



Optimize Drug Dosing Strategies for Pediatric LGA/LGG Patients - A Research Grant from AACR and the PLGA Fund at the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation

2020 Program Guidelines and Application Instructions

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PROGRAM GUIDELINES

PROGRAM SUMMARY

The Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation's PLGA Fund and the AACR are proud to announce the inaugural Research Grant to Optimize Drug Dosing Strategies for Pediatric LGA/LGG Patients. This grant represents a joint effort to promote and support innovative and collaborative research focused on the most common forms of pediatric brain cancer – low grade glioma/astrocytoma. The research proposed for funding should be translational in nature (though basic science and clinical proposals will also be considered), and should be focused on improving the understanding and identification of effective dosing parameters for treating children with PLGA brain tumors, with indications for children battling other types of brain tumors. Proposals should also include at least one collaborator from an institution separate from the applicant's institution.

Applications are invited from researchers in the field as well as investigators with experience in other areas of cancer or biomedical research who have promising ideas and approaches that can be applied to PLGA.

Projects must be implemented by a collaborative research team, composed of one principal investigator and at least one collaborator from different institutions. This grant provides \$180,000 over two years for expenses related to the research project, which may include salary and benefits of the grant recipient and any collaborators, postdoctoral or clinical research fellows, graduate students and/or research assistants; research/laboratory supplies; equipment; travel; publication charges for manuscripts that pertain directly to the funded project; and other research expenses.

APPLICATION DEADLINE EXTENDED

February 18, 2020 at **1:00 p.m.** U.S. Eastern Time

NOTIFICATION OF AWARD

March 2020

ANNUAL GRANTS RECEPTION AND DINNER AT AACR ANNUAL MEETING 2020

April 28, 2020 - Grant recipient must attend the Grants Reception and Dinner to formally accept the grant. Grant funds may be used to support the grantee's registration and attendance at this Annual Meeting.

START OF GRANT TERM

July 1, 2020

APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Applicants must have a doctoral degree (PhD, MD, MD/PhD, or equivalent) in a related field and not currently be a candidate for a further doctoral degree. The project will be directed by the Principal Investigator (PI), who is responsible for the application, disbursement of funds to the project, the conduct of the project, and progress reporting. In addition, each project should include at least one collaborator from a separate institution from the PI's institution.

Applications will be accepted from independent investigators who are affiliated with an academic, medical, or research institution anywhere in the world.

There are no citizenship or geographic requirements. However, by submitting an application for this grant, an applicant applying from an institution located in a country in which they are not a citizen or a permanent resident assures that the visa status will provide sufficient time to complete the project and grant term at the institution from which they applied.

Employees or subcontractors of a U.S. government entity or for-profit private industry are not eligible. Employees or subcontractors of a U.S. government entity or for-profit private industry may serve as Collaborators, but no grant funds may be directed towards these individuals.

Applicants should be AACR members. Nonmembers interested in this grant opportunity must submit a satisfactory application for AACR membership, and be members in good standing, by the grant application deadline. Nonmembers can apply for membership using the [Official Application for Membership](#) submitted to the AACR with the required documents or apply [online](#). Suspended Members can renew their membership through their [myAACR](#) account. Lapsed members should contact the Membership Department at membership@aacr.org for assistance and with any questions.

Investigators may submit only **one** application for the AACR-PLGA Fund at the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation Research Grant to Optimize Drug Dosing Strategies for Pediatric LGA/LGG Patients but may concurrently apply for other AACR grants. However, applicants are expected to accept the first grant they are awarded. Individuals may accept and hold only one AACR grant at a time. Current AACR grantees are permitted to apply if they are in compliance with all progress and financial report requirements before the start of the grant term.

Postdoctoral or clinical research fellows or the equivalent who are working under the auspices of a scientific mentor are not eligible to apply. Qualified fellows are invited to apply for an AACR Fellowship.

Members of the Scientific Review Committee are not eligible to apply for the AACR-PLGA Fund at the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation Research Grant to Optimize Drug Dosing Strategies for Pediatric LGA/LGG Patients.

All applicants with questions about eligibility should contact the AACR's Scientific Review and Grants Administration Department (the AACR's SRGA) at grants@aacr.org **before** submitting an application.

