 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 (must be aligned with ALSF's mission). Relate the specific aims to the goals and long-term objectives.

b. **Innovation (half page)**: Describe how the proposed research challenges and shifts paradigms, or introduces a novel concept, approach or technology.

c. **Approach (four pages)**: Describe the experimental approach to the research question. Emphasize innovation and describe how the research will be realistically accomplished within the proposed funding period. A time line is expected. Must demonstrate feasibility of the approach to reach project goals; if available, include PI's preliminary studies pertinent to the project. Special review emphasis will be placed on the investigators anticipation of potential problems and plans to address these issues.

d. **Resource Sharing (one page)**: Reviewers will be asked to consider the manner in which resources will be shared and the extent to which this plan, as well as a track record of successful sharing, will increase or decrease the impact of the proposed project. Use the [Resource Sharing Form](#) for this section of the application.

www.alexlemonade.org/researchers-reviewers/applicants

4. **Human Subjects**: Include the IRB approval letter or note if approval is pending (any funds awarded will be held until the letter is received). If the letter is not applicable, please include a note in this section.

5. **Vertebrate Animals**: Include the IACUC approval letter or note if approval is pending (any funds awarded will be held until the letter is received). If the letter is not applicable, please include a note in this section.

6. **Literature Cited**: A maximum of 30 references are allowed. Please use Vancouver (numbered citations within text) format.

7. **Collaborators and/or Consultants**: Include any appropriate letters from all individuals confirming their roles in the project.

E. Appendix

A brief appendix is allowed for Innovation Grants.

- Appendices should be included only if essential to the understanding of the application. Appendices are limited to:
 - *One accepted but not yet published manuscript*

OR

 - Two pages of additional information such as: a summary of the protocol (the approval number or CTEP number) and supplementary figures. (Reminder: tables and figures noted in the text should be imbedded in the body of the proposal.)
- Excessive appendices will result in the application being rejected.