

2010 Mantle Cell Lymphoma (MCL) CORRELATIVE CLINICAL STUDIES GRANT Guidelines & General Instructions for Application

KEY DATES:

Application Release Date: February 5, 2010
Application Receipt Date: August 16, 2010
Peer Review Dates: September - October
Applicant Notification Date: November 15, 2010
Earliest Project Start Date: January 2011

SUMMARY:

The Lymphoma Research Foundation (LRF) Mantle Cell Lymphoma Consortium seeks proposals for correlative clinical studies in mantle cell lymphoma.

Applications to this initiative must be an adjunct to a major MCL research project and work in the clinical setting or with primary MCL patient samples.

Innovative research by definition may uncover new questions and new areas requiring investigation. Basic funding often does not allow for additional, correlative studies to explore these areas. The intention of the current request for proposals is to fund such adjunct studies to complement and synergize with ongoing MCL trials within the NCI Cancer Cooperative Groups and/or the LRF-funded clinical projects. **The applications should clearly focus on MCL and have a high degree of relevance to research questions pertinent to MCL.**

Amount of Grant: Up to \$100,000 per year for 2 years.

RESEARCH OBJECTIVES:

To be considered for funding, an adjunct study should be:

1. Associated with an ongoing, clinical research project focused specifically on mantle cell lymphoma and funded by LRF or the NCI.
2. Intended to test a new hypothesis based on preliminary findings in the major study.
3. Capable of furthering the understanding of mantle cell lymphoma and/or its diagnosis and treatment.

Examples of eligible projects include, but are not limited to:

- Molecular and/or genetic profiling of patient-derived samples
- Identification of biomarkers

In our efforts to improve our grant process, Lymphoma Research Foundation will be using an electronic grants submission process. **All interested grant applicants must submit their applications online through proposalCENTRAL (<https://proposalcentral.altum.com>).**

To avoid being rushed at deadline time, applicants are encouraged to register and complete a professional profile at proposalCENTRAL now. Applicants should make sure their grants and contracts office has registered their institution and signing officials with proposalCENTRAL.

- Immunological studies
- Establishment of tissue arrays and other archival resources

Applications to this initiative must work in the clinical setting or with primary MCL patient samples.

ELIGIBILITY:

You may submit an application if your institution is a:

- Non-profit organization
- Public or private institution such as a university, college, hospital and/or laboratory
- Domestic or foreign institutions/organizations are eligible

For-profit entities are *not* eligible to apply for LRF funds, however, should a for-profit institution have a relevant therapeutic or research project, they should contact LRF management to discuss possible public-private partnerships.

Any individual with the skills, knowledge and resources necessary to carry out the proposed research is invited to work with their (eligible) institution to develop an application for support.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

All interested applicants must submit their applications online through proposalCENTRAL (<https://proposalcentral.altum.com>) by **August 16, 2010**.

MECHANISM OF SUPPORT:

Applicants may request a project period of up to two years as deemed necessary by the requesting Principal Investigator. Applications under this RFA may not exceed \$ 100,000 per year. Indirect costs are allowable within the \$100K per year budget limit but not to exceed 25%.

CONTENT AND PROPOSAL FORMAT:

Proposals should include an 8-10 page narrative (with no smaller than 10 pt typeface and no less than 0.8 inch margins) that consists of:

1. Short background section
2. Research plan
3. Specific aims to be accomplished within the duration of the requested award

4. Quantitative milestones for both the middle and end of the project period

In addition to this narrative, you should attach additional appendices:

- A list of references cited in the narrative.
- A 2-page NIH-format biographical sketch of the project principal investigator (PI).
- List of all other research funding received by the PI, highlighting funding for lymphoma.
- A summary of the protocol of the major project to which the application correlates.
- Any available preliminary data.
- Electronic versions of any supporting literature or other attachments.
- Documentation of past performance and future capacity in the conduct of relevant research.
- List of key personnel and their respective institutions.
- Biosketches for each member of the planning team.
- Scientific abstract – 150 words.
- Lay abstract – 150 words.
- Budget.

REVIEW AND SELECTION PROCESS:

Applications will be reviewed by a panel of MCL experts from the LRF Scientific Advisory Board who will make recommendations on applications to the LRF Board of Directors. The LRF Board of Directors will make final funding decisions based on available funds and program priorities.

It is expected that up to 2 awards will be given up to \$200,000 each over 2 years.

Applicants will be notified of funding decisions by **November 15, 2010**.

The goals of LRF-supported research are to advance the understanding of the biological systems underlying MCL and improve treatment of the disease. Reviewers will be asked to evaluate the application in order to judge the likelihood that the proposed research will have a substantial impact on the pursuit of these goals. The Scientific Advisory Board will then consider each of these criteria in assigning the application's final ranking:

1. Applicant qualifications and research experience;
2. Innovation of proposed research strategy and objectives;
3. Quality and impact of previous work in Mantle Cell Lymphoma and lymphoma in general;
4. Clinical application to advancing treatment of MCL patients;

Grant applicants will find many benefits to this new e-grant application process, including:

- Easy-to-complete applications that can be developed, stored, revised, and submitted on-line;
- Paper copies of the application will no longer be required;
- Immediate confirmation of application submission and status updates throughout the process
- Toll-free (1-800-875-2562) and e-mail (pcsupport@altum.com) technical and customer support;
- On-line tutorials available for preparing your proposal online;

Important: Please Read!

Lymphoma Research Foundation will require that applicants submit portions of their proposal (e.g., research plan, biosketches) in portable document format (.pdf). Unlike MS Word or other word processors, the PDF format preserves the formatting of your document: what you see/submit is what reviewers see.

In order to save your documents as PDFs, you will need to use PDF generator software. There are a number of software products available for both PCs and Macs that will convert your documents to PDFs. There are also websites that will do the conversion for you.

Below is a sampling of some of the PDF generators on the market (list provided from the website of the National Endowment for Humanities <http://www.neh.gov/grants/grantsgov/pdf.html>).

Please consult vendor websites for additional information. Lymphoma Research Foundation and proposalCENTRAL do not endorse any particular software.

The vendor websites are listed in alphabetical order:

Adobe: <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobatstd/main.html>
Print driver that will work with any application. For PC or Mac.

BLC Technologies: <http://www.gohtm.com/>
Web-based converter. Can be used by PC or Mac. Vendor e-mails PDF back to you.

Blue Squirrel: <http://www.bluesquirrel.com/products/Click2PDF/>
Print driver that will work with any application. For PC.

Create Adobe PDF Online: <http://createpdf.adobe.com/>
Web-based converter. Can be used by PC or Mac. Vendor e-mails PDF back to you.

CutePDF: <http://www.cutepdf.com>
Print driver that will work with any application. For PC.

Go2PDF: <http://www.go2pdf.com>
Print driver that will work with any application. For PC.

PdfF995: <http://site4.pdf995.com/>

Print driver that will work with any application. For PC.

Win2PDF: <http://www.win2pdf.com/>

Print driver that will work with any application. For PC.

Zeon Corporation: <http://www.pdfwizard.com/>

Print driver that will work with any application. For PC.