RESEARCH PROJECT CRITERIA

The most common pediatric brain tumors are low grade lesions harboring somatic alterations in genes within the MAPK signaling pathway. As a result, many clinical trials testing the therapeutic benefit of small molecule inhibitors of BRAF, MEK and mTOR have been initiated, some with positive outcomes. However, in virtually all of these clinical trials, the drug dosing for eligible children was derived from the pharmacodynamic and toxicity profiles in adults, usually established in widely metastatic disease, such as melanoma or other adult, non-CNS malignancies. Given the challenges associated with recapitulating the slow-growing nature of these tumors in animal models, development of a robust model to correlate human pharmacodynamics with efficacy and toxicity has been unsuccessful. A deeper understanding of MAPK-pathway inhibitor pharmacodynamics in pediatric CNS tumors could inform optimal dosing,

improving clinical outcomes. Therefore, this award is intended to support the establishment of an improved understanding of the pharmacodynamics of MAPK-pathway inhibitors in pediatric low grade astrocytoma/glioma. The ultimate goal is to use this information to guide optimal dosing strategies in children with pediatric low grade astrocytoma/gliomas. Projects should be translational in nature, though basic science and clinical proposals will be considered as well.

Applications are invited from researchers currently in the field as well as from investigators with experience in other areas of cancer or biomedical research who have promising ideas or approaches that they will directly apply to PLGA. However, the applicability of the proposed project to PLGA must be fully described. A track record of research in this specific field is not a requirement for funding.

EVALUATION OF APPLICATIONS

Applications will be peer-reviewed by a Scientific Review Committee comprised of researchers and physician-scientists who are well-respected for their own accomplishments in cancer research and viewed as leaders in the field. The President of the AACR will appoint the members of the Scientific Review Committee.

The Committee will consider the following criteria when reviewing applications and determining funding decisions:

- **Investigator.** Is the applicant well suited to the project? Does the applicant have appropriate experience and training to successfully complete the proposed project? Has the applicant achieved, or have the potential of achieving, a track record, of accomplishments to advance the field?
- **Scientific Focus and Originality.** Is the research focused on pediatric low-grade glioma and astrocytoma (PLGG/PLGA)? Is this research project unique and non-duplicative of other projects currently in the field?
- **Innovation and Significance.** Does the application challenge and seek to shift current research or clinical practice paradigms by utilizing novel theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions? Does the project address an important problem or a critical barrier to progress in the field? If the aims of the project are achieved, how will scientific knowledge, technical capability, and/or clinical practice be improved?
- **Approach.** Are the overall strategy, methodology, and analyses well-reasoned and appropriate to accomplish the specific aims of the project? Are potential problems, alternative strategies, and benchmarks for success presented? Is the budget fully justified and reasonable in relation to the proposed project?
- **Environment.** Is sufficient evidence provided of institutional commitment to the applicant? What institutional support, equipment, and resources are available to the applicant and are they adequate to successfully complete the proposed project?

TOBACCO INDUSTRY FUNDING AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST STATEMENT

Scientific investigators or health professionals who are funded by the tobacco industry for any research project are not eligible for any AACR grant. Grantees who accept funding from the tobacco industry for any research project during the term of an AACR grant must inform the AACR of such funding, whereupon the AACR grant will immediately be terminated.

Tobacco industry funding is defined for purposes of AACR grant applicants and recipients as money provided or used for all or any of the costs of any research project, including personnel, consumables, equipment, buildings, travel, meetings and conferences, and operating costs for laboratories and offices. It is not defined as money provided or used for meetings or conferences that don't relate to any particular research projects.

Tobacco industry funding includes: funds from a company that is engaged in or has affiliates engaged in the manufacture of tobacco produced for human use; funds in the name of a tobacco brand, whether or not the brand name is used solely for tobacco products; funds from a body set up by the tobacco industry or by one or more companies engaged in the manufacture of tobacco products.

The following do not constitute tobacco industry funding for the purposes of this policy:

- Legacies from tobacco industry investments (unless the names of a tobacco company or cigarette brand are associated with them)
- Funding from a trust or foundation established with assets related to the tobacco industry but no longer having any connection with the tobacco industry even though it may bear a name that (for historical reasons) is associated with the tobacco industry

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

The AACR requires applicants to submit an online application by **1:00 p.m.** U.S. Eastern Time on **Tuesday, February 18, 2020**, using the proposalCENTRAL website at <https://proposalcentral.com>.

