Pfizer Announces a Research Grant RFP

Early Diagnosis of Invasive Fungal Infections