

PdCCRS Questions
**Priority-driven Young Investigator
Project Grants 2018 - Childhood
Cancers of Low Survival Research
Priorities**

Application for Cancer Australia and its Funding Partners' PdCCRS Priority-driven Young Investigator Project Grants – Childhood Cancers of Low Survival Research Priorities commencing 2019

Instructions

- This *PdCCRS Questions* form is to be completed by **Young Investigators** seeking to apply for Category B, Category C or Category D funding in the 2018 round of the PdCCRS Priority-driven Young Investigator Project Grants – Childhood Cancers of Low Survival Research Priorities.
- This *PdCCRS Questions* form is **NOT** for Young Investigator Project Grants – All Cancers Research Priorities.
- This *PdCCRS Questions* form is **NOT** for Standard Project Grants - All Cancers Research Priorities.
- This *PdCCRS Questions* form is **NOT** for Standard Project Grants - Childhood Cancers of Low Survival Research Priorities.
- This form is to be submitted to Cancer Australia as a **separate PDF file** from your NHMRC *Grant Proposal* PDF file.
- The file name must be: '[App ID]_CancerAustralia_PdCCRSQs_[CIA Family Name].pdf' e.g. '123456_CancerAustralia_PdCCRSQs_Smith.pdf'.

Please submit *PdCCRS Questions* to grants@canceraustralia.gov.au by 5:00pm AEDT 14 March 2018.

- Please insert your NHMRC application ID and CIA surname in the header
- For Yes /No answers, please place an **X** to the left of the preferred option(s)

Important information

- **The PdCCRS Questions are compulsory.** A written response addressing each *PdCCRS Question* must be provided. Any application that does not respond to a *PdCCRS Question* or indicates that any *PdCCRS Question* is 'not applicable'/'not relevant' (or equivalent wording) or uses the response to a *PdCCRS Question* to justify why the proposed project does not include any of the elements (i.e. applicant track record, applicant career development, relevance to cancer control or consumer involvement), will be **deemed ineligible** for funding through the PdCCRS and **will not** be reviewed by Cancer Australia and/or its Funding Partners.
- The *PdCCRS Questions* will be **assessed independently** of the rest of the grant application (including the *Grant Proposal* and the Cancer Council *Supplementary Questions*). Responses to the *PdCCRS Questions* should be written so they can be read without reference to the Detailed Background or Research Plan because reviewers may not have access to these documents when assessing the *PdCCRS Questions*.
- Answers should take into consideration that reviewers may not have expertise in the specific field of the proposed research.
- Reviewers are instructed to base their assessment of each *PdCCRS Question* strictly on the response provided by the applicant to that *PdCCRS Question* and not to use information provided in the response to another *PdCCRS Question/s*.
- Responses to *PdCCRS Questions* must be provided in text boxes provided. Responses must be in **Arial 10 point font**.
- The character limit provided for the response to each *PdCCRS Question* must be strictly adhered to. **Text which exceeds the character limit will not be reviewed.**

PART 1 – Project details and eligibility

A. Chief Investigator A – details					
Application ID					
Name		Title			
Institution					
Institution Address		State		Postcode	
Mobile No		Telephone No			
Email					
Note the CIA is responsible for managing the project and reporting to Cancer Australia					
B. Administering Institution - details					
Please include name and department address of Research Admin Officer (RAO)					
Name of RAO					
Department					
Institution					
Address					
Suburb		State		Postcode	
Telephone no.		Email			
C. Eligibility					
Please place an 'X' to the left of the appropriate Funding Category					
	Funding Category B (<3 years post-doctoral experience or post MBBS), OR				
	Funding Category C (>3 years and <7 years post-doctoral experience or post MBBS), OR				
	Funding Category D: Bioinformatics for cancer research (<7 years post-doctoral experience or post MBBS).				
Provide the date of the letter advising you that your PhD or equivalent qualification was approved. (Note: you must be ≤7 years post-doctoral or post MBBS, on the closing date for applications in order to be eligible). /...../..... (DD/MM/YYYY)					

D. Exceptional Circumstances

If required, outline any exceptional circumstances relating to your eligibility (limit 2000 characters). The ONLY exceptional circumstances that will be taken into consideration are:

- maternity leave and/or
- carer responsibilities including parental leave and care for immediate family (e.g. spouse, children or elderly parent), and/or
- sick leave subsequent to obtaining doctoral qualification.