In order to submit a complete application, applicants need to enter information directly into the online application platform as well as upload a number of documents. The following instructions provide details about information that needs to be entered and the materials that need to be uploaded. The section numbering corresponds with the section number of the Application Instructions and the online proposalCENTRAL application.

Information to be Entered Directly into proposalCENTRAL	Application Instructions Section	proposalCENTRAL Section
Project Title and Acknowledgement of Terms and Conditions	1. Title Page	1) Title Page
Applicant Information	4. Applicant	4) Applicant
Institution and Contact Information	5. Institution & Contacts	5) Institution & Contacts
Collaborator Information	6. Collaborators	6) Collaborators
Scientific Abstract	7. Scientific Abstract	7) Scientific Abstract
Budget	8. Budget	8) Budget
Organizational Assurances	9. Organizational Assurances	9) Organizational Assurances

Templates	Application Instructions Section	proposalCENTRAL Section
Research Project Proposal Template	10.A. Application Documents	10) Application Documents
Secured Other Support Template	10.B. Application Documents	10) Application Documents
Pending Other Support Template	10.C. Application Documents	10) Application Documents
Budget Justification Template	10.D. Application Documents	10) Application Documents
Project Milestones Template	10.E. Application Documents	10) Application Documents

Additional Materials	Application Instructions Section	proposalCENTRAL Section
Applicant's Biographical Sketch	10.F. Application Documents	10) Application Documents
Letter of Institutional Commitment	10.G. Application Documents	10) Application Documents
Collaborator Biographical Sketch(es)	10.H. Application Documents	10) Application Documents
Letter(s) of Collaboration	10.I. Application Documents	10) Application Documents
Supporting Documentation (if applicable)	10.J. Application Documents	10) Application Documents
Appendices (if applicable)	10.K. Application Documents	10) Application Documents

Required Signatures	Application Instructions Section	proposalCENTRAL Section
Application Signature Page	10.L. Application Documents	13) Signature Page(s)

GETTING STARTED IN proposalCENTRAL

If you are a new user of proposalCENTRAL, click the orange “CREATE ONE NOW!” button and complete the registration process. After logging in, complete your Professional Profile (green tab) before starting an application.

If you are already registered with proposalCENTRAL, access the site and log in with your Username and Password. If you have forgotten your login information, click on the “Forgot Your Username/Password?” link.

To start an application, select the “Grant Opportunities” tab (gray tab). A list of applications will be displayed. The list of applications can be filtered for just this organization by clicking “Filter by Grant Maker” at the top and selecting “American Association for Cancer Research” in the drop down menu. Find the “**AACR-PLGA Fund at the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation Research Grant to Optimize Drug Dosing Strategies for Pediatric LGA/LGG Patients**” and click the blue “Apply Now” button in the “Apply” column.

If you have any difficulties registering, logging in, or creating your application, contact proposalCENTRAL Customer Support at: 800-875-2562 (Toll-free U.S. and Canada), +1-703-964-5840 (Direct Dial International), or by email at pcsupport@altum.com. See the proposalCENTRAL [FAQ](#) section, for additional information.

APPLICATION FORMAT

The following information is required to submit a complete application. Numbers correspond to the sections found on the left side of the proposalCENTRAL website.

- 1. TITLE PAGE.** Enter the title of the research project. The title is limited to no more than 75 characters (including spaces). Do not use abbreviations. A project title must be entered and saved before additional sections may be accessed.

Terms and Conditions of the Grant. In order to ensure that the applicant is informed of the terms and conditions of the grant should they be selected as a recipient, applicant must acknowledge that they have read the terms and conditions by typing in their name and date in the box provided.

The terms and conditions of this grant may be modified or amended by the AACR prior to execution of the Grant Agreement. In addition, the grant recipient’s institution may only request revisions to the sections VII.G.; XII.; XIII.F.; and XIV.A. of the Grant Agreement prior to execution. Only in special circumstances will revisions be considered to sections other than those noted above.

