Israel Cancer Research Fund
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POLICIES GOVERNING ICRF CLINICAL RESEARCH CAREER DEVELOPMENT AWARDS (CRCDAs)

The Israel Cancer Research Fund (ICRF) is a voluntary charitable organization that receives its total income from private donations. The goal of the ICRF is to advance cancer research and the training of Israeli scientists in Israel.

The Clinical Research Career Development Award (CRCDA) is designed to enable an early career medical or pediatric oncologist with clear research potential to participate in mentored post-fellowship research training that will provide a strong foundation for a career in clinical research. CRCDAs are available to investigators in the formative phase of their careers who have demonstrated outstanding potential for contribution to clinical cancer research as independent investigators and who will benefit by additional mentored experience in a scientific environment that is conducive to the development of an independent research career.

The CRCDA is intended to support proposals with a clinical research focus. Clinical Research utilizes human subjects or materials and has direct application to the prevention, diagnosis, or treatment of cancer in the individual or group of individuals under study, or the rehabilitation (including quality of life issues) of the patient. Translational Research, or the transfer of basic research findings to clinical usefulness, is also acceptable.

A candidate must have an MD degree and at least two years of fellowship training in oncology, including medical or pediatric hematology-oncology or a related oncologic specialty, but not more than five years of subsequent relevant professional experience prior to the start date of requested funding.

CRCDAs may not be used simply to substitute one source of salary support for another for an individual who is already conducting full-time research, nor do they provide support to the institution or substitute for institutional support of an investigator.

Mentoring

Because the goal of CRCDA funding is to promote development of early career investigators, each investigator must establish a formal mentoring program. Each CRCDA applicant must identify at least two Mentors committed to overseeing the applicant's progress from among senior investigators at the applicant's institution. Letters of support and a detailed Mentorship Plan must accompany the application.

Duration and Amount of the Grant

The duration of a CRCDA is three (3) years, at a level of $45,000 per year, as determined by the Scientific Review Panel and the availability of funds. Funding for the second and third years is contingent upon progress in the preceding funding period, as documented in a progress report due annually on June 30.

Terms of the CRCDA

1. ***Commitment to Research:*** Individuals who receive a CRCDA are to devote at least half of their time to clinical research activities. Such activities may include giving or receiving research training, supervising the research of others, and participating in workshops and scientific or professional meetings. The principal involvement must be with the actual conduct of research. It is expected that the other portion of the grantee's time will be devoted to direct patient care at the funded institution. During the period of the grant, the institution is expected to reduce or defer demands for teaching, service or committee duties that do not contribute directly to the development of the candidate's research career.

2. ***Nomination by the Sponsoring Institution***: Candidates must be nominated by a public or private nonprofit institution engaged in healthcare and healthcare-related research and located in Israel. The application must originate jointly with the institution and the proposed nominee, and must describe fully all proposed research, teaching, and medical activities. A letter from the Dean, relevant Department Chair, or other appropriate senior hospital/university official should accompany the application guaranteeing protected time for research and research-related activities and detailing the institutional support available to the applicant during the period of the grant, as well as its future plans for the applicant after completion of the grant term.

3. ***Relationship of the Grantee to the Sponsoring Institution:*** Although an individual is considered as the grantee, grants are made to eligible institutions on behalf of the grantee. The grantee is an employee of the institution to which the grant is made and his or her status, title, salary and staff privileges are determined by the institution according to its established policies for individuals holding 12-month appointments, except as otherwise set out in this statement.

4 ***Concurrent Applications Not Permitted:*** A CRCDA application may not be submitted concurrently with another clinical research career development-type application that would duplicate the provisions of the CRCDA, nor may a grantee accept another clinical research career development award that would duplicate the provisions of the ICRF grant. Potentially duplicative grants include clinical investigator awards, academic and teacher investigator awards, and postdoctoral and senior fellowships.