NOTE: periods of teaching or clinical practice are not regarded as exceptional circumstances

E. Scientific Title and plain English description of your project

Please ensure:

- The Scientific Title of your project is the same title as used on your NHMRC application form.
- The plain English description of your project does not exceed 4-5 lines (not including title). You may utilise the short plain English description provided to the NHMRC to answer this question.

Scientific title here

Plain English description here (4-5 lines)

F. Please provide a one page synopsis of your research project

(you may insert text from your NHMRC synopsis however please note that reviewers may not have expertise in the specific field of the proposed research – highly technical language is not advised) **limit: 2000 characters (including spaces)**

G. Which research priority area/s does your grant application relate to?

- Place an **X** to the left of **all research priority area/s that are relevant and directly relate** to your grant application.

Cancer Australia and its Funding Partners will consider co-funding successful grant applications. Applicants are encouraged to review the list of research priority area/s and to select all research priority area/s that **DIRECTLY** relate to the proposed research project.

When applying for funding offered by Cancer Australia and/or its Funding Partners in the 2018 Round of the PdCCRS, applicants **MUST**:

- Ensure their research project aligns with at least one research priority area of the selected Funding Partner/s;
- Ensure the research project can be conducted within the **duration and the funding limit**.

Cancer Australia: Childhood cancers of low survival (Category B, C and D)**Cancer Australia's research priorities in childhood cancers of low survival**

Towards increasing survival from childhood cancers through a better understanding of the causes of childhood cancers, their improved diagnosis and more effective treatments, Cancer Australia's research priorities in childhood cancers of low survival address the following cancer types and research focus areas:

Localised and advanced disease for any of the following cancers of low survival in children (0-14 years)*

- | | |
|--|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brain and CNS tumour types – astrocytomas, ependymomas and choroid plexus tumours, intracranial/intraspinal embryonal tumours, and other gliomas, such as DIPG; |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hepatoblastoma; |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leukaemia type - acute myeloid leukaemia; |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sarcoma types - Ewing tumours & related bone sarcomas; fibrosarcomas & other fibrous neoplasms, osteosarcomas; and rhabdomyosarcomas; |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sympathetic nervous system tumour types - neuroblastoma and ganglioneuroblastoma. |

Molecular drivers of childhood cancer (Common Scientific Outline categories of Biology and Aetiology)

- | | |
|--|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> alterations in chromosomes, oncogenes and tumour suppressor genes, such as fusion oncoproteins; |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> endogenous factors in the origin and cause of cancer, such as genes and/or genetic polymorphisms and hereditary predisposition. |

Novel approaches to diagnosis and treatment (Common Scientific Outline categories of Early Detection, Diagnosis, and Prognosis, and Treatment)

Pre-clinical and trials-based collaborative studies, including:

- | | |
|--|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> genomics-based strategies, such as the use of molecular classification in diagnosis, treatment stratification, and identifying of new therapeutic targets to overcome resistance to conventional treatments; |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> development of immune-based therapies, such as adoptive cellular therapies, antibody or antibody-conjugated therapies; |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> development of molecular target-based therapies, such as the targeting of fusion oncoproteins. |

* 0-14 years of age is the definition of a child used by the Australian Paediatric Cancer Registry and Cancer Research UK, and is consistent with a definition of <15 years of age used by the American Cancer Society.

Children's Cancer Foundation (Category D)

The Children's Cancer Foundation will fund bioinformatics research into paediatric cancers of low survival. Projects that utilise bioinformatic analysis or develop bioinformatic tools to better understand the biology of different paediatric cancers and identify potential new targets for therapies are encouraged.