- 2. DOWNLOAD TEMPLATES & INSTRUCTIONS.** The Program Guidelines and Application Instructions document and all templates can be downloaded from this page. See Section 10 of the Application Instructions for how to complete and upload the templates. This application also requires additional attachments for which templates are not provided (applicant's biographical sketch, Letter of Institutional Commitment, biographical sketch(es) of collaborator(s), Letter(s) of Collaboration, Supporting Documentation [if applicable], and Appendices [if applicable]).
- 3. ENABLE OTHER USERS TO ACCESS THIS PROPOSAL.** Optional.

- 4. APPLICANT.** Enter information for the applicant. Applicants must include their contact information, including e-mail address, phone number, mailing address, and AACR membership information.

Applicants who have an ORCID ID are also invited to include this identifier with their application.

- 5. INSTITUTION & CONTACTS.** Enter information regarding the applicant's institution and signing official.
- 6. COLLABORATORS.** Collaborator(s) are required. Collaborators are independent researchers who have an integral role on the proposed project. Do not enter information for fellows or research assistants working on the proposed project as they are not considered collaborators. While collaborators are required, note that co-Principal Investigators are **NOT** permitted.
- 7. SCIENTIFIC ABSTRACT.** The abstract is limited to 3,000 characters (including spaces) and should provide a brief summary of the proposed research project.

If funded, this Abstract will become public information; therefore, do not include proprietary/confidential information.

From the lists provided, select the research areas that are most applicable to this project (*select no more than two*) and indicate how you found out about this grant opportunity.

- 8. BUDGET.** Enter expenses for the term of the grant. Applicants must submit a budget in the amount of \$180,000, which may include salary and benefits of the grant recipient, postdoctoral or clinical research fellows, graduate students (including tuition costs associated with graduate students' education and training), research assistants, or collaborators; research/laboratory supplies; equipment; travel; publication charges for manuscripts that pertain directly to the funded project; and other research expenses. The percentage of salary requested may not exceed the percent effort of the applicant. See Grant Agreement document for information on publishing in AACR journals. **No more than 25%** of the total budget can be allocated to grant recipient and collaborator salary and benefits. Budget requests for equipment that exceed 5% of the total budget must be accompanied by a detailed justification.

Up to \$3,000 per year may be used for registration, housing, travel, and subsistence expenses related to attendance at any scientific meetings or conferences applicable to the research project. Grantee **must** attend the AACR Annual Meeting 2020 to formally accept the grant during the annual Grants Reception and Dinner. Travel funds are for the grantee **ONLY**. Up to \$2,500 may be allocated from the grant to support the grantee's registration and attendance at any individual meeting or conference.

As the grant term begins after the Annual Meeting to which the grantee must attend, the AACR recommends that the Institution use existing discretionary funding to cover the grantee's travel costs. When the grant term begins, the Institution may transfer the applicable AACR-allowed travel charges from the discretionary fund to the grant fund. This transfer must be reflected in the first financial report of expenditures submitted to the AACR.

Indirect costs, professional membership dues, and any other research-related expenses not directly related to this project are **not** allowable expenses. For the purposes of this grant, any general office supplies or individual institutional administrative charges (e.g., telephone, other electronic communication, utilities, IT network, etc.) are considered to be part of indirect and are **not** allowable budget line items. In addition, no grant funds may be directed towards salary or benefits of any individuals from a U.S. government entity or for-profit industry, nor for any research expenses related to the project that are incurred by these individuals.

A detailed budget justification explaining the allocation of the grant funds must accompany the application. See Section 10.D. for Budget Justification template instructions.

- 9. ORGANIZATIONAL ASSURANCES.** Select the appropriate assurances options for your proposed research and complete the Approved or Pending Date field as appropriate (i.e., mm/dd/yyyy, N/A, or None). The assurances/certifications are made and verified by the signature of the institutional official signing the application. If a grant is awarded, IRB and/or IACUC approval (if applicable) must be submitted in writing to the AACR's SRGA.

10. APPLICATION DOCUMENTS.

Formatting Instructions. Applicants must adhere to the following instructions in completing the templates. Failure to observe type size specifications and page limits will result in the return of the application without review.

