FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR RESEARCHERS

GATEWAY
FOR
CANCER
RESEARCH

Eligibility

Q: What kind of research does Gateway for Cancer Research fund?

Gateway funds clinical trials that have the potential to make an impact on today's cancer patients. We strive to fund studies on all types of cancers, and research that examines the wider-reaching impact of systemic therapies on treatment and quality of life.

Q: Who is eligible to apply for Gateway's cancer research funding awards?

Any investigator who is ready to conduct a clinical trial in cancer research—one which will have an immediate impact on cancer patients—may apply for funding. Investigator-initiated applications from any academic, non-profit institution and medical centers are welcome; investigators don't need to carry any special qualifications other than proven work as a clinician, researcher or primary investigator.

Q: Can physicians who work for Cancer Treatment Centers of America (CTCA) apply for funding from Gateway for Cancer Research to fund investigator-initiated trials that will be conducted at CTCA?

Gateway does not fund research by CTCA physicians, as this would pose a conflict of interest (COI). The COI arises because Gateway's overhead and operational expenses are covered by CTCA in the form of an in-kind donation. As such, Gateway does not proactively fund CTCA generated studies.

Applying

Applying for a Grant

Q: How do I apply for a grant to become a researcher for the Gateway for Cancer Research?

The first step in determining if your study could be a good fit for Gateway funding is to review Gateway's Funding guidelines to self-check against our intended impact and funding requirements. These guidelines are available through the Gateway online grant management system at: https://gatewaycr.fluidreview.com. Based on your self-check, if you think your study would be a good fit, you may submit part one of a two-part application process by submitting a short Letter of Intent in the same online system. The LOI will be reviewed by Gateway's Research Grants Specialist and a subset of Gateway's Board of Scientific Counselors, and you will be notified whether or not you will be invited to submit a full application. If you have questions about the application process, contact us at **research@gatewaycr.org.**

Q: Where can I find a resource to help me write a strong research proposal?

The Elsevier Publishing Campus provides researchers with a useful resource; highlighting grant writing fundamentals and tips that will assist applicants in completing a grant application.

Q: For the Letter of Intent, does Gateway require a fully-fledged budget?

For a Letter of Intent, the budget does not need to be fully fledged.   In preparing the budget estimate, researchers should keep in mind that all indirect costs will not be covered, unless related to the clinical trials; this means no travel, and no equipment costs will be covered. However, salaries will be covered. Typically, Gateway funds research studies with a budget estimate in the range of $200,000-$800,000.

Q: Does Gateway have an indirect cost rate?

Gateway does not have an indirect cost rate because Gateway does not cover indirect costs or overhead costs.

Q: What is the EIN (Employer Identification Number)?

The EIN is a unique nine-digit number, (00-0000000), issued by the IRS for the purposes of identification and tax administration.

Q: What is the Internal Revenue Code (IRC)?

The IRC Code is the comprehensive set of tax laws created by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). It is used to identify an organization's tax status with the federal government. Ex: 501(c)(3)

Grants Evaluation Process

Q: Who reviews all of the grant applications?

All Letters of Intent are reviewed by staff members and a subset of the Board of Scientific Counselors (BSC) for fit with Gateway's mission. Full grant applications are then reviewed by the BSC at a convened meeting and scored based on set criteria. Gateway's scientific counselors are located throughout the U.S., each with particular expertise in cancer research. While the BSC reviews all applications, Gateway's Board of Directors makes all final decisions on all funding.

Q: What is Gateway's cancer research approval process?
Gateway's approval process is comprised of five steps:

1. As part of a Letter of Intent, researchers answer basic questions about fit with Gateway's funding criteria, provide contact information, and provide concise summaries of the research proposal, including objectives, methodology, and budget.

2. Letters of Intent are assigned to 1-3 members of Gateway's Board of Scientific Counselors for review.

3. Each Letter of Intent is independently evaluated by the peer reviewers. The applicants who demonstrate that their project is in line with Gateway's mission and are approved by the peer reviewers are invited to submit a full grant application.

4. Once the full grant application is submitted to Gateway, each application is reviewed by the full Board of Scientific Counselors at a convened meeting and given a score to indicate funding priority, and the most promising grants are presented to the Board of Directors.

5. Gateway's Board of Directors reviews the promising grants and determines approval of final grant awards. Subsequently, applicants receive funding, begin their research, and file appropriate progress reports throughout the life of the grant.

Q: What happens to a full grant application that does not pass the full Board of Scientific Counselors' review?

Gateway will allow grantees to submit one (1) revision of a declined Letter of Intent and/or Full Application, provided that the applicant is prepared to incorporate feedback from staff members and/or the Board of Scientific Counselors.

Grant Awards

Q: Of the grant applications received by Gateway, how many are awarded funding?

Gateway approves approximately 12-15 new multi-year grants per year of varying sizes. Approximately one third of the Letters of Intent received by Gateway make it through the full application process and are funded at their full grant request for 1-3 years.

Q: Is there a cap on the awards granted by Gateway?

While Gateway does not cap any of its cancer research grant awards, typically, Gateway funds research studies with a budget estimate in the range of $200,000-$800,000. Applicants should apply for the amount they believe is needed to conduct their clinical trial. Gateway does require supporting documentation for budgets, as well as semi-annual progress and financial reports throughout the life of the grant.

Q: How many years is the grant award for?

While Gateway does not have a maximum term for a grant, typically, Gateway funds research with study periods in the range of 1-3 years. Applicants should apply for the amount of time they feel is necessary to successfully complete the research study.

Q: Once my grant is approved for funding, what triggers a payment?

Unlike many other foundations, Gateway uses a "pay-per-patient" method for grant payments based upon patient enrollment in the study. In order to facilitate start-up, Gateway provides 20% of the grant as seed money at the beginning of the trial. After that, patient impact must be demonstrated through semi-annual reports in order to trigger the next payment.   Moreover, on an annual basis, in the fall, Gateway reviews all current grants for progress, and makes decisions at that time whether to continue funding for subsequent years.

Q: Once my grant is approved for funding, does Gateway have an "other support sheet" template or pre-determined format for the updated project timeline?

Yes, Gateway provides a template for timelines and budgets (including other support) in its full application document. Gateway's conditions for funding prohibit the use of other funds to overlap or duplicate Gateway funding, and requires grant recipients to disclose all other sources in the approved grant application.

Q: When an awarded grant reaches the end of its lifecycle, what reporting does Gateway require for close-out of the grant?

Within two months of the completion of the study, Gateway requires that the researcher submit a final report using the Gateway template, which includes final study results with a financial report. Gateway will provide a template for this report.