



**Letter of Intent Guidelines
for
2018 Innovation Grants
Due December 15, 2017**

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Invitations to submit a full application are sent by email.

Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation (ALSF) evolved from the front yard lemonade stand of cancer patient Alexandra “Alex” Scott (1996-2004) into a national fundraising movement to find a cure for all childhood cancers. Our mission is to fill critical funding gaps in pediatric oncology investigation, especially research into new treatments and cures.

The Innovation Grant is 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.

Contact:

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ALSFgrants.org

Innovation Letter of Intent Guidelines

Due December 15, 2017 (11:59 PM Eastern Time)

ALSF's mission is to find cures and better treatments for childhood cancers through hypothesis-driven research.

Innovation Grant Description

Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation (ALSF) is committed to creating opportunities for new and innovative research into treatments and cures for childhood cancers. Innovation grants are designed as seed funding for researchers with a novel approach to pediatric oncology scientific investigation. 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.

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 for two years up to \$125,000 per year 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.

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.)
- 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

LOI Due Date	December 15, 2017 (11:59 pm Eastern Time)
Invitation to Submit Full Application	February 2018
Application Due Date	April 2, 2018
Award Notification	July 2018
Project Start Date	October 1, 2018

Letter of Intent Outline

Submission: ALSF's new online submission portal will be available in November 2017. Details will be posted on the website and an email notification will be sent to everyone on our Grants Update list. To sign-up go to www.alexslimonade.org/grants/guidelines.

Please create ONE PDF document for all sections.

Outline: Sections I – IV may not exceed one page in all. Please adhere to the text length for each section. Sections V and VI may use additional pages.

No appendices allowed.

- 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. **Resubmission** (100 words)
Has this project been submitted to ALSF before and not been funded? If so, please describe what has changed – e.g. data, design, aims. If a full application was reviewed you may respond to the critique. Otherwise, skip this section.
- V. **Literature Citations** (not included in page count) Please use Vancouver style: numeric references within the text.
- VI. **Biosketch(es)**: please include the NIH five page biographical sketch (with the section on accomplishments) for the Principal Investigator and CO-PI(s).