- Type size. Must use 12-point Times New Roman for the text, and no smaller than 9-point type for figures, legends, and tables.
- Single-spaced text. Single-spacing is acceptable, and space between paragraphs is recommended.
- Margins. The page margins must be no less than 0.75 inches on each side.
- Page numbering. The Proposal Narrative must be numbered consecutively; do not use section designations such as "3A" or "3B".
- Tips and techniques for inserting images in documents.
 - Reduce the file size of documents with images by "inserting" the image (as opposed to "cutting" and "pasting"). Save graphical images as a JPG or GIF file. Insert the image into the document by selecting "Insert – Picture – From File" from the MS Word menu.
 - Insert only GIF or JPG graphic files as images in your Word document. Other graphical file formats are either very large or difficult to manipulate in the document.
 - Do not insert Quick Time or TIFF objects into your document.
 - Anchor the images that you embed in your document.
 - Once you have anchored the inserted image, you can format text to wrap around the image.
 - Do not edit your images in Word. Use a graphics program.
 - Do not embed your images in tables, text boxes, and other form elements.
 - Do not add annotations over the images in Word. Add annotations to the images in a graphics program.

When a template is provided, the template MUST be used. Prepare and upload the following documents into your application in portable document format (PDF):

- A. Research Project Proposal.** *Applicants are required to use the template available from the proposalCENTRAL website. The information must be presented in this order:*
- I. Contents Page.** Complete the Table of Contents by indicating the appropriate page numbers for each section. The Table of Contents page must not exceed one page.
 - II. Proposal Narrative.** Limited to six pages, including figures and tables. The Contents Page, Facilities, and References sections do not count against this page limit. The Proposal Narrative must be presented in this order: (A) Title of Research Project; (B) Introductory Statement, Background, Preliminary Data, and Rationale; (C) Specific Aims; (D) Research Design and Methods*; (E) Statement of Innovation (describing how the proposed study employs a new idea and/or innovative approach); and (F) Significance and Statement of Relevance.
***Note that the AACR strongly encourages the authentication of cell lines intended for use in the proposed research project.** If use of cell lines is proposed, it is encouraged that information related to cell line authentication is included in the Research Design and Methods section of the proposal. For a list of cell line authentication services, please visit: <http://aacrjournals.org/content/cell-line-authentication-information>
 - III. Facilities.** Limited to two pages. Please provide a description of the research facilities, resources, and equipment that are available to the applicant and that will allow successful implementation of the proposed research program.
 - IV. References.** Limited to three pages. AACR reference style follows that of the [Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals](#). Note that the *Uniform Requirements* specify that for articles with more than six authors, the names of the first six authors must be listed, followed by "et al." For articles with six or fewer authors, all authors should be listed.
- B. Secured Other Support.** *Applicants are required to use the template available from the proposalCENTRAL website.* In the table provided, list all **existing** support (institutional, federal, etc.) that has been **secured** and will be used in whole or in part by the applicant during the term of this grant (07/01/2020-06/30/2022). Only funding sources that provide support specifically for the applicant should be listed, which includes grants for which the applicant is not the Principal Investigator. This may include support for different projects. For each grant or funding source, please provide:
- Name of Principal Investigator
 - Name of Grant/Funding Source
 - Funding Agency
 - Grant Term
 - Amount of Funding
 - Percent Effort of Applicant
 - Title of Project
 - List of Specific Aims as Stated in Grant Proposal (summaries will NOT be accepted)

C. Pending Other Support. *Applicants are required to use the template available from the proposalCENTRAL website.* In the table provided, list all **pending** support (institutional, federal, etc.) that will, **if secured**, be used in whole or in part by the applicant during the term of this grant (07/01/2020-06/30/2022). Only funding sources that provide support specifically for the applicant should be listed, which includes grants for which the applicant is not the Principal Investigator. This may include different projects. For each pending grant or funding source, please provide:

- Name of Principal Investigator
- Name of Grant/Funding Source
- Funding Agency
- Grant Term
- Amount of Funding
- Percent Effort of Applicant
- Title of Project
- List of Specific Aims as Stated in Grant Proposal (summaries will NOT be accepted)

NOTE: If at any time prior to selection and notification an applicant is awarded any funding that may overlap with the 2020 AACR-PLGA Fund at the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation Research Grant to Optimize Drug Dosing Strategies for Pediatric LGA/LGG Patients, the applicant must notify the AACR immediately.

