



2011 GRANT GUIDELINES

INTRODUCTION

The Australian Cancer Research Foundation (ACRF) is dedicated to the support of cancer research in Australia by raising, through public and corporate donations, funds of significant magnitude to stimulate and assist our medical research community to maintain a competitively high international standard of cancer research in Australia.

The Foundation's approach to supporting cancer research has been based on the following principles.

- a) We seek to support all aspects of cancer research. This includes, but is not limited to, cell or molecular biology, epidemiology, prevention and drug development
- b) As there are already sources of funding for supporting ongoing research projects education and training (through other established cancer agencies and NHMRC), we are focussed on providing capital grants for the establishment of capital works and facilities, and national enterprises.
- c) We exist to support research groups of outstanding potential in new and sustainable enterprises that will promote synergies, provide unique platforms, and provide opportunities for leverage of funding. Besides excellence of research, it is also important to demonstrate clarity of vision and planning, strong committed leadership, and experienced management.
- d) There will be circumstances in which the pooling of the efforts of teams of researchers may lead to synergistic and/or integrated output in research.
- e) As a 'seed' funding body, ACRF seeks applications for projects and/or programmes which require funds over and above the amount sought directly from ACRF.

ACRF has a commitment to achieving the best possible clinical outcomes through high quality basic and translational research. Grant applications in support of this general philosophy are encouraged.

FUNDING CATEGORIES

The ACRF funds cancer research under the following categories:

1. Capital Works & Facilities
2. National Enterprises

GENERAL

1. Grant Applications for amounts from \$1.5m to \$5m are sought.
2. Applications should clearly explain:
 - a. what's new and/or different in the proposed research and also its potential to significantly enhance one or more aspects of cancer control (prevention, early detection, and/or management)
 - b. why the funds being sought from ACRF, to create lab space and/or to purchase new equipment, will help to make that happen
 - c. why the research team's demonstrated past and current research performance in cancer research, as well as their current professional talent, make them the best (or at least a good) team to conduct, and to fulfil the ambitions, of the particular proposed research

3. Applicants should include demonstrable evidence of how grant funds from ACRF will be leveraged to achieve additional funds, should their application be successful.
4. Applications featuring multi-disciplinary teams working collaboratively are encouraged.
5. Evidence of translational impacts of the research should be included
6. When assessing grant applications, the following are taken into account in addition to other information sought:
 - Research Excellence (Including Research Plan; Track Record i.e. Grants & Fellowships)
 - Fit with Cancer
 - Synergies/Amplified Outcomes
 - Uniqueness & Platform
 - Opportunity to leverage funds
 - Vision & Planning
 - Budget
 - Potential Recognition and Profiling of ACRF

CONDITIONS

- Recommendations to the ACRF's Board by our Medical Research Advisory Committee (*MRAC) are made on the basis of scientific merit and potential.
- ACRF will not consider applications for salaries or maintenance.
- Previous grant recipients are eligible to again apply for funding after the expiration of a **3 year period** from the date of the Board's approval of the previous grant.
- It is not the intent of the Foundation to support therapeutic trials - unless a special case can be made justifying the unique nature of such activities and provided they are within, and integrated with, cancer-specific research.
- Particular circumstances may arise where it is appropriate for ACRF to make a grant conditional upon its receiving, by way of a royalty or otherwise, funds generated from any commercial exploitation which can be attributed to the particular grant awarded by ACRF (See the Intellectual Property statement below*).
- Successful applicants will enter into an agreement with ACRF, some of the conditions for inclusion being:
 - Regular reporting to ACRF, in lay and scientific language, on research outcomes
 - The conduct of an official opening function attended by a prominent Australian and which is aimed at achieving good profile for ACRF

*The MRAC members, appointed by the Board of the Foundation, are established scientists of high national repute.

Procedures are similar to those employed by the NHMRC and include assessment of applications by referees and independent expert assessors, as well as site visits and interview of selected short-listed applicants.

* INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Australian Cancer Research Foundation (ACRF) reserves the right, in appropriate circumstances, to conclude an arrangement with a successful applicant for a grant to share in the financial rewards of the commercial exploitation of Intellectual Property generated wholly or in part as a consequence of the award of a Grant.

In implementing this policy, the ACRF Board of Trustees has approved the following guidelines:

1. The awarding of a grant shall not, except in exceptional circumstances, be conditional upon the Foundation receiving an income from the commercialisation of Intellectual Property. It is envisaged that it is only in exceptional circumstances that such an income would be appropriate, e.g. where the recipient of the Grant has financial support, which is conditional upon sharing the benefits of commercial exploitation, and there is a clear link between the utilisation of the grant and the subsequent commercially exploitable Intellectual Property
2. In circumstances where it is appropriate, ACRF will negotiate an appropriate and sensitive arrangement
3. ACRF will not take on the responsibility for seeking, maintaining or enforcing Intellectual Property protection
4. Any income so derived by ACRF will be used for funding future Grants awarded by it
5. Any such arrangements to be made by ACRF must not affect in any way the tax exempt position of ACRF

2011 APPLICATIONS

THE ACRF SEEKS APPLICATIONS FOR NEW GRANTS TO BE AWARDED IN 2011

Cognisant of the large amounts of time and effort which principal research scientists are already required to devote to writing grant applications for support of their research programs, the MRAC has evolved procedures intended to ensure economy of effort. Accordingly, eligible persons (defined as able to meet the application guidelines) are invited to submit a brief FIRST STAGE APPLICATION.

The information and required format of a FIRST STAGE APPLICATION is located at www.acrf.com.au/research-grants/research-grant-guidelines under the heading of FORMAT OF FIRST STAGE APPLICATION. The MRAC will select from these applications a short-list on the basis of eligibility and scientific merit.

A short-list of no more than five applicants will then be invited to submit a SECOND STAGE APPLICATION containing additional prescribed information for further detailed consideration. The information required and the recommended format of a Second Stage Application is shown below. Site visits to the short-listed institutes will follow (usually during October).

12 hard copies and one electronic copy of both First Stage and Second Stage Applications are required.

All correspondence and enquiries should be forwarded to:

The Chief Executive
Mr David Brettell
Australian Cancer Research Foundation
GPO Box 9989
SYDNEY NSW 2001
E-mail: dbrettell@acrf.com.au

Applicants seeking administrative information or assistance are invited to contact:

Mrs Cheryl Riddington
Executive Assistant to Chief Executive
Australian Cancer Research Foundation
E-mail: criddington@acrf.com.au
Telephone: (02) 9223 7833
Facsimile: (02) 9223 1800

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: 5.00pm 6th May 2011

LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED