
Cures Within Reach / CureAccelerator® – Request for Proposals Additional Instructions for Principal Investigators Submitting Preclinical Projects

Thank you for your interest in submitting a repurposing research preclinical project Proposal in response to Cure Within Reach’s funding Request for Proposals (RFP). Submitted Proposals will undergo a review process involving internal, external and/or Science Advisory Board reviewers, after which a subset of Proposals will be chosen for a Full Grant submission. PIs will generally hear back from Cures Within Reach about their Proposals in 6-8 weeks after the RFP deadline, and those PIs invited to submit a Full Grant will be provided with the materials necessary to complete a Full Grant submission.

Proposals submissions typically have fewer scientific details than Full Grants. They are meant to provide an overview of the proposed research idea, plan and impact, so that reviewers can generally understand the research background and experimental plan. They are also meant to describe the repurposing and patient impact of the proposed research. Cost effectiveness, speed and patient impact are key ranking criteria for a successful Proposal submission.

Preclinical proposal submissions are strengthened by 1) a plan or description for how positive results may be used in a clinical setting to create patient impact and/or 2) a supporting letter from a clinical collaborator willing to begin clinical trials once positive results are seen.

PIs are asked to complete a number of fields about the proposed treatment, research plan, budget, disease background and other topics. Blue boxes on the right hand side of the page will provide additional information about the fields. Each field is designated as “Required” or “Optional.” You will not be able to submit your Proposal until all the required fields are completed. A thorough proposal submission should take between 1-3 hours to complete.

If you have questions about any your Proposal submission, email us at info@cureaccelerator.org.

PROPOSAL REVIEW CRITERIA INCLUDE:

- Innovation in the repurposing arena
- Feasibility of the research plan
- Relevancy to the disease and/or patient population
- Investigator and environment
- Potential clinical impact (speed, cost, safety, effectiveness)
- Return on investment (how much “bang” will each research “buck” bring?)

IMPORTANT GUIDELINES FOR SOME OF KEY PROPOSAL SECTIONS:

- **Public Abstract (suggested 250 words max)** – An overview of your project written in non-scientific terms. This should be understandable to readers from a variety of backgrounds, and will be publically available on CureAccelerator.
- **Research Description (suggested 1,000 words max)** – Background support for your project, what you plan to accomplish during the funding period and the potential impact of your proposed research. Provide enough details for reviewers to understand your experimental plan, without going into the same level of detail as a Full Grant submission. Topics addressed in this section could include:
 - What unmet medical need will be addressed and what repurposed therapy will be used to address this need?
 - What is the scientific and/or clinical support for this project? (*Briefly, full scientific details not required at this point*)
 - What is your research plan/experimental design? (*Briefly, full scientific details not required at this point*)
 - What are the top three specific aims of this research?
 - What are the top three key measureable outcomes for this research?
 - What is the potential scientific/medical impact? Include a description on how results from this project could be used to inform a current or future clinical trial, and the approximate length of time it may take to move these results into the clinic
- **Disease Background (suggested 250 words max)** – A description of the current state of the disease being studied, including number of patients affected, typical patient outcome/survival, current treatment options and limitations of current treatment options. You will be able to provide more detail on these topics in later fields.
- **Expected Health Impact on Patients (suggested 500 words max)** – A description of the potential patient impact of the proposed research, including the potential speed to patients, cost, safety and effectiveness of the repurposed treatment. Provide enough details for reviewers to understand the potential patient impact of the proposed research.

IMPORTANT FUNDING DEFINITIONS AND GUIDELINES:

For Proposal submissions from PIs at institutions and organizations located in **high and upper-middle income countries** (as defined by the World Bank; see <http://bit.ly/worldbankcountrybyincome>), Cures Within Reach will provide up to 80% of the requested project funding, and the institution proposing the research will match at least 20% of the requested project funding. For example, if the requested project funding is \$50,000, Cures Within Reach will provide 80% or \$40,000 and the institution will match 20% or \$10,000.

For Proposal submissions from PIs at institutions in **low and lower-middle income countries** (as defined by the World Bank; see <http://bit.ly/worldbankcountrybyincome>), the institutional 20% funding match may be waived. Please contact us at info@cureaccelerator.org if you have any questions of funding or the institutional match requirement.

Funding Definitions:

- Project Funding = total research budget (no set maximum)
- Remaining Project Funding = funding needed to reach the total research budget (no set maximum)
- Existing Project Funding = Project Funding minus Remaining Project Funding (no set maximum)
- Requested Project Funding = funding requested through this RFP (maximum = \$50,000, including the 20% institutional match, if applicable)
- Budget Breakdown = breakdown of the Requested Project Funding (maximum total = \$50,000, including 20% institutional match, if applicable)
- Estimated Overall Project Costs = Requested Project Funding (see above)

Funding Guidelines:

Cures Within Reach will accept REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING amounts that are within the minimum and maximum amounts indicated. We do not set an upper limit to the PROJECT FUNDING, or the EXISTING PROJECT FUNDING, but REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING amounts to Cures Within Reach are limited to the maximum amount specified in the Funding Information section of the RFP. Proposals may be submitted for which the PROJECT FUNDING is within the Cures Within Reach maximum, and for projects that already have EXISTING PROJECT FUNDING from another source and require REMAINING PROJECT FUNDING, when this additional funding from Cures Within Reach will help speed patient impact.

Cures Within Reach REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING must be sole, late or final funding for the project. REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING from Cures Within Reach cannot be the first funding raised for a project, unless the REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING, including any applicable 20% match from the institution, organization or company proposing the research, equals the PROJECT FUNDING.

REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING cannot be used for any indirect costs, although up to 10% of the REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING can be used to cover direct project administrative costs.

All funding amounts and requests are in US dollars.

Here are several examples of funding requests to help investigators and institutions understand the funding opportunity. The examples below include the 20% institutional match.

Example A: The maximum funding request to CWR is \$50,000. The PI enters \$40,000 for REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING and for ESTIMATED OVERALL PROJECT COSTS in the BUDGET BREAKDOWN, which equals the PROJECT FUNDING. CWR approves this project, and will provide \$32,000 (80% of the REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING) and the investigator/institution will match the remaining \$8,000 of the REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING.

Example B: The maximum funding request to CWR is \$50,000. The PI enters \$50,000 for REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING and for ESTIMATED OVERALL PROJECT COSTS in the BUDGET BREAKDOWN, which equals the PROJECT FUNDING. CWR approves this project, and will provide \$40,000 (80% of the REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING) and the investigator/institution will match the remaining \$10,000 of the REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING.

Example C: The maximum funding request to CWR is \$50,000. The PI enters \$50,000 for REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING and for ESTIMATED OVERALL PROJECT COSTS in the BUDGET BREAKDOWN, which will cover one-third of the \$150,000 entered for PROJECT FUNDING. The other \$100,000 is entered for EXISTING PROJECT FUNDING, and has already been secured by the investigator and institution. CWR approves this project, and will provide \$40,000 (80% of the REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING) and the investigator/institution will match the remaining \$10,000 of the REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDING and provide the \$100,000 of the EXISTING PROJECT FUNDING.