D. Budget Justification. *Applicants are required to use the template available from the proposalCENTRAL website.* Limited to three pages. Applicants must submit a budget in the amount of \$180,000 over two years. Percent effort of the applicant on the proposed project must be indicated. Applicant must also indicate their salary and, if any part of their salary is requested, the percentage of salary requested may not exceed the percent effort the applicant will dedicate to the project. In addition, identify by name and title of collaborator(s) and any additional personnel, and their specific responsibilities, during each year of the proposed project. Note if individual is a postdoctoral or clinical research fellow. For positions that are not yet filled, indicate “TBD” in the name field. **Grant recipient and collaborator(s) salary and benefits are limited to 25% of the total budget.** Include details on any research/laboratory supplies, equipment, travel, publication charges for manuscripts that pertain directly to the funded project, and other research expenses being requested. Detailed justification is required for equipment that exceeds 5% of the total budget.

Travel expenditures cannot exceed \$3,000. Travel funds are for the grantee **ONLY**. No more than \$2,500 may be allocated to support registration and attendance at any individual meeting or conference.

E. Project Milestones. *Complete only Column A of the Milestones Template available from the proposalCENTRAL website.* The Milestones Template is meant to list the various steps necessary to complete your research goals and the estimated time it will take to complete each step. Please list your name and the specific aims for the proposed project at the top of the template. Underneath each time period, identify the steps that will be needed to accomplish the aim(s) in that time period. For each step, note the corresponding aim in parentheses. Rows may be

added/deleted to the template as needed. For the purposes of submitting the template with your application, **only the information requested above entered into Column A is needed.** Reporting progress towards milestones further using this template will be incorporated into the reporting requirements for the project if funded.

- F. Applicant's Biographical Sketch.** The biographical sketch must be in English. The NIH Biographical Sketch Form [OMB No. 0925-0001 and 0925-0002 (Rev. 9/17 Approved Through 3/31/2020)] should be used.
- G. Letter of Institutional Commitment.** The letter must be written by the department head, dean, or other senior member of the institution on behalf of the applicant and addressed to the Scientific Review Committee. It should explain the applicant's relationship with the institution, and the nature and extent of support for the proposed research available from the institution, including laboratory space and financial and other resources.
- H. Biographical Sketch(es) of Collaborator(s).** Submit a biographical sketch for every collaborator listed in Section 6. The biographical sketch must be in English. The NIH Biographical Sketch Form [OMB No. 0925-0001 and 0925-0002 (Rev. 9/17 Approved Through 3/31/2020)] should be used.
- I. Letter(s) of Collaboration.** A Letter of Collaboration must be uploaded for every collaborator listed in Section 6. The letter should confirm the scope of the collaborators' involvement in the proposed research.
- J. Supporting Documentation.** An example of acceptable supporting documentation is a letter of commitment from a collaborating clinician, drug manufacturer, or any collaborator providing data or materials necessary for the proposed research. Supporting Documentation should state a commitment to provide stated data/materials or confirm applicant's access to said data/materials. Supporting Documentation should be included only to provide information on the ability to provide for a research need, and should not comment on the applicant, or research environment. **Any documentation deemed by the AACR's SRGA to be an additional letter of reference for the applicant is not considered supporting documentation and will be removed from the application.** Each supporting document is limited to one page and must be presented on the appropriate institutional or company letterhead.

There is no limit to the number of supporting documents that may be provided, however, documents that do not satisfactorily meet the description of supporting documentation provided above, or uploads such as tables, charts, articles, and other inappropriate additional materials will be removed.

- K. Appendices.** Appendices are not required and may **ONLY** be used for the following materials. Appendices are not to include figures, tables, or other data that otherwise should be contained within the Proposal Narrative. The following materials are permitted:
- Clinical Trial Protocols
 - Unpublished Manuscripts. (Manuscripts that have been published should not be attached as appendices. Instead, please list the citation on the References page.)

