



*Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation*

## 2020 Grant Application Guidelines for Full Application- Innovation Grant

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*Application Deadline: **April 6, 2020** (11:59 PM ET)*

*Applications will be accepted for projects with an approved 2020 Letter of Intent*



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## About ALSF

Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation (ALSF) emerged from the front yard lemonade stand of 4-year-old Alexandra "Alex" Scott, who was fighting cancer and wanted to raise money to find cures for all children with cancer. Her spirit and determination inspired others to support her cause, and when she passed away at the age of 8, she had raised \$1 million. Since then, the Foundation bearing her name has evolved into a national fundraising movement and is one of the leading funders of pediatric cancer research in the U.S. and Canada.

ALSF is a non-profit changing the lives of children with cancer by funding impactful research, raising awareness, supporting families and empowering everyone to help cure childhood cancer.

## Key Objective

Innovation Grants are 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. Proposals should have clinical translation in view. 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.

## Grant Description

Innovation Grants will support research proposals to be carried out by investigators who are already established, have a recent track record of peer-reviewed publications and evidence of successfully competing for extramural funding. The grant is up to **\$125,000 per year for two years** for direct costs only. The grant will not be renewed; a no-cost extension is permitted if progress is demonstrated and budget properly justified.

## Applicant Eligibility Criteria

- Applicants must have a faculty appointment at an academic institution.
- Applicant may be M.D., D.O., Ph.D, or M.D./Ph.D.
- Track record of publication and funding productivity in the last 5 years must demonstrate that the project can be accomplished by the investigator(s).

## Evaluation Criteria

- Proposal must be hypothesis driven and mechanistic.
- Innovation must be clearly presented.
- Potential for major scientific impact in pediatric oncology is critical.
- While preliminary data are not required, the applicant must demonstrate feasibility of the research plan.
- Resource sharing is an expected outcome of a completed project. The review will consider how outputs are shared as a component of impact. For a full description see [Resource Sharing Form](#).



## Restrictions

- Grants must be focused on *pediatric translational oncology*, from understanding basic biologic underpinnings to new therapies.
- 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.)
- While an Investigator may submit more than one LOI, and in the event that more than one LOI were approved, only one full application per Investigator may be submitted.
- One resubmission of a previously ALSF reviewed application is permitted.
- ALSF adheres to the NIH salary cap for principal investigator(s) for the current year.
- Indirect cost, including tuition remission, are not allowed.
- ALSF will only consider applications from U.S. or Canadian *institutions*. However, the *PI* need not be a U.S. citizen.
- Institutions must have non-profit tax status.

## Review Process

- Applications will be reviewed by an independent panel of experts according to the NIH recognized peer-reviewed 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 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.
- Final Report: 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](mailto:Grants@AlexsLemonade.org).

## Important Dates

<b>Full Application Due Date</b>	<b>April 6, 2020 (11:59 pm Eastern Time)</b>
Award Notification Date	July 2020
Project Start Date	October 1, 2020
Project End Date	September 30, 2022
Progress Report	September 13, 2021 (with financials ending 8/31/21)
Final Report	November 1, 2022 (with financials ending 9/30/22)



## Application Instructions

### 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.
- Applicants must not use the IE browser as it is not compatible with the online portal. Chrome and Firefox browsers are recommended.

### Contact Information

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

### Project Overview

In respective sections enter project details, request amount, type of childhood cancer project focuses on.

### Lay Summary Background and Lay Summary Project Goal

In the respective sections 250-words in lay terms. You will be asked to release this summary for use at ALSF's discretion should proposal be funded. You may copy/paste information from other documents into these sections. Greek symbols are recognized.

### Part II: Application Package

- Application Document: all sections must be combined into one PDF and uploaded to the online application form.
- Templates: all templates/forms mentioned can be found on ALSF's grant website at the following link [Information for Grant Applicants](#).

### Format Instructions

- PAGE HEADER: all pages of the application should be numbered; the name of the principle investigator should appear in the upper right-hand corner of each page.
- FORMAT: follow NIH format guidelines: Arial, Helvetica, Palatino Linotype or Georgia font type with a font size of 11 points or larger with a minimum of ½ inch margins.
- ORDER & LENGTH: the order of the application must follow the outline below, adhering to the maximum number of pages allowed for each subsection indicated in parentheses.
- TABLES & FIGURES: imbed in the body of the proposal, do not use the appendix.

I. **Application Cover Page** (one page)

*Use the template provided on ALSF's website (link above).*

II. **Table of Contents** (one page)

*Provide a Table of Contents with page numbers to the corresponding sections.*

III. **Scientific Abstract** (half page)

*Include a summary of the research objectives and rationale.*



- IV. **Impact Statement** (half page)  
*Answer – How will this project impact or lead to new or improved treatments for pediatric Cancer patients? (Must be aligned with ALSF's mission)*
- V. **Budget Detail** and **Budget Summary** (see link above for both templates)  
*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 these provisions. If listing a subcontractor, detail their costs.*
- VI. **Budget Justification** (one and one half pages)
- VII. **Biographical Sketches**  
*Include the NIH five page biographical sketch for the Principal Investigator and co-PI's.*
- VIII. **Resubmission** (100 words)  
*Has a full application for this project been reviewed by ALSF before and not been funded? If so, please describe what has changed (data, design, aims etc.) in response to the prior critique. If not, skip this section.*
- IX. **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.*
- X. **Research 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.*
- XI. **Research Innovation** (half page)  
*Describe how the proposed research challenges and shifts paradigms, or introduces a novel concept, approach or technology.*
- XII. **Research 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.*
- XIII. **Resource Sharing** (one page)  
*Describe the outputs from the proposed project and how they will be shared. Reviewers will be asked to consider the manner in which resources will be shared and the extent to which this plan will increase or decrease the impact of the proposed project. Download and use the [Resource Sharing Form](#) to complete this section of the application.*



XIV. **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.*

XV. **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.*

XVI. **Literature Citations** (not included in page count, may use additional pages)

*A maximum of 30 references are allowed. Use Vancouver style: numeric references within the text.*

XVII. **Collaborators and/or Consultants**

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

XVIII. **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.

## Contact

All questions can be submitted to [Grants@AlexsLemonade.org](mailto:Grants@AlexsLemonade.org).