*Bioinformatics is defined as the analysis of biological information, using computers and statistical techniques, to accelerate and enhance cancer research including research related to genomes, proteomes, three-dimensional modelling of biomolecules and biologic systems.

Leukaemia Foundation of Australia (Category B)

Leukaemia Foundation of Australia is committed to supporting innovations that drive rapid advancements in treatments and improved quality of life for people living with blood cancer. This will be achieved through the creation of a blood cancer innovation ecosystem that fosters research and collaboration leading to our goal of zero lives lost to blood cancers. The Leukaemia Foundation of Australia invites applications geared towards supporting research in the following priority areas:

- Understanding the biology of haematological malignancies
- Accelerating the adoption of personalised medicine
- New diagnostics
- Novel therapies
- Innovative clinical trials and/or incorporation real world data
- Epidemiology and prevention research

Research will be funded under the following categories:

- Paediatric Cancers

My Room (Category B)

My Room will fund clinical or translational research focusing on paediatric cancers of all types.

Projects that investigate clinical applications of treatments or technologies to enhance prevention, diagnosis, and therapies for paediatric cancers will be considered.

The Kids' Cancer Project (Category C)

The Kids' Cancer Project is seeking to support collaborative research which will have the greatest impact on childhood cancer survival.

The Kids' Cancer Project defines a child as an individual up to the age of 18 years old

Research will be funded under the following categories:

Priority 1: Improving survival and treatments

Improving treatments for childhood cancer will have a direct impact on survival rates. The Kids' Cancer Project will gain an understanding of best practice and emerging technologies spanning all modalities of treatment. The Kids' Cancer Project will support research with this focus as a top priority.

Priority 2: Late effects

Two-thirds of survivors report at least one chronic medical condition and one-third report at least one severe or life threatening medical condition. Long term effects include learning difficulties, organ toxicity, growth and hormonal deficiencies, infertility and secondary cancers. The Kids' Cancer Project places importance on the ongoing quality of life of survivors of childhood cancer and will invest in research to better elucidate this.

H. Research in identified research priority area/s

- List the applicable priority area/s selected at Item G (above)
- Use a separate box for each selected research priority
- Insert the name of the Funding Partner to whom the research priority relates
- Justify how your research **directly relates** to each of these selected priority areas (**the limit for addressing all nominated research priority areas is 2000 characters (including spaces)**).

Please note: if your research project does not clearly align with the selected research priority area/s, the Funding Partner is under no obligation to consider your project for funding

Your response to this question will determine your eligibility for funding by Cancer Australia and/or its Funding Partners.

Research priority area/s: <i>(insert priority)</i> Funding Partner: <i>(insert Funding Partner)</i>
Discuss the direct alignment of your project with the research priority area indicated
Research priority area: <i>(insert priority)</i> Funding Partner: <i>(insert Funding Partner)</i>
Discuss the direct alignment of your project with the research priority area indicated

Add more boxes (rows) as required to address each selected research priority area.

I. Budget

Please provide details of the budget requested for each year of the planned project over the duration of available funding.

Note: If you are applying to the NHMRC as well as to Category B, Category C or Category D of the PdCCRS, then your NHMRC Project Grant application may request a budget larger than the amount offered by Category B, Category C or Category D of the PdCCRS. If so, you will need to complete the *Budget Modification* section (below) describing **how your budget has been modified** to meet the funding limit Category B, Category C or Category D of the PdCCRS.

If you are modifying your budget to fit within the PdCCRS budget limits, completion of the *Budget Modification* section of this question is **COMPULSORY**. Applications will be deemed **ineligible** if justification for the budget modification is not provided.

Funding Category B – Funding of 1 year duration and up to \$100,000 (GST-ex)

Relevant Funding Partners: Cancer Australia, Leukaemia Foundation of Australia and My Room

- The total budget for this Category, for researchers with **1-3 years post-doctoral experience** or since graduation from medical school, cannot exceed a budget **of \$100,000 (GST exclusive)** and is **limited to 1 year**.
- Applications that exceed this amount will not be considered eligible for funding by the PdCCRS.
- This funding category **cannot** be used to provide a salary or other support for a young investigator as part of a larger PdCCRS project grant application.

