

## 2021 Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA)

*Updated October 14, 2021 (changes are in blue)*

### Healthy After Cancer: Childhood Cancer Survivorship Research Award

Children's Cancer Research Fund (CCRF) is a national nonprofit committed to finding safer, more effective therapies for kids battling cancer. Thanks to donors and partners around the country, we have contributed \$200 million to research, education and awareness, and quality-of-life programs for childhood cancer families. We believe kids deserve safer, less toxic treatments, and we're committed to funding groundbreaking research and services that enhance healing and care.

This award is intended to shape the future of cancer survivorship treatment and care. We invite applications that focus on improving the quality and quantity of life for childhood, adolescent and young adult cancer survivors. Our goal is to support development of interventions that prevent, minimize and address the late effects of cancer therapies. A specific focus of this FOA is on applications that propose to translate basic research into interventions, regardless of whether these take place during active therapy or later. Observational studies are welcome but are a lower priority, with the exception of those describing late effects (or early signs of late effects) among children receiving novel agents or therapies.

### Key Dates

Funding announcement	Monday, August 16, 2021
LOI submission open	Monday, August 30, 2021
LOI submission deadline	Tuesday, September 14, 2021, noon Central time
LOI applicants notified	<a href="#">Thursday, October 14, 2021</a>
Due date for applications	<a href="#">Wednesday, November 17, 2021, noon Central time</a>
Applicants notified	<a href="#">Week of January 31, 2022</a>
Awards start	<a href="#">April 1, 2022</a>

All applicants should review all necessary materials using the appropriate templates and forms. Failure to comply with the provided instructions may result in administrative rejection of the application.

## Award Information

Application types	We will accept applications that are new or from a previous pilot study, and applications (R03, R21) that have been reviewed but not funded by National Institutes of Health (NIH).
Number of awards	Up to 4 awards; maximum of \$250,000 each may be funded
Award budget	A budget for total costs of up to \$125,000 per year may be requested
Award period	Maximum project period is 24 months

Allowable direct costs include: Salaries, fringe benefits, supplies, sub-contracts, equipment, & travel

- Salary is capped using the current NIH guidance
- Travel: Project-related travel: As needed (must be fully justified); Up to \$2,000 per year for conference travel
- Indirect costs of 10% are allowed
- All sub-contracts and collaborations must be described and well-justified
- Any equipment to be purchased with grant funds must be well-justified

Award requirements:

- Applicants must be PI-eligible at their sponsoring institution
- Awardees are required to commit at least 10 percent of their research effort each year to activities supported by this award
- Applicant U.S. citizenship is not a requirement
- Applications will be accepted only from US-based institutions

Call for Applications Requirements:

- Submission of a letter of intent (LOI) is required
- Follow all instructions and submit all required forms to avoid administrative rejection
- Applications may be rejected based on programmatic or administrative review
- Go to **[childrenscancer.org/awards](http://childrenscancer.org/awards)** for LOI/Application instructions and information on how to access the application submission system

We encourage applicants to contact CCRF staff with questions regarding eligibility requirements before submitting an LOI or application. Application questions should be submitted to [grants@childrenscancer.org](mailto:grants@childrenscancer.org)

## Letters of Intent (LOI)

Submission of an LOI limited to 2 pages (excluding biosketch) is required for all applications.

LOIs will be peer reviewed and only those with sufficient merit will be invited to submit a full application. LOI reviews that receive an “unsure” rating will be discussed by the CCRF Research Advisory Committee who will make the final decision on invitations to submit full applications.

A submitted application must be substantially similar in focus to the eligibility requirements as described in the LOI.

LOIs and invited Applications must be submitted electronically using proposalCENTRAL.

Go to **[childrenscancer.org/awards](http://childrenscancer.org/awards)** for LOI/Application instructions and information on how to access the application submission system.

Once an LOI is approved, the applicant will be notified and the application materials will be made accessible through the CCRF website.

The following components should be provided in 2 pages of the LOI (the 2 page limit does not include the biosketch):

1. Describe Principal Investigator current position and background
2. Provide a brief background of the research topic
3. Provide an abstract of the research proposal, including the significance, objective, hypotheses, specific aims, and methods to be employed
4. Applicants should describe how the proposal will address survivorship
5. Applicants should briefly describe their budget request
6. Attach PI NIH biosketch

### **Resubmission of NIH unfunded applications**

An original grant application submitted to NIH in 2019-2020 as an R03 (small grant) or R21 (exploratory/developmental research) is eligible under this funding announcement. An application not funded by NIH is eligible if it has been issued a summary statement from a previous review; scored 20<sup>th</sup> percentile or better, or an impact score 3 or better. An eligible applicant must register and submit an LOI.