- Large size versions of figures and/or detailed legends presented in the Proposal Narrative.
 - The use of this appendix is in no way intended to increase the Proposal Narrative page limit. Use of this appendix is restricted to no more than one page of figures and/or legends. This appendix is to be used when reducing the size of the figure or legend to fit within the proposal narrative would significantly compromise the quality of the image. In no case should there be more than one page of text in this appendix. **Overuse or misuse of this appendix may result in your application being rejected or your appendix being removed from your application.**

L. Signed Signature Page. In order to ensure that the applicant and institution have approved the application, applicants must obtain both required signatures on page one of the Signature Pages. Electronic/digital signatures are permitted. These signatures transmitted by electronic means shall have the same force and effect as original signatures. Downloading the Signature Page(s) is described in Section 13 below.

The signed Signature Page must be uploaded to your online application in the Application Documents section.

Uploading the attachments into your application. Once you have converted your attachments to PDF files, the next step is to upload the files to your online application. *Only PDF attachments are permitted for this application submission.*

- Open your online application and go to the section for attaching files. Click the blue “Attach Files” button.
- Select the appropriate type of attachment from the drop-down list.
- Enter your own description of the file in the “Describe Attachment” field.
- Click on the “Browse” button to select the file from your computer.
- Click on the “Upload and Continue” button. You will get a confirmation message on your screen that the file was uploaded successfully. You will also see that your file is now listed in the “Uploaded Attachment” section of the screen. Clicking the “Back” or “Upload and Return” button allows you to go back to the main page of this section where the uploaded documents should now be listed. **Click the download icon next to the file name to open and view your uploaded documents.** To delete the file, click on the trashcan icon to the right under the “Delete” column.

In the section for attachments, all the required attachments are listed in the middle of the screen, just below where you upload your files. This list of required attachments helps you track completion and uploading of your required attachments. Once you upload a required attachment, that attachment type will be removed from the required list and will be displayed in the “Current list of uploaded attachments”.

If you wish to modify the attached file, make the revisions to your **original** file on your computer, convert the file to PDF, and use the same process as above to attach the new file. **Delete any previously submitted versions of the file before submitting your application.**

SUBMITTING COMPLETE APPLICATION

- 11. PI DATA SHEET.** This is an automatically populated data sheet based on the applicant's proposalCENTRAL profile. Information for gender, race, and ethnicity must be provided to the AACR. If fields are not populated, go to Section 4, "Applicant", and select the "Edit Professional Profile" button in the center of the screen. The applicant must then go to the column on the left side of the screen, select "4) Personal Data for Application", and enter their gender, race, and ethnicity. The Scientific Review Committee does not receive this information.
- 12. VALIDATE.** Validate the application on proposalCENTRAL. This is an essential step. An application that has not been validated cannot be submitted. "Validate" checks for required data and attachments. You will not be able to submit if all the required data and attachments have not been provided.
- 13. SIGNATURE PAGE(S).** Use the "Print Signature Pages" button to download the Signature Pages. Signatures are only required on the first page. This page can be printed, original signatures obtained, and then uploaded to your online application **OR** electronic/digital signatures are permitted. These signatures transmitted by electronic means shall have the same force and effect as original signatures. Do not upload the Application Contacts, Scientific Abstract, and Proposed Budget pages with the signed Signature Page.

NOTE: Data entered in the online application are automatically included in the signature pages. If information is missing in the signature pages, it could be because you have not entered the information in one of the online application sections **OR** the information is not required for this grant program. If the institution's Employer Identification Number (EIN) is not completed on the signature page, please request that your institution provides that information in their proposalCENTRAL profile.

While the "Print Signature Pages" option allows applicants to download the Signature Page, Application Contacts, Scientific Abstract, and Budget, the AACR **strongly encourages** applicants to also use the "Print Signature Pages with Attachments" option. This option can be used if your institution wishes to review the full application but also should be used by the applicant to ensure that the Scientific Abstract does not cut-off in this view and that your attachments loaded properly. The following application materials will **not** be present when using this option: Pending Other Support and the Signature page containing the required signatures. Absence of these materials should **not** be considered an error. If your institution requires all components of the application to review, the above documents need to be added individually by the applicant.

Excessive spacing in your Scientific Abstract (e.g., line breaks between paragraphs) can cause the abstract to not fully appear in the Signature Page view, even if under the 3,000 character limit. You may want to further edit your Scientific Abstract prior to submission if it does not fully appear. Errors may occur when the uploaded PDF files are assembled by the system. Please check to ensure that all pages of every document included appear in the "Print Signature Pages with Attachments" option. If you are having any issues with this option, please contact proposalCENTRAL customer support at: 800-875-2562 (Toll-free U.S. and Canada), +1-703-964-5840 (Direct Dial International), or by e-mail to pcsupport@altum.com.

