



Request for Proposals: 2019 LCRF Pilot Grant Program

1. Program Summary

Lung cancer continues to be the number one cause of cancer deaths worldwide, accounting for an estimated 143,000 deaths annually in the United States alone. Despite being the most common cancer killer of both men and women, lung cancer research remains critically underfunded. To help close this gap and improve outcomes, the goal of the LCRF pilot grant program is to fund innovative projects across the spectrum of basic, translational, and clinical research. 2019 LCRF pilot grants will provide \$150,000 over a period of two years for projects in one or more of the following areas of lung cancer research:

- Lung cancer biology
- Prevention and screening for early detection
- Identification of new biomarkers and the development of targeted therapies
- Development of more effective and less toxic therapies
- Supportive measures for people with lung cancer and their families
- Quality of care and outcomes research

2. Timeline

- Application deadline: **June 14, 2019**¹
- Notification of award: November 1, 2019
- Project start: December 2019

3. Eligibility Criteria

Investigators must be affiliated with a non-profit academic or research institution and must fall into one of the following categories:

- Students and fellows
- Young and mid-career investigators with less than ten years' experience since initial faculty appointment
- Non-tenure track researchers, staff scientists, and clinicians (any number years of experience)

Applicants from US-based and international institutions are eligible to apply and may hold any residency/citizenship status. Senior investigators with more than ten years' experience since faculty appointment are generally not eligible for funding and are encouraged to mentor a junior team member through the application process. Ineligible senior investigators with special circumstances may request review by contacting the LCRF office (see Inquiries section below).

¹ Applications must be completed and submitted by 11:59pm Eastern US time on the date indicated.

4. Budget Requirements

The maximum award amount is \$150,000 for a period of two years (disbursed at \$75,000 per year). Additional budget requirements and considerations include the following:

- LCRF will not support institutional indirect / facilities and administrative costs.
- The LCRF grant must be the primary source of support for the project. Additional secondary funding (e.g. for core services support) is permitted.
- There is no limit on the amount of salary support that may be requested. However, appropriate justification for all budget items is required. For laboratory-based projects, any salary requests in excess of 20% of the total budget must be explicitly justified.
- Any equipment costs must be limited and directly applicable to the research project (i.e. large, general equipment costs are not permitted).
- Direct patient care costs reimbursable by other sources may not be included.
- Travel and publication costs are permitted.

5. Data Sharing and Open Access Policy

LCRF is committed to promoting open science by helping to increase access to investigators' findings and improving collaboration and data sharing among the lung cancer research community. Accordingly, it is a condition of LCRF funding that all peer-reviewed articles supported in whole or in part by LCRF funds must be made available in the PubMed Central online archive no later than twelve months after publication. In addition, LCRF grantees must indicate explicitly in all reports, publications, and other research communications whether the data, methods used in the analysis, and materials used to conduct the research will be made available to any researcher for purposes of reproducing the results or replicating the procedure. At the time of application, all investigators must indicate if they will or will not make their data, analytic methods, and study materials available to other researchers.

6. Additional Requirements

- The application must include a NIH biosketch or curriculum vitae (five pages maximum length) of the primary investigator.
- The application must include at least one letter of support from the applicant's program director/advisor affirming the following statements:
 - The applicant will be officially affiliated with or employed by the institution during the grant period.
 - There is adequate institutional space and equipment to accomplish the proposed project.
 - The program director/advisor confirms his/her commitment to and provision of institutional space and equipment for the grantee.
- Applications for an extension of a previously awarded grant require resubmission as a new application and must include an update describing the progress made during the prior award period.

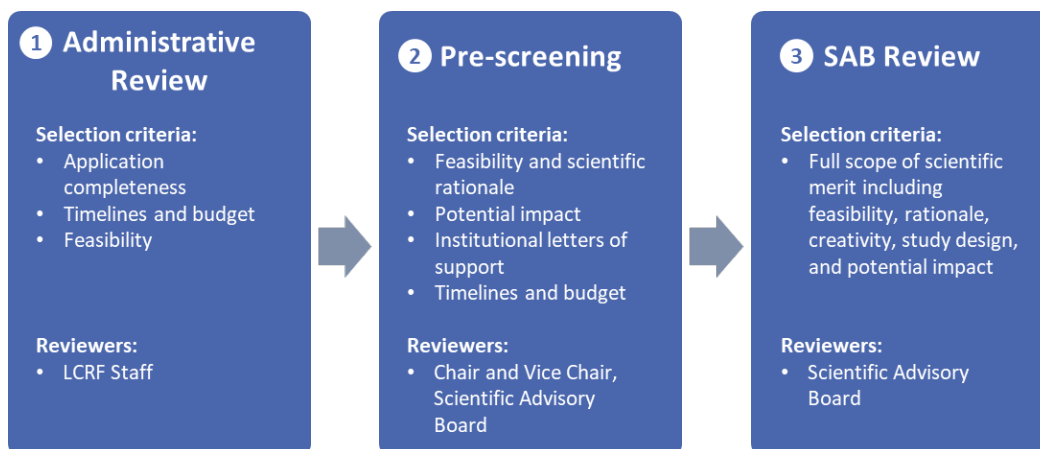
7. Application Instructions

All applications must be submitted through LCRF's online grants management system, which may be accessed at <http://lcrf.org/grantinterface>. A preview of the full application including detailed instructions may be accessed at http://lcrf.org/application_preview.

8. Evaluation of Applications

All applications will be evaluated using a three-step review process consisting of an administrative review, a pre-screening round, and a comprehensive review by LCRF's Scientific Advisory Board (see figure below).

Similar to an NIH R21 award, reviewers are asked to provide an impact score reflecting their assessment of the likelihood for the project to exert a sustained, powerful influence on the field of lung cancer research.



Application review process.

A grant application need not have extensive background material, and preliminary data are not required. Accordingly, reviewers focus their evaluations on the conceptual framework, the level of innovation, and the potential to significantly advance our knowledge or understanding. Appropriate justification for the proposed work can be provided through literature citations, data from other sources, or, when available, from investigator-generated data.

9. Award Notification and Announcement

All applicants will be notified of their award status by the date specified in the Timeline section above. Regrettably, due to the high volume of submissions, LCRF does not provide specific feedback on applications that are not selected to receive an award. Awards will be publicly announced at LCRF’s annual Lung Cancer Awareness Luncheon and via the LCRF website.

10. Post-award Reporting Requirements

During the funding period, all investigators are required to submit at least two progress reports including the following:

Report Type	Due Date	Templates
Interim Report	At conclusion of year one of the grant term	http://lcrf.org/InterimReport
Final Report	Within sixty days of conclusion of grant term	http://lcrf.org/FinalReport

All reports must be submitted via the LCRF online grants management system, and additional reports may be assigned when projects terms are amended (e.g. in the case of a no-cost extension). Receipt of the second year of funding is contingent upon submission and approval of the interim progress report at the conclusion of the first year of the grant term.

11. Inquiries

For questions, please contact the LCRF office at grants@lcrf.org or via phone at +1 (212) 588-1580.