## **Research Grant Policies**

### **Effective April 2021**

#### **1. Eligible Individuals (Principal Investigator)**

Similar to NIH, any individual(s) with the skills, knowledge, and resources necessary to carry out the proposed research as the Principal Investigator (PI(s)) is invited to work with his/her organization to develop an application for support. The PI is one person responsible to the applicant organization for the scientific and technical direction of the project. Applicants must be PI eligible at their institution. Applicants need not be American citizens; however, they must have a paid appointment at an academic, medical, or research institution in the United States.

Applicants cannot hold more than one CCRF grant at the same time. Anyone serving on the CCRF Research Advisory Committee is not eligible to apply for funding or to receive research support from a CCRF grant, for example as a co-investigator

#### **2. Eligible Institutions and Responsibilities**

Any nonprofit research institution based in the US is eligible to apply. CCRF grants are intended for nonprofit institutions located within the United States. CCRF research grants are not intended to cover the total costs of the proposed research. The institution is expected to provide facilities and administrative support. An applicant institution should have appropriate resources and infrastructure to support the proposed research, including:

- Adequate facilities and services to manage the award
- Fiscal and grants management infrastructure to support policies including protections for human and animal subjects (e.g., a sponsored-projects office or a contract with an IRB or IACUC).
- Human Subjects or IACUC approval is required as a condition of grant funding.

To signify agreement with grant policies, a completed application must be signed by an authorizing official of the institution. The institution is responsible for verifying that all documentation related to the application and grant is correct, including all representations made by any named researcher (e.g. position or title).

It is the responsibility of the institution to immediately report to CCRF any action including recertification, loss of certification, breach of contract, misconduct, or change in employment status for a named researcher with the institution. This includes administrative leave, which may occur during the term of any award pertinent to the work described in the grant application.

All applicants should review the Funding Announcement Instructions, and complete all necessary materials using the appropriate templates and forms. Failure to comply with provided instructions may result in administrative rejection of the application. Failure to abide by the terms above, or by any other CCRF policy or procedures, may result in suspension or cancellation of the grant, at the sole discretion of CCRF.

#### **3. Peer Review of Applications**

Each peer review committee includes leaders who are appropriate scientific experts. Reviewers will conduct an independent and confidential review. The top scoring applications will be recommended for funding. After considering the relative merit of the applications, the amount of available funds, and the

CCRF objectives, the Research Advisory Committee will review the recommendations and the CCRF Board will approve grants for funding.

#### **4. Number of Applications**

Applicant organizations may submit more than one application, provided that each application is scientifically distinct. However, CCRF will accept up to one application per PI applicant.

#### **5. NIH Salary Cap applies to CCRF grants**

Budgets created for CCRF funding should adopt the NIH salary cap (currently \$199,300). A salary cap is defined as a maximum annual rate of salary for full-time effort that can be charged to an award.

#### **6. Progress Reports and Final Reports**

Scientific progress reports should be submitted 6, 12, and 18 months after the grant is awarded. Both Final reports and progress reports are due within 60 days of the due date. Grantees should submit reports in a timely fashion or request an exception.

Each progress report should focus on the activity since the previous report. Financial reports of expenditures are due 12 months from the grant award date. The Final report should include details of all financial expenditures and a scientific report for the full grant period. Any extension will extend the 60 day due date.

#### **7. Expenditures and Indirect Costs**

Our research grants are not intended to cover the total costs of the proposed research. The institution is expected to provide facilities and administrative support. We allow indirect costs calculated as 10% of total direct costs.

#### **8. No cost extension (NCE)**

A no-cost extension (NCE) extends a research project beyond the original end date. Grantees must submit NCE requests, using the template provided by CCRF, at least two (2) months prior to the original end date. NCE requests should be emailed to [grants@childrenscancer.org](mailto:grants@childrenscancer.org).

#### **9. Use of embryonic stem cells and fetal tissue**

CCRF does not fund research utilizing embryonic stem cells or fetal tissue.