Allowable Grant Costs

The CRCDA will reimburse the sponsoring institution for the employee's research and training efforts which must encompass at least 50% of his or her time at the institution. Support is limited to a maximum of $45,000 for each budget period. The CRCDA may be used for any combination of salary and research costs incurred by the awardee, including attendance at cooperative cancer treatment group meetings and expenses for training in clinical research methodology and biostatistics.

The total salary of the investigator (ICRF and institutional contribution) must be based on a full-time, 12-month staff appointment, and be consistent with both the established salary structure at the institution and with salaries provided by the institution to other staff members of equivalent qualifications, rank and responsibilities in the department concerned. If full-time salaries are not currently paid to comparable staff members, the salary proposed must be appropriately related to the existing part-time salary structure.

The CRCDA is made with the expectation that additional research support and salary funds from the institution will be available to the grantee during the period of the grant, and that full-time employment of the grantee will be assured for a minimum of 3 years after completion of the CRCDA, with appropriate funding for continued clinical research activities.

Type of Clinical Trials that may be Supported

Phase I (tolerance and toxicity) trials may be performed under a CRCDA proposal provided that an experienced clinical investigator (mentor) provides assurance of appropriate supervision. Phase II and Phase III trials may be proposed for support of this type, and may involve more than one institution, provided that the appropriate consortium agreements are obtained.

Pharmaceutical Industry Involvement

Financial support and proprietary drug provision are permitted, provided that a letter from the manufacturer or supplier clearly indicates they will have no control or influence over publication or dissemination of results of the project.

Further Information

Additional information and templates for applying for an ICRF cancer research grant can be downloaded from our website, www.icrfonline.org/apply-for-a-grant/. For information on **General Policies Governing ICRF Grants**, including fiscal requirements for sponsoring institutions, please see the following pages**.**

Questions? For any questions or problems, please send an E-mail message to: ellen.rubin@icrfny.org

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GENERAL POLICIES GOVERNING ICRF GRANTS

The Israel Cancer Research Fund (ICRF) is a voluntary charitable organization that receives its total income from private donations. The goal of the ICRF is to advance cancer research and the training of Israeli scientists in Israel.

The ICRF supports clinical and basic research and research training, which must relate to cancer. To apply for an ICRF-funded grant, an investigator must be a citizen of Israel (proof of Israeli citizenship must be furnished upon request). Typically, all research must be conducted in Israel. However, in the case of certain collaborative grants, joint applications are considered from co-investigators, only one of whom is an Israeli citizen proposing research that will be conducted at an Israeli institution.

Timetable for the Submission and Awarding of Grants

RECEIVED BY THE ICRF	***NOTIFICATION OF DECISION***	***ACTIVATION OF GRANT***
December 31, 2020, 11:59PM EST	July 1, 2021	September 1, 2021

- ***Only one (1) grant application per principal investigator will be accepted for each submission deadline.***
- ***Applications that do not provide all required information, as specified, will be rejected automatically, and will not be processed or reviewed.***
- ***A single investigator may not hold two ICRF grants concurrently. If you are currently the recipient of ICRF funding, you may only apply for another ICRF grant, if the start date for the new application falls after the termination date for current funding.***

Each application is reviewed by a Scientific Review Panel and evaluated for:

1. scientific merit, innovation, and potential significance for advancing the understanding, diagnosis and/or treatment of cancer;
2. the qualifications of the applicant, based on prior training, demonstrated expertise, and scientific productivity;
3. progress resulting from previous funding, both for renewals and new proposals, submitted by investigators who have previously received ICRF funding;
4. for proposals that are mentored, letters of commitment from mentors and the utility of the mentoring plan;
5. facilities, materials, resources and scientific environment available for the project, and the duration of such availability, as identified by the investigator and confirmed in writing by the institutional grants office and/or the investigator's department chair.

The rankings and recommendations of the Scientific Review Panels are presented to the International Scientific Council for further consideration and then to the ICRF Board of Trustees for final approval.

Additional information and templates for applying for an ICRF research grant can be downloaded from our website, www.icrfonline.org/apply-for-a-grant/.

