

Alex's Lemonade Stand & Babich Family Foundation
2017 FPD/AML RUNX1 Research Grant
Letter of Intent
Due June 1, 2017 (11:59 PM Eastern Time)

Mission

Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation (ALSF) is committed to creating opportunities for new and innovative research into treatments and cures for childhood cancers. The Babich Family Foundation is dedicated to advancing areas of research of particular importance to families affected by familial platelet disorder leading to acute myeloid leukemia (FPD/AML) due to monoallelic germline *RUNX1* mutations (OMIM:601399), with the ultimate goal of developing effective therapies to prevent the onset of AML. ALSF and The Babich Family Foundation have partnered to raise awareness and accelerate research around FPD/AML.

Grant Description

The purpose of the grant is to fund research in strategies leading to the development of therapies to prevent the transition from pre-leukemia to leukemia for patients with FPD/AML. Projects should focus on leukemia caused by familial *RUNX1* mutations rather than sporadic AML with somatic *RUNX1* mutations.

Research Directions of Interest:

- Studies that develop our understanding of the biological basis for disease progression in FPD/AML associated with *RUNX1* mutations.
- Studies to develop potential therapies to limit disease progression in individuals with FPD/AML.
- Development of in vitro and in vivo model systems (including but not limited to human cell, mouse or zebrafish) that
 - increase our understanding of disease pathogenesis,
 - test mechanistic hypotheses, or
 - that provide a suitable evaluation platform for the discovery of potential therapies

The grant is for two years at up to \$125,000 (U.S.) per year. Grantees will be required to attend an annual scientific meeting to present and discuss progress toward research objectives.

Applicants will submit a letter of intent (LOI) proposing a research question/hypothesis supported by rationale, approach and explicit deliverables. Full applications will be requested based on a competitive peer review of the LOI.

The grant is designed as *seed funding* for researchers with a novel scientific approach to investigating FPD/AML. 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 can be made for the potential impact on FPD/AML.

Important Dates

Letter of Intent Due Date	June 1, 2017 (11:59 PM EASTERN TIME)
LOI Notification	July 2017
Full Application Due Date	September 15, 2017
Award Notification	November 2017
Project Start	February 1, 2018

Applicant Eligibility Criteria

- Proposals will be accepted from investigators at U.S. and international institutions.
- Applicant must have a faculty appointment at an academic or research institution.
- Applicant should have an M.D., D.O., Ph.D., M.D./Ph.D., or international equivalent.
- Applicant must have a record of publication and funding productivity in the last 5 years.
- Multiple investigator applications that bring together pairs or teams of researchers with complementary expertise are encouraged.

Letter of Intent Evaluation Criteria

- Alignment with the mission and purpose of the grant.
- Demonstrates potential for major scientific impact in FPD/AML.
- Clearly states innovation/novelty.
- Demonstrates feasibility of the research plan.
- Presents explicit time-based deliverables.

Restrictions

- Institutions must have non-profit tax status or equivalent.
- Funds may not be used for research utilizing human embryonic stem cells or non-human primates. Research with human induced pluripotent stem cells is permissible.

Letter of Intent Guidelines

Instructions:

- Please place the PI name(s), institution and project title at the top of each page.
- Format: margins must be at least ½ inch, minimum 11pt, font Arial, Helvetica, or Georgia.
- Please adhere to the section/page length limitations as noted in the outline below.
- No appendices are permitted.
- Please create two PDF documents 1) Sections I – V (total two pages) and 2) Biosketch(es).

Main Document:

Overall Page Length Requirements:

Sections I. – III. (maximum one page)

Sections IV. & V. Budget and Literature Citations (one page)

Outline:

- I. **Abstract** (maximum 300 words)
Must include: Rationale, Hypothesis, Specific Aims, Design.
- II. **Impact Statement** (maximum 2 sentences)
State how this project will impact FPD/AML.
- III. **Innovation Statement** (maximum 2 sentences)
State how this project represents a novel approach in FPD/AML research.
- IV. **Proposed Budget and Project Timeline** (maximum one half page)
Broadly describe the use of funds and timeline over two years.
- V. **Literature Citations** (maximum one half page)

Biosketch(es): Principal Investigator(s) please submit the NIH five page biographical sketch in a separate PDF.

LOI Submission

1. Go to [ALSFgrants.org](https://www.alsfgrants.org) and click the **Information for Grant Applicants** button.
2. Under **Resources for Applicants, Get Started/Start a New Application**, click the drop down box and select “Familial RUNX1 Research – LOI”
 - Returning users - login with your email address and password;
 - New users - click New Applicant link to set up an account with email address and password.
3. **Complete** the online form with contact and project information
 - Upload Letter of Intent and Biosketch PDFs (maximum of 10 MB)
 - Click Review & Submit or Save to return to your LOI at a later time to continue working.
4. **To continue** your saved LOI, go to [ALSFgrants.org](https://www.alsfgrants.org) and click the “Information for grant applicants” button
 - Under “**Get Started/Continue a saved application or manage applications**”, click the orange LOGIN button.
 - Click the name of the grant form on the “In Progress” list
 - Complete the form and upload the PDF
 - Click Review & Submit to send the completed LOI to ALSF
5. After your LOI has been successfully submitted an *email confirmation will be sent to your user account login email address*. You will not be able to amend the application.

Questions? Please contact Kay Schaul at 866-333-1213 or Grants@AlexsLemonade.org