



## Guidelines for the New Idea Award Applications

A concept award to support innovative approaches that may fundamentally change the understanding, diagnosis and/or treatment of blood cancers and related pre-malignant conditions.

### **Introduction**

The New Idea Award is a grant program designed to identify novel research strategies with a potential for high impact on blood cancer. Specifically, this program supports the initial exploration of untested but potentially transformative ideas that challenge our knowledge of blood cancer or the manner in which we approach diagnosis or treatment. Competitive proposals will describe ideas that take the investigator's research in a substantially new direction, and thus preliminary data is not required.

### **Objectives**

The goal of this program is to advance novel concepts that may eventually lead to significant improvements in the clinical outcomes of patients with hematological malignancies. Grants will support initial exploration of untested but potentially transformative ideas that may radically change the way we treat or understand blood cancer. In addition to applications from blood cancer researchers, we strongly encourage applications from those with expertise outside of blood cancer, with the goal of stimulating new research. In order to receive such an award, applicants must succinctly describe as one aim the innovative idea/approach and a method for testing it within the one year grant period.

Grants will be awarded in an amount of up to \$75,000 for a one year period.

### **Eligibility**

Investigators in academic laboratories are eligible to apply. Researchers in any field are encouraged to apply, **but the proposal must directly address blood cancer**. Investigators must demonstrate that their research environment is equipped and suitable for the proposed study; this includes demonstrated access to patient materials, where applicable. Collaboration between multiple investigators to strengthen the proposed research will be considered favorably, but is not a requirement. Applicants must have a faculty appointment at a Canadian university to qualify for funding. Applicants should hold a Ph.D., M.D., D.V.M. or equivalent degree.

## **Criteria for evaluation**

**Novelty/Innovation:** Concept awards are designed to allow initial exploration of new ideas with the potential to open truly new avenues of investigation. Concept awards are ***not*** intended to support the logical progression of already established research programs. As such, it is unlikely that a significant amount of preliminary data will exist to support the proposal; however, preliminary data may be included to support the scientific rationale. This is particularly true if the preliminary data shows an unexpected result which then forms the basis of the proposal.

**Research Strategy and Feasibility:** The review committee will consider the following:

- Does the scientific rationale logically support the proposed study, and is it feasible?
- Is the proposal well-developed, with a clear aim, experimental design, and analysis?
- Are pitfalls acknowledged?
- Is it reasonable to expect meaningful results to support or reject the original hypothesis in one year?

## **Letter of Intent (LOI)**

Provide a one-page lay summary that includes the Rationale, Objectives, Methodology, Significance and Impact of the project. The proposal must clearly state how the novel idea/approach might ultimately lead to a significant change in the understanding, diagnosis, or treatment of blood cancer. The LOI template is found on our grants management website: <https://proposalcentral.altum.com/>

## **Application format and submission**

The project description should be 3 pages or less (including figures, excluding references). Application templates are found on our grants management website: <https://proposalcentral.altum.com/>

Applications will be reviewed by a peer review process by a diverse group of external experts covering both the science and medical aspects of the review. Final funding recommendations are approved by our independent Medical & Scientific Board and our Mission Oversight Committee.

All application processes must be completed using our grants management website (<https://proposalcentral.altum.com/>). Contact [AdminCanada@lls.org](mailto:AdminCanada@lls.org) with any questions.

## **Help with application**

Get help quickly from PROPOSAL CENTRAL Customer Support by e-mail: [pcsupport@altum.com](mailto:pcsupport@altum.com)  
by phone: 800 875 2562 (Toll-free U.S. and Canada) or +1 703 964 5840 (Direct Dial International)  
Normal Business Hours: 8:30am - 5:00pm Eastern Time  
(Available Monday through Friday)

**Key Dates:**

Program Opens:	September 4, 2018
Letter of Intent Due:	October 26, 2018
Deadline for Full Application:	February 2, 2019
Scientific Peer Review Committee:	April, 2019
Notification of Awards:	May, 2019
Funding Start Date:	July 1, 2019
Funding Expiration Date:	June 30, 2020

**Final Report**

The LLSC requires the Grantee to submit a Final Progress Report, a Patent/Invention Disclosure Report and a Financial Report as a condition of accepting LLSC funding. These reports are due within sixty (60) days of the above expiration date, or any early termination date of the Grant.