Questions? For any questions or problems, please send an E-mail message to: ellen.rubin@icrfny.org

Fiscal Requirements and Considerations for the Sponsoring Institution

An applicant for ICRF funding must hold a position at a sponsoring Israeli institution able to provide research space and administrative infrastructure for the project.

In addition to the applicant's signature, each submitted application must be signed by an authorized institutional official in order to signify the ability and willingness of the sponsoring institution to provide research space and budgetary oversight to the project.

ICRF funds that support Research Professorships, Project Grants, Acceleration Grants, Research Career Development Awards (RCDAs), Clinical Research Career Development Awards (RCDAs) and Postdoctoral Fellowships may only be used for work performed in Israel.

ICRF funds are to be used for actual direct expenses (salary, supplies, etc.) connected with the project. No overhead, clerical or other administrative charges can be made by the institution against the grant funds. Travel expenses are not allowed for Research Professorships, Project Grants or Acceleration Grants. A maximum of $1,000 per year in travel expenses may be budgeted for, CRCDAs, and Postdoctoral Fellowships.

The sponsoring institution must maintain a separate account for each grant funded by the ICRF. This account must be available for audit at any time by representatives of the ICRF.

A report of all expenditures, detailing the utilization of the funds (salaries, supplies, etc.), must be submitted to ICRF annually. These reports are due by September 30. Reminder notices will be sent directly to the institution by the ICRF. Grant payments will be suspended, if these reports become overdue.

Continuation of Grants

Initial grants are made for one year. Funding for subsequent years is contingent upon progress, as documented in a progress report due annually on June 30. Grant payments will be suspended, if these reports become overdue.

Renewal of Grants

The ICRF permits recipients of some grants to apply for continued funding. Renewal applications are evaluated by the Scientific Review Panels along with applications for new funding, and they must be competitive with those applications to be renewed. Renewal applications should be submitted by the December 31 deadline during the final active year of the grant to avoid a lapse in funding.

Special Leave

A. Special leave for work in another institution (with continuing support from the grant) may be permitted, if directly related to the purpose of the grant. 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 grantee must submit to the ICRF at least six (6) months prior to the leave, a letter describing how the grantee will supervise his/her laboratory during this period. This letter must be countersigned by the grantee's department head and the appropriate institutional official. Such leave may not exceed 12 months.

B. Leave without grant support requires the prior approval of the ICRF and will be permitted only in unusual situations. Such leave may not exceed 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 a grantee is eligible.

Special Conditions

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

Changes and Amendments

Any changes or amendments to the original grant must be approved in writing by the ICRF.

Termination or Change of Institution

1. If a grantee institution plans to terminate a grant, the ICRF must be notified in writing at the earliest possible time so that appropriate instructions can be given for termination.

2. If an individual is moving to another eligible institution, grant support may be continued, provided:
   a. A new application is submitted by the new institution on behalf of the individual for review by the ICRF together with a letter of release from the existing institution;
   b. The period of support requested is only for the time remaining within the duration of overall funding;
   c. The new application is submitted at least six (6) months prior to the requested effective date to allow the necessary time for review.

3. The ICRF may discontinue a grant upon determination that the purpose or terms of the grant are not being fulfilled. In the event a grant is terminated, the ICRF shall notify the sponsoring institution and the grantee in writing of its decision, the reasons therefore, the effective date, and the right to appeal the decision.

4. A final progress report and expenditure report are required within 60 days of termination of a grant.

Biohazards and Protection of Human and Animal Subjects

It is the responsibility of the institution that sponsors a grant to provide oversight that safeguards the rights and welfare of human and animal subjects of research supported by the ICRF, and to ensure that investigators use caution in dealing with any toxic materials or potential biohazards.

Grants for projects involving human subjects and/or animals require prior review and approval of the appropriate institutional committee. Approvals must be written in English and submitted along with the ICRF application. For this certification to be valid, the date of the review may not precede the submission date by more than one year.

Patents

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

Publications

Publications resulting from projects supported by the ICRF must contain the following acknowledgment: "This study was supported by {*insert grant type*} from the Israel Cancer Research Fund." (Please note that our name ends in "Fund," not "Foundation!")

Grantees 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.

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