2020 Grant Application Guidelines for Letter of Intent - Innovation Grant

Application Deadline: November 4, 2019 (11:59 PM ET)
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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. 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 will only consider letters of intent from U.S. or Canadian institutions. However, the PI need not be a U.S. citizen.
- Institutions must have non-profit tax status.

Important Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOI Due Date</th>
<th>November 4, 2019 (11:59 pm Eastern Time)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Invitation to Submit Full Application</td>
<td>February 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full Application Due Date</td>
<td>April 6, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Award Notification</td>
<td>July 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Start Date</td>
<td>October 1, 2020</td>
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LOI Application Outline

Part I: Instructions

- PI name, institution and project title must appear at the top of the page.
- No appendices allowed.
- Please create a single PDF for all sections and biographical sketch(es).

Part II: Outline

- Sections I-V may not exceed one page in all.
- Please adhere to the text length for each section.
- Section VI Literature citations, may use additional pages.

I. Abstract (250 words)
   Must include: Rationale, Hypothesis clearly stated, Specific Aims, Design

II. Impact Statement (2 sentences)
   State how this project will impact childhood cancer patients.
III. **Innovation Statement (2 sentences)**
*State how this project is a novel approach to childhood cancer research.*

IV. **Resource Sharing (2 sentences)**
The full application will require the applicant to describe how outputs from a completed project will be shared. State specifically how this project’s impact will be enhanced by sharing outputs.

V. **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.*

VI. **Literature Citations (not included in page count)** *Please use Vancouver style: numeric references within the text.*

VII. **Biographical sketch(es) (not included in page count): please use the NIH 5 page biographical sketch form for PI and Co-PIs.*

### Application Submission Instructions

1. Applications must be submitted through ALSF’s online portal.
2. To start an online application, navigate to the portal at [ALSFapps.force.com](http://ALSFapps.force.com).
   a. **Returning applicants:** login with your username and password.
   b. **First time applicants:** click the “New User?” link and complete your one-time registration and then login. If you are new to ALSF’s portal, here is a [step-by-step guide](http://www.alsfapps.force.com) with screen shots!
3. After you’ve logged in, select **2020 Innovation Letter of Intent** to submit your application. Complete the online form with applicant contact and project information. *Make sure your information is correct before the next step because you will not be able to change it!*
4. The application document must be uploaded as **one PDF**.
5. You may save your application to finish later. Go to [ALSFapps.force.com](http://ALSFapps.force.com) and login again. You will land on your dashboard. Click “Applications” to edit your application in progress.
6. Once completed, submit the application by clicking **Review & Submit**. You will see error messages for any required fields that need to be completed.
7. After your application has been successfully submitted an email confirmation will be sent. You **will not be able to amend the application after submission.**

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