



Grant Application Guidelines

June 2019

APCF000070619

Round 5

Innovation Grant Application and Funding Guidelines

1. Background

Avner Pancreatic Cancer Foundation (the **Foundation**) is the only foundation exclusively dedicated to Pancreatic Cancer in Australia. It aims to support innovative, translational, quality research and programs within the Pancreatic Cancer field.

Since launching the grants program in 2015 22 grants totaling \$6.2M have been awarded to researchers in 4 states. Several researchers have as a result of work carried out under these grants, attracted further funding from external funding bodies currently estimated at \$4.3M.

The Foundation will support funding five Innovations Grants in Round 5, in respect of Pancreatic Cancer research to be conducted in 2020.

These Guidelines provide applicants with information regarding the Foundation's Round 5 Innovation Grant Application Process.

2. Round 5 Funding, 2019

The Foundation will award five seed funding grants of \$100,000 each (GST exclusive) (**Innovation Grants**) for one year in Round 5.

The objectives of the Innovation Grants are to:

- Support innovative Pancreatic Cancer projects with a desire to increase interest and investment in Pancreatic Cancer research;
- Support established scientists and/or early career researchers to develop preliminary data attract additional funding in subsequent years; and
- Encourage and retain talented skilled individuals in the field of Pancreatic Cancer.

The scientific merit of all applications will be assessed and ranked by the Foundation's Scientific Advisory Panel according to a set of evaluation criteria that promotes funding for projects demonstrating clinical relevance and/or impact. The panel will also oversee the grant application process and ongoing monitoring of the grants.

The Innovation Grant Applications must be submitted by **5pm Friday, 19 July 2019** (AEST):

- using the Foundation's Grant Application Form downloaded from the Foundation's website (<http://www.avnersfoundation.org.au/>); and
- by email sent to grants@avnersfoundation.org.au attaching the completed Grant Application Form

3. Eligibility criteria

The Foundation will only fund projects where:

- (a) The Administering institution agrees to the terms and conditions of funding as outlined in the Avner Pancreatic Cancer Foundation Standard Grant Terms and Conditions (the **Standard Terms**); and
- (b) The application has been submitted using the Avner Pancreatic Cancer Foundation Grant Application Form.

Please note, recipients of an Accelerator Grant cannot apply for a further grant from the Foundation until we are satisfied that the Project has been completed, at the sole discretion of the Foundation.

4. Terms of Funding

Funding will be provided to successful applicant's in accordance with the Standard Terms and the executed Funding Agreement.

Grant applicants are required to set project milestones which are linked to progressive funding installments. Progress against agreed milestones will be reviewed by an interim report in around June 2020 and funding is contingent upon satisfactory completion of these milestones at the sole discretion of the Scientific Advisory Panel.

The Foundation reserves the right to offer a sum that differs from that proposed by the applicant in the grant application and negotiate details of proposed project with the applicant to maximise scientific benefit.

Multiple grant applications from a single institution will be considered. However, research groups within an Administering Institution can only submit one grant application and an investigator can only be named Principal Investigator on a single grant application.

International collaborations by Australian research organisations are permitted and strongly supported by the Foundation. This is conditional on:

- The Grant Applicant (potential Grant Recipient and Administering Institution) being an Australian organization;
- The Principal Investigator must reside within Australia;
- No more than 25% of the funded research is conducted overseas – this includes subcontracted services; and
- Intellectual property will rest with the Australian Administering Institution and be in accordance with the Standard Terms.

5. Ineligible Expenditure

The Foundation will **not** fund:

- Projects where the applicant is in a position to 'self-fund' or where a more appropriate funding source is available. However, the Foundation will provide funding to add value to projects which are currently undertaking relevant research and have received funding from a source other than the Foundation
- Institutional overhead costs, including ongoing operating costs of the organisation, in excess of 10% of the grant funds
- Attendance at events or conferences, prizes or award ceremonies
- Marketing and communication costs
- Central administrative support
- Travel of investigators on activities that are not inherent in the project
- Website development unless this is inherent in the project.

6. Assessment

All applications will be assessed by the Scientific Advisory Panel during the Grant Review Period when projects will be evaluated according to the following set of criteria:

- **Scientific quality and innovation (35%)** - *e.g. is the project novel, are the hypotheses sound, and are methodology and analyses well-reasoned and appropriate to accomplish the aims of the project? Does the application challenge and seek to shift current research or clinical paradigms by utilising novel theoretical approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions? How does the project complement work already being done in the field?*
- **Potential Clinical Impact and Significance (25%)** - *e.g. Does the project address an important problem or a critical barrier to progress in the field? If the aims are achieved how might this impact on the survival rates of those suffering from Pancreatic Cancer? How will scientific knowledge, technical capability and/or clinical practice be improved?*
- **Investigator team (20%)** - *Is the investigator team well-conceived for the project? Are collaborations involving external partners including international investigations likely to be enhanced by this project?*
- **Project management (10%)** - *Are the proposed activities aligned with the goals? Are the milestones clearly defined and achievable within the timeframe?*
- **Budget (10%)** - *Is the proposed budget comprehensive and realistic, noting all in kind and financial support from the applicant organisation?*

7. Promotion and Support

The Foundation could not exist without the generous donations we receive from our sponsors, partners, supporters and the general community. It is through such generous donations that we are able to fund research grants.

Essentially, we need you to help us promote the Foundation through your acknowledgement so that we can raise funds to invest in further research. For this reason, it is really important that we make the most of every opportunity we have to inform the community about the important Pancreatic Cancer research that is being undertaken as a result of the generous donations we receive. By acknowledging the financial assistance received from the Foundation you are informing the community that funds raised by the Foundation are being used effectively.

We need your support and public acknowledgement of the Foundation whenever you discuss a Project funded by the Foundation (in whole or in part) to assist us achieve our vision and we need to work together to collectively achieve this important goal.

8. Notification and Timelines

Friday, 7 June 2019	Call for Innovation Grant Applications
Friday, 19 July 2019	Closing date for submission of Innovation Grant Applications (submissions will not be accepted after 5pm (AEST))
22 July – 30 August 2019	Grant Review Period* and funding recommendations to the Foundation's Board of Directors
Friday, 20 September 2019	Applicant's advised in writing of funding outcomes
23 September – 30 October 2019	Funding Agreements finalised and executed
Thursday, 21 November 2019	World Pancreatic Cancer Day The Foundation will make public announcements regarding successful Grant Applicants and Principal Investigators

*The Foundation may, at its discretion, request clarification or further details from Applicants during the Grant Review Period.

9. Enquiries

All enquiries are to be in writing to grants@avnersfoundation.org.au

Please review FAQs on the website prior to submitting any enquiries.