

Partnership Grant Guideline

The Leukaemia Foundation are committed to investing in research that improves the lives of Australians living with blood cancer.

The Leukaemia Foundation's Partnership Grants are a strategic funding mechanism designed to accelerate progress in blood cancer research through co-investment and collaboration. By aligning the resources, expertise, and shared priorities of the Leukaemia Foundation with those of partner organisations, research institutions, and funding bodies, these grants enable larger, more impactful initiatives than what could be achieved independently.

Purpose

These grants fund research that addresses critical gaps in knowledge, care, and outcomes for people living with blood cancer, particularly in complex or underfunded areas where coordinated effort is essential.

These grants aim to:

- Enable large-scale, high-impact research through co-investment
- Build and strengthen partnerships between the Leukaemia Foundation, research institutions, and funding bodies to address shared priorities in blood cancer.
- Foster genuine collaborations across institutions and disciplines bringing together complementary expertise to tackle complex challenges
- Coordinate investment and reduce duplication across the blood cancer research ecosystem by aligning efforts toward areas of unmet need
- Ensure research is aligned with patient and lived-experience priorities
- Accelerate the translation and uptake of research outcomes by supporting coordinated, partnership-driven approaches to implementation

Through this approach, the Leukaemia Foundation seeks to create a more connected, collaborative, and impact-driven research ecosystem that delivers meaningful improvements in outcomes and quality of life for people affected by blood cancer.

Project Focus:

Projects may focus on a specific blood cancer type or address multiple conditions and may target any stage of the patient journey – from diagnosis and active treatment through to survivorship and ongoing care. Multidisciplinary and cross-sector approaches are encouraged, recognising the complexity of blood cancer care and the need for solutions that are clinically relevant and patient-centred.

Projects should demonstrate:

- Clear alignment with areas of unmet need in blood cancer research, care, or outcomes
- Potential for meaningful impact, including improvement to patient outcomes, experience or health system performance
- A pathway to translation or implementation, where appropriate
- The added value of collaboration, particularly where partnership enables outcomes not achievable by a single organisation

Examples of types of projects can include:

- Collaboration on larger scale MRFF or NHMRC project applications with in-kind and financial support from the Leukaemia Foundation
- Implementation of survivorship and supportive care programs for people living with blood cancer
- Priority population equity initiatives focussed on improving barriers in accessing optimal care
- Digital health or data linkage projects that integrate hospital, pathology, and registry data to support real-world evidence generation and decision-making
- Improving diagnostic pathways, including integrated models between primary care, pathology, and specialist haematology services

Eligibility

Projects must:

- Align with at least one of Leukaemia Foundation's strategic research priorities:
 - Implementation Science
 - Prevention, early detection, and diagnostics
 - Treatment and therapies
- Address a critical area of unmet need in blood cancer research, care, or patient outcomes
- Include at least one confirmed partner organisation also providing funding to the project and demonstrate where collaboration across institutions will provide benefit
- Demonstrate that the partnership between organisation(s) and the Leukaemia Foundation is essential in delivering the project
- Include meaningful consumer engagement appropriate to the project scope

Lead Applicants must:

- Hold academic, clinical or research appointment at an eligible institution (Australian university, hospital, health service, or research institution) with institutional support for the duration of the project
- Demonstrate experience in, or clear capacity for, collaborative and/or multi-institutional research
- Provide evidence of a track record relative to opportunity, appropriate to the scale and scope of the proposed project
- Have the ability to secure ethics approval and comply with national research governance standards
- Be able to commit sufficient time and oversight to lead the project for its duration

Proposals

Applicants must address the following in their proposals:

- Applicant, institution, and collaborator details
- Project title
- Summary of proposed project
- Statement of how the proposed project directly aligns with Leukaemia Foundation's strategic research priorities
- The relevance of this research in addressing the needs of people with blood cancer
- The added value of collaboration, particularly where partnership enables outcomes not achievable by a single organisation.
- Research proposal – including project timeline and budget

- Stakeholder engagement strategies
- Applicant curriculum vitae (CV) and team track record
- Letter of support from administering institution to confirm laboratory/research support for proposed project and any agreements from existing partnerships/collaborations involved in the project

An application form will be available to download from the relevant grant opportunity webpage on the [Leukaemia Foundation website](#).

Submitting a proposal

Proposals must be submitted using the Leukaemia Foundation grant application form and emailed to research@leukaemia.org.au before the closing deadline. Please clearly identify the grant type (Partnership Grant) and your name in the subject line.

Application open and closing dates are published on the [Leukaemia Foundation website](#).

Assessment Process

Proposals will firstly be reviewed for eligibility by the Leukaemia Foundation and then assessed by an external expert review panel who will score proposals against the selection criteria. Final funding decisions are made by the Leukaemia Foundation Board.

Selection Criteria

Project selection criteria for Partnership Grants includes:

- Strategic alignment and partnership value
- Scientific merit and importance to haematology
- Feasibility and methodology
- Consumer and stakeholder engagement
- Investigator capability and track record

Budget and Financial Management

Partnership Grants require:

- Co-investment from partner organisations
- Opportunities for multi-partner collaborations, where appropriate
- Clear alignment of partner contributions with agreed research objectives

The Leukaemia Foundation will contribute up to 50% of the total project cost, capped at **\$100,000 over 2 years per grant**. The final funding contribution is determined based on project scope, scale, and partner contributions.

The Leukaemia Foundation will enter into a funding agreement with the Administering Institution using the standard Leukaemia Foundation Research Memorandum of Agreement (MoA).

The recipient and host institution must agree to the specific conditions outlined in the MoA, including but not limited to:

- Publication of the successful applicant, institution and project title on websites, publications, media releases and other reports/publications by the Leukaemia Foundation
- Participation in media and stakeholder activities
- Acknowledgement of Leukaemia Foundation funding in any publication or presentations arising from the funded work.

Grant funds must be spent solely on the approved research project. Funding will not cover any institutional overhead costs.

Examples of costs that will be funded:

- Salary support for research assistants, support officers/managers, or consultants for research-related activity
- Costs associated with consumer reimbursement and remuneration
- Direct research costs

Examples of costs that will not be funded:

- Publication fees
- Professional memberships/subscriptions
- Travel costs
- Indirect research or infrastructure costs

Reporting Requirements

Annual reporting of progress is required. For a 2-year project, this includes:

- A mid-project progress report, accompanied by an annual income and expenditure statement (certified by a Finance Officer)
- A final report on project completion, accompanied by a final income and expenditure statement (certified by a Finance Officer).

For any further questions, please contact our Research team via email at research@leukaemia.org.au