Project grant amount	Total (one year)

Funding Category C – Funding of 1-2 years duration and up to \$200,000 (GST-ex)**Relevant Funding Partners: Cancer Australia and The Kids' Cancer Project**

- The total budget for this Category, for researchers with **4-7 years post-doctoral experience** or since graduation from medical school, cannot exceed a budget of **\$200,000 (GST exclusive)** with a maximum in any one year of \$100,000 (GST-ex) and is **limited to 2 years**.
- Applications that exceed this amount will not be considered eligible for funding by the PdCCRS.
- This funding category **cannot** be used to provide a salary or other support for a young investigator as part of a larger PdCCRS.

Project grant amount	Year 1	Year 2	Total

Funding Category D – Funding of 1 year duration and up to \$100,000 (GST-ex)**Relevant Funding Partners: Cancer Australia and Children's Cancer Foundation**

- The total budget for this Category, for researchers with **1-7 years post-doctoral experience** or since graduation from medical school, cannot exceed a budget of **\$100,000 (GST exclusive)** and is **limited to 1 year**.
- Applications that exceed this amount will not be considered eligible for funding by the PdCCRS.
- This funding category **cannot** be used to provide a salary or other support for a young investigator as part of a larger PdCCRS.

Project grant amount	Total (one year)

Budget modification (Funding Category B, C and D)

If this application has been submitted for consideration for funding to Cancer Australia/its Funding Partners and NHMRC and/or Cancer Council, **and with the same requested funding period**, was the proposed budget within the limit specified by Funding Category B, C and D

	Yes
	No

If No, the budget and the research project must be modified to be in line with the funding limit provided by Category B, C or D of the PdCCRS.

The *Budget Modification* **must** address how the following items in the application to NHMRC and/or Cancer Council have been amended to meet the funding limit of Cancer Australia and Funding Partners:

- support for personnel engaged in the conduct of the research;
- direct research costs; and
- equipment costs necessary to conduct the research.

Please **describe** below how the project will be amended to accommodate the modified budget (1000 characters maximum). Be sure to include your requested NHMRC project budget and highlight the items requiring modification – the original and revised figure should be clearly shown.

Please ensure that the description of the modified project provided here **directly aligns** with the reduced project scope detailed in the Grant Proposal (uploaded to RGMS at section B-GP).

Please note that applications exceeding the budget limits specified by Category B, Category C or Category D of the PdCCRS and which do not provide a modified budget **and** explanation of the research that will be conducted with the modified budget will be deemed **ineligible** for funding.

J. Additional funding opportunities

(i) If your application is unsuccessful, do you provide permission for Cancer Australia to pass on your **contact details** (in confidence) to other research funders for consideration of funding?

	Yes
	No

(ii) If your application is unsuccessful, do you provide permission for Cancer Australia to pass on your **application** (in confidence) to other research funders for consideration of funding?

	Yes
	No

K. Conflicts of Interest

A conflict of interest may exist, for example, if the applicant or any of its personnel:

- Has a relationship (whether professional, commercial or personal) with a party who is able to influence the application assessment process;
- Has a relationship with, or interest in, an organisation, which is likely to interfere with or restrict the applicant in carrying out the proposed activities fairly and independently; or
- Has a relationship with, or interest in, an organisation from which they will receive personal gain as a result of the granting of funding under the Priority-driven Collaborative Cancer Research Scheme?

Do you have a conflict of interest to declare?

	Yes
	No

If yes – please specify

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L. Agreements

Please indicate your agreement to comply with the following conditions by selecting Yes or No. Failure to comply may deem your project ineligible for funding through the Priority-driven Collaborative Cancer Research Scheme.

