

THE CURE STARTS NOW

GRANT APPLICATION INFORMATION 2008-2009

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Cure Starts Now Foundation (CSN) is an IRS 501C non-profit charity dedicated to educating, aiding and funding the search for a cure for brainstem glioma and other forms of pediatric brain cancer in the hopes of curing all cancers.

The Foundation seeks to fund research investigating cures for pediatric brain cancers with a focus on Diffuse Intrinsic Brainstem Glioma (DIPG). Our focus is to support translational and clinical research projects in those areas.

CSN GRANT PROGRAM

Applicants may request funding up to \$50,000 for one year. Grants may be renewed for one year at the request of the investigator and at the recommendation of the Medical Advisory Committee and approval by the Board.

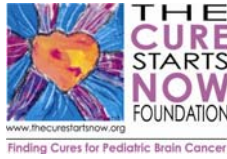
Funding is for direct costs related to the research project. No indirect or institutional costs will be funded. Examples of direct costs include personnel, salary, supplies, equipment and patient care expenses. Support for salary must not exceed percentage of effort related to the research project and may not exceed 10% of the total funded amount. Travel costs are excluded from funding in this grant application, but investigators may request additional support from The Cure Starts Now to travel to meetings to present research funded by the Foundation. These requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

GRANT PROCESS

Grant applications will be accepted for two funding cycles each year. Applications received between January 1st and June 30th each year will be considered with final decision by July 31st and funding to start in August. Applications received between July 1st and December 31st each year will be considered with final decision by January 31st and funding to start in February. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Grant applications will be judged on a peer-reviewed basis. The steps in the grant determination process are:

- The Medical Advisory Committee for The Cure Starts Now Foundation will initially review the applications for merit based on criteria listed below.
- When necessary, grant applications will be sent to physicians or investigators in the particular field of interest for an intensive review of the scientific merit.



- The Medical Advisory committee will then take the peer review assessment of scientific merit and make further assessments of the grant's adherence to additional criteria listed below. The Medical Advisory Committee will then rank the applications and make recommendations to the Board and the Strategic Advisory Council.
- The Board will make final determinations regarding funding of grant applications. All decisions by the Board are considered final.

A progress report must be submitted by the investigator(s) at the end of the funding period. Failure to submit a progress report will exclude the investigator from any future funding from the foundation. Funding by The Cure Starts Now must be acknowledged in all presentations and publications that involve research funded by the foundation. Our goal is to share research and information, so it is expected that the study results will be shared with the scientific community and not be kept strictly for proprietary purposes.

GRANT ELIGIBILITY AND CRITERIA

Applicant Eligibility:

- Must be an MD, DO, PhD, DrPH or equivalent
- Must be a member of a non-profit organization or a valid medical/scientific organization.
- Must be up to date with any previous funding through The Cure Starts Now, which includes progress report submissions.

Grant applications will be assessed based on the following criteria:

- Scientific merit
 - What is the hypothesis and does the study adequately answer and address the hypothesis? Does the study use valid research and statistical methods?
- Disease impact
 - Does the study propose an intervention or clinical tool that will reduce the morbidity or mortality from or potentially find a cure for pediatric brain cancer?
- Innovation
 - Does the research study propose a novel approach or represent advancement in current treatment of pediatric brain cancer?
- Feasibility
 - Is the study likely to meet its goals during the funding period? Can the research findings be translated into clinic practice? Are the research findings likely to result in a direct change in morbidity or mortality of pediatric brain cancer in the near future?
- Expertise of investigator(s)
 - Do the investigators have the expertise to meet their research goals?