

2010 Mantle Cell Lymphoma (MCL)

PROJECT PLANNING GRANT

Guidelines & General Instructions for Application

KEY DATES:

Application Release Date: February 5, 2010
 Application Receipt Date: May 15, 2010
 Peer Review Dates: May - June
 Applicant Notification Date: July 15, 2010
 Earliest Project Start Date: September 30, 2010

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>).**

SUMMARY:

The Lymphoma Research Foundation’s Mantle Cell Lymphoma Consortium is seeking applications for project planning grants geared toward obtaining larger-scale research support from NIH/NCI (or another major funder).

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.

The purpose of these grants is to provide funds for MCL Consortium members and other MCL researchers to develop larger, longer-term proposals that are likely to become successfully funded from other sources, including Program Project Grants such as the PO1. See a description from the NIH website below.

Multi-investigator, multi-site and/or multi-disciplinary proposals are particularly encouraged.

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| P01 | <p>Research Program Project Grant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support for integrated, multi-project research projects involving a number of independent investigators who share knowledge and common resources ▪ Each project contributes or is directly related to the common theme of the total research effort, thus forming a system of research activities and projects directed toward a well-defined research program goal ▪ Specific dollar limit unless specified in FOA |
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Priority of funding will be oriented toward those grants emphasizing inter- or multi-institutional collaboration and which leverage prior investments of the LRF into MCL research.

Amount of Grant: Up to \$25,000 per year for 1 year.

Grant Fund Use: Support of meetings, conference calls, administrative support, and other resources needed to develop and submit a competitive P01 or comparable proposal focused on MCL within 1 year.

ELIGIBILITY:

All principal investigators holding an academic faculty appointment, at non-profit organizations, or public or private institutions such as universities, colleges, hospitals, and laboratories, may apply for funding.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

All interested applicants must submit their applications online through proposalCENTRAL (<https://proposalcentral.altum.com>) by **May 15, 2010**.

MECHANISM OF SUPPORT:

Applicants may request a project period of up to two years as deemed necessary by the requesting Principal Investigator. While the goal is development of a successfully funded proposal within 1 year, given the potential for a longer process (resubmissions and additional needs beyond the initial year) funds can be utilized over a 2 year period. Applications under this RFA may not exceed \$25,000 in total. Indirect costs are **NOT** allowable.

CONTENT AND PROPOSAL FORMAT:

Proposals should include a 2 page narrative that consists of:

1. Two page description including:
 - a. Descriptive Title
 - b. Research topic around which the planning grant and ultimate followup full proposal will be focused.
 - c. Scientific rationale for topic
 - d. Proposed planning process plus
 - i. Specific aims to be accomplished within duration of requested award
 - ii. Quantitative milestones for both the middle and end of the project period
 - iii. Description of the impact of the awarding of funds through the planning grant
 - iv. Leveraging of other LRF investments in MCL research
 - e. Narrative may have no smaller than 10 pt typeface and no less than .8 inch margins.

In Addition:

2. List of key personnel and their respective institutions

3. Biosketches for each member of the planning team.
4. Scientific abstract – 150 wds
5. Lay abstract – 150 wds
6. Budget
7. Documentation of past performance and future capacity in the conduct of relevant research.

In addition, attach additional appendices including a list of references cited in the narrative and a 2-page NIH-format biographical sketch of the project's principal investigator (PI).

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 4 awards will be given up to \$25,000 each.

Applicants will be notified of funding decisions by **Summer 2010**.

The goals of this LRF-supported grant are to assist researchers with a strong interest in MCL research continue to obtain research support, from funders other than LRF, that will advance our 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 project planning grant will have a strong likelihood of success in obtaining further support for the project focus and 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(s) qualifications and research experience
2. Innovation of proposed research strategy and objectives
3. Quality and impact of previous work in MCL and lymphoma in general
4. Proposed application to advancing treatment of MCL patients
5. Reviewers estimation of likely success and impact of the proposed project for which the planning grant is provided.
6. Leveraging of prior LRF investments in MCL research
7. Collaborative, multi-disciplinary nature of the project
8. Resources, such as facilities and patient study groups, available to support the project

The application does not need to be strong in all categories to be judged as likely to have major scientific impact and thus be worthy of a high ranking. Ranking will be assigned based on the overall merit of the proposal. In addition, the application may be submitted by a single institution or a group of institutions (e.g. a multi-institutional consortium to take advantage of the specific strengths of each site). Clear demonstration of the ability to conduct a multi-center study (if proposed) will be a major criterion during the review process.

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.