Yes/No	By submitting this application, the Administering Institution is willing to comply with the terms and conditions outlined in the PdCCRS Funding Agreement
Yes/No	By submitting this application the Administering Institution is willing to comply with Clause 21– Compliance With Law in the funding agreement it may enter into with Cancer Australia and also adhere to the Protection of Personal Information requirements.
Yes/No	I agree to use the funds to undertake activities as outlined in this research proposal and not for activities that do not relate directly to this application, without prior approval from Cancer Australia.
Yes/No	<p>I acknowledge that I am ineligible for funding, or funding may be terminated, if I am:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an applicant for, or in receipt of funds from, the tobacco industry or organisations deemed by Cancer Australia to be associated with the tobacco industry, regardless of whether the funds are received directly, through collaborators or by other means; • employed in a research institute or organisation or, in the case of universities, Faculty or School that allows applications or receives funds from the tobacco industry, whatever the use of those funds may be; or • employed in a University that accepts funds from the tobacco industry for health related research or services, wherever in the University that research may be done or those services supported.
Yes/No	I acknowledge that if my application is successful, my name, the name of my administering institution, the title of my project and amount of funding may appear on the websites and may be used in media releases and other reports/publications by Cancer Australia and its Funding Partner, and my details may be used for Cancer Australia's reporting purposes and on the International Cancer Research Partnership (ICRP) database..

M. Common scientific outline

The Common Scientific Outlines at Item M are the result of collaborative effort between the NCI in the US, the NCRI in the UK, and their partners. It is a classification system organised around seven broad areas of scientific interest in cancer research, plus subgroups. Full category descriptions are available at <https://www.icrpartnership.org/cso>

Which categories of research best describe your grant application?

Place an 'X' against a maximum of 2 categories which are applicable to this research, and also indicate with * the **one** category which best describes the main research focus of your project.

Biology

	1.1	Normal functioning
	1.2	Cancer initiation: Alterations in chromosomes
	1.3	Cancer initiation: Oncogenes and tumour suppressor genes
	1.4	Cancer progression and metastasis
	1.5	Resources and infrastructure

Aetiology

	2.1	Exogenous factors in the origin and cause of cancer
	2.2	Endogenous factors in the origin and cause of cancer
	2.3	Interactions of genes and/or genetic polymorphisms with exogenous and/or endogenous factors
	2.4	Resources and infrastructure related to aetiology

Prevention

	3.1	Interventions to prevent cancer: Personal behaviours (non-dietary) that affect cancer risk
	3.2	Dietary interventions to reduce cancer risk and Nutritional science in cancer prevention
	3.3	Chemoprevention and other medical interventions
	3.4	Vaccines
	3.5	Complementary and alternative prevention approaches
	3.6	Resources and infrastructure related to prevention

Early Detection, Diagnosis, and Prognosis

	4.1	Technology development and/or marker discovery
	4.2	Technology and/or marker evaluation with respect to fundamental parameters of method

	4.3 Technology and/or marker testing in a clinical setting
	4.4 Resources and infrastructure related to detection, diagnosis, or prognosis

Treatment

	5.1 Localised therapies – Discovery and development
	5.2 Localised therapies – Clinical applications
	5.3 Systemic therapies – Discovery and development
	5.4 Systemic therapies – Clinical applications
	5.5 Combinations of localised and systemic therapies
	5.6 Complementary and alternative treatment approaches
	5.7 Resources and infrastructure related to treatment and the prevention of recurrence

Cancer Control, Survivorship, and Outcomes Research

	6.1 Patient care and survivorship issues
	6.2 Surveillance
	6.3 Population based behavioural factors
	6.4 Health services, economic and health policy analyses
	6.5 Education and communication research
	6.6 End-of-Life care
	6.7 Research on ethics and confidentiality
	6.8 Resources and infrastructure related to cancer control, survivorship, and outcomes research

PART 2 – Assessable criteria

- Responses to Questions 1-4 in PART 2 of the *PdCCRS Questions* form are assessed by PdCCRS Grant Review Committees
- Scores assigned to Questions 1-4, together with the scores received by the NHMRC, are weighted and combined to provide a single final score. Applications are ranked by this final score and funding is assigned in merit-based rank order until the available budget is expended

Question 1 - Track record of the applicant in regard to opportunity (30% of final score)

- (i) Please list all publications (refereed journal articles, book chapters and key conference presentations, in ascending chronological order [most recent last]).