14. SUBMIT. After successfully passing the validate check, click the **“Submit”** link. An e-mail will be sent to you confirming your submission.

Once your application is submitted you may view it by accessing the ‘Submitted’ link under the ‘Manage Proposals’ tab. The status column will show “Submitted” and the date submitted. You may need to refresh your browser screen after submitting the application to see the updated status.

CHANGES TO YOUR APPLICATION

Withdrawal of Application. Please advise the AACR promptly, in writing, should you decide to withdraw your application for any reason. Your correspondence must include your name, the grant opportunity to which you applied, the project title, and the reason for withdrawal.

Change of Address. Notify the AACR in writing of any changes of address, e-mail, or phone number, following the submission of an application. Include your name and the proposalCENTRAL identification number. The e-mail address provided with your application will be used for all official communication about your submission including the recipient selection results. Your Professional Profile in proposalCENTRAL must be kept up to date.

Change of Institution or Position. If you change your institution or professional position, contact the AACR’s SRGA to determine whether your application is still eligible for review.

INQUIRIES

Inquiries or technical issues regarding proposalCENTRAL and the online application process should be directed to customer support at: 800-875-2562 (Toll-free U.S. and Canada), +1-703-964-5840 (Direct Dial International), or by e-mail to pcsupport@altum.com.

Inquiries about the program guidelines, eligibility requirements, and application materials can be directed to the AACR’s Scientific Review and Grants Administration at grants@aacr.org.

MORE ABOUT THE PARTNERS



The Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation's PLGA Fund (a 501(c)(3) organization) was created by the recent merger with the PLGA Foundation (dba A Kids' Brain Tumor Cure Foundation). Continuing the PLGA Foundation's commitment to eradicate the most common forms of pediatric brain cancer, pediatric low grade astrocytoma/glioma, this fund is dedicated to finding more effective, less toxic and less punishing treatments. Our goal is to accelerate the pace of promising scientific research through raising funds to support state of the art scientific research and Raising awareness with scientists, doctors, lay people and pharmaceutical companies about the lack of existing effective treatments and a cure. Over the past 11 years we have raised over \$16.5 million and have funded a dozen international conferences, 5 clinical trials and 4 dozen research projects. We welcome support from both the families that are impacted by this disease as well as the greater public. It is simply unacceptable that children diagnosed with this disease are suffering due to the lack of advancements in scientific understanding of pediatric brain tumors. Recent developments in the scientific arena and agreement among scientists around the world confirm that more effective treatments are on the horizon for all children battling brain tumors provided that funding is available. The PLGA Fund at PBTf is accelerating its efforts to raise funds and awareness so that all children can fight for their dreams not for their lives. Please visit us at: www.fightplga.org.



Founded in 1907, the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) is the world's first and largest professional organization dedicated to advancing cancer research and its mission to prevent and cure cancer. AACR has 42,000 members in 120 countries and territories around the world; over thirty percent (30%) of members live outside the United States and Canada. Twenty percent (20%) of AACR's international members are located in countries with emerging economies. The AACR offers seven categories of membership to support each aspect of our members' professional development and enhancement in cancer research. In support of the professional development of early-career investigators, no annual dues are required for Associate membership. The AACR marshals the full spectrum of expertise of the cancer community to accelerate progress in the prevention, biology, diagnosis, and treatment of cancer by annually convening more than 30 conferences and educational workshops, the largest of which is the AACR Annual Meeting with more than 22,500 attendees. In addition, the AACR publishes eight prestigious, peer-reviewed scientific journals and a magazine for cancer survivors, patients, and their caregivers. The AACR funds meritorious research directly as well as in cooperation with numerous cancer organizations. As the Scientific Partner of Stand Up To Cancer, the AACR provides expert peer review, grants administration, and scientific oversight of team science and individual investigator grants in cancer research that have the potential for near-term patient benefit. The AACR actively communicates with legislators and other policymakers about the value of cancer research and related biomedical science in saving lives from cancer. For more information about the AACR, visit www.AACR.org.