

## **GENERAL POLICIES GOVERNING PHASE II of the LEN & SUSAN MARK INITIATIVE for OVARIAN and UTERINE/MMMT CANCERS**

The Israel Cancer Research Fund (ICRF) is a voluntary charitable organization that receives its total income from private donations. Its main goals are the advancement of cancer research and the training of Israeli scientists in Israel. To that end, funds for cancer research are available to citizens of Israel, both native-born and those who have settled. Funds are not available to visiting scientists. (Proof of Israeli citizenship must be furnished upon request.)

Funds may be requested for basic, clinical, or translational research, which must relate to ovarian and/or uterine/MMMT cancers and must be conducted in Israel.

Information on applying for ICRF research grants can be downloaded from our website, or obtained from the address above. For any questions or problems, please send an E-mail message to: ellen.rubin@icrfny.org.

**BEFORE ANY APPLICATION WILL BE PROCESSED OR REVIEWED, ALL OF THE  
REQUIRED ITEMS MUST BE COMPLETED EXACTLY AS REQUESTED; OTHERWISE  
THE APPLICATION WILL BE REJECTED AUTOMATICALLY.**

### **Timetable for the Awarding of Grants**

<i>RECEIVED BY THE FUND IN NEW YORK</i>	<i>NOTIFICATION OF DECISION</i>	<i>ACTIVATION OF AWARD</i>
January 17, 2018	July 1, 2018	September 1, 2018

### **Purpose**

Ovarian cancer is the leading cause of death from gynecologic cancers in the United States and the fifth leading cause of cancer death among American women. Early detection is rarely possible, and only 20 percent of ovarian tumors are localized at the time of presentation. Uterine cancer is the most commonly diagnosed gynecologic cancer and the fourth most diagnosed cancer of women in the United States. MMMT (malignant mixed mullerian tumor) is an unusual tumor, typically occurring in the uterus, that contains a mixture of malignant epithelial and mesenchymal tissues. MMMT is an aggressive neoplasm that has an extremely poor prognosis. For these reasons, determining risk factors (genetic, environmental and gene-environment interactions), developing preventive strategies, improving detection technologies, and devising new strategies for targeted treatment of ovarian and uterine/MMMT tumors are very important goals for cancer research.

The ICRF has always been committed to supporting world-class cancer research that contributes to improved cancer treatment and can lead to cancer cures. Graciously supported by Len and Susan Mark, this special ICRF research grant initiative has been established to advance our knowledge of the pathogenesis and treatment of Ovarian and Uterine/MMMT Cancers. While not a requirement, grants that utilize interdisciplinary approaches and that are multi-investigator are encouraged.

### **Scientific Review of Applications**

Applications will be considered for funding on the basis of the overall merit of the proposal as determined by the Scientific Review Panel, relevance of the proposal to the research objectives of the ICRF and this special program, and the availability of funds. They will be reviewed as a special category by the ICRF Scientific Review Panel.

Acting upon the recommendations of the ICRF Scientific Review Panel, as well as the International Scientific Council, the Board of Trustees of the ICRF then approves all awards.

### **Eligibility**

The Len and Susan Mark Initiative for Ovarian, and Uterine/MMMT Cancers grants are intended to support the research of established investigators studying the biology, diagnosis, treatment, or prevention of ovarian and/or uterine/MMMT cancers. Grants will be made to an institution or cooperating institutions with the understanding that they will support a specific project under the direction of a designated principal investigator. ICRF support is given only to Israeli institutions for work in Israel.

### **Duration and Amount of the Award**

Awarded grants will be for a period of three (3) years, with a funding level of approximately \$60,000 per year (\$180,000 total stipend). Progress reports will be due after the first and second years. Continued funding is not automatic, but will be contingent upon acceptable progress. A progress report reminder notice, along with forms and instructions, will be sent out in advance of the due date.

***ONLY ONE (1) GRANT APPLICATION PER PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR  
WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR EACH SUBMISSION DEADLINE***

### **Fiscal Requirements for Institution**

A separate account must be maintained for each award. This account must be available for audit at any time by representatives of the ICRF.

The funds are to be used for actual direct expenses (salary, supplies, etc.) connected with the project. No overhead, clerical or other administrative charges may be made by the institution against the award funds. ICRF does not allow funds to be used for travel.

A report of these expenditures, detailing the utilization of the funds (salaries, supplies, etc.), must be submitted to ICRF semi-annually. Forms will be sent directly to the institution by the ICRF office. Grant payments will be suspended, if these reports become overdue.

### **Special Leave**

- A. Special leave for work in another institution (with continuing support from the award) may be permitted, if directly related to the purpose of the award. If such leave does not exceed three months, only local institutional approval is required. For a longer period, prior approval of the ICRF is required. To obtain approval, the awardee must submit to the ICRF at least six (6) months prior to the leave, a letter describing the plan, and how the awardee will supervise his/her laboratory during this period. This letter must be countersigned by the awardee's department head and the appropriate institutional official. Such leave may not exceed twelve (12) months.
- B. Leave without award support requires the prior approval of the ICRF and will be granted only in unusual situations. Such leave may not exceed twelve (12) months. Support from other sources is permissible during the period of leave, and such leave does not reduce the total number of months of program support for which an awardee is eligible.

### **Special Conditions**

Should the ICRF awardee or the sponsoring institution specified by our award vacate the project, the ICRF will automatically void the award and terminate funding. Failure of the institution to notify the ICRF of such vacancy will allow the ICRF to recover funds *in toto*.

### **Change of Institution**

1. A letter of request to ICRF for permission to transfer the award to another eligible institution must be received by ICRF at least six (6) months prior to moving. This letter should include the name of the new institution, as well as assurance of continuation of the awarded project.
2. A letter of acceptance from the new institution and a letter of release from the original institution should be sent to ICRF. Additionally, the original institution will be required to submit a final report of expenditures, and any unexpended funds must either be returned to the ICRF or transferred to the new institution.
3. A description of the new work facilities.

If a request is not received at least six (6) months prior to the move, the ICRF reserves the right to automatically void the award and terminate funding.

### **Biohazards and Protection of Human Subjects/Animals**

Safeguarding the rights and welfare of human subjects involved in activities supported by the ICRF, as well as consideration of potential biohazards, is the responsibility of the institution that received the award. Awards for projects involving human subjects and/or animals require prior review and approval by the appropriate institutional committee. Such written approvals must be submitted along with the ICRF application. The review date should be recent; certification is invalid if the review date precedes the submission date by more than one year. These approval letters must be written *in English*.

## **Publications**

Publications resulting from projects supported by the Fund must contain the following acknowledgment:

*"This study was supported by The Len and Susan Mark Initiative for Ovarian and Uterine/MMMT Cancers Grant from the Israel Cancer Research Fund."*

Awardees should send electronic copies of publications carrying the above credit line to the ICRF International Executive Office in New York as soon as possible after publication.

## **Patents**

No patent application for work done under an ICRF award shall be filed by the grantee institution or by any individual investigator engaged in this research without prior consultation with and written approval of the Fund.

## **Changes and Amendments**

Any changes or amendments to the original award must be approved in writing by the Fund.

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