Limit: 4000 characters (including spaces)

(ii) Please describe the applicant's role in key publications and patents

Limit 1000 characters (including spaces)

(iii) Research experience

- Provide details of previous research experience highlighting the most significant contributions, evidence of novel approaches, and those most relevant to the proposed research.

Limit 2000 characters (including spaces)

(iv) Other relevant experience

- Provide details of clinical training and practice relevant to cancer if any (and whether your involvement in clinical practice will impact on your ability to carry out the proposed project), details of postgraduate teaching if any (indicating whether you are/were the sole or co-supervisor, and whether any of your students have completed their degrees), and details of any administrative responsibilities (including laboratory, departmental, institutional, or external).

Limit 2000 characters (including spaces)

(v) Academic Qualifications/Awards

- Please enter up to 20 of your academic qualifications/awards, starting with the most recent. Indicate date, and where obtained.
- Please note that while there is no limit on number of characters, there is a limit on the number of items that can be included – if this limit is ignored, the panel will only take the first 20 items into account.

Question 2 - How the research will contribute to the career development of the applicant (10% of final score)

(i) Career Development Objectives

- Briefly outline your career development objectives for the next five years and how the proposed project will foster these. If relevant, describe any collaborations that will be facilitated by the project.

Limit 1000 characters (including spaces)

(ii) Research Environment

- Describe your reasons for choosing the laboratory or place where you plan to work, including mentoring arrangements.

Limit 1000 characters (including spaces)

Question 3 - Relevance to Cancer Control (5% of final score)

- Describe how your proposed research is relevant to cancer control. Please use lay terms that would be suitable for a press release.

Limit 1000 characters (including spaces)

Question 4 - Involvement of consumer representatives (5% of final score)

- Please indicate whether consumers have been consulted about the relevance of the study or its design.
- Outline how consumer involvement could be included usefully in the development of this project.

Limit 1000 characters (including spaces)

Please refer to the "*Priority-driven Collaborative Cancer Research Scheme 2018 Rules for Priority-driven Young Investigator Project Grant Applications - Childhood Cancers of Low Survival Research Priorities*" for additional guidance.

Checklist

Please complete this checklist before submitting your *PdCCRS Questions* to Cancer Australia

Before you begin

- ☐ Read all information in the *Priority-driven Collaborative Cancer Research Scheme 2018 Rules for Young Investigator Project Grant Applications - Childhood Cancers of Low Survival Research Priorities*
- ☐ Ensure that you read and understand the assessment criteria for applications to the *PdCCRS Priority-driven Young Investigator Project Grants*
- ☐ Understand that by submitting an application, your Group/Organisation is agreeing to adhere to the PdCCRS Funding Agreement should you receive funding

Completing your application

Ensure that in completing your application you have:

- ☐ Used the correct *PdCCRS Questions* Form for the 2018 PdCCRS
- ☐ Answered **all** *PdCCRS Questions* and ensured answers make use of the maximum character limit specified but do not exceed the specified length

Submitting your application

- ☐ Ensure you have completed the online New Investigator Status Request form by 5:00pm AEDT 24 January 2018
- ☐ Ensure you have entered the minimum data into RGMS by 5:00pm AEDT 14 February 2018
- ☐ Check that ALL relevant sections of the *PdCCRS Questions* Form are complete
- ☐ Ensure that the Budget is within the stipulated limit and provide justification if the budget is less than that requested in your NHMRC and/or Cancer Council Project Grant Application
- ☐ Submit one complete **electronic copy** of your *PdCCRS Questions* Form in PDF format

End of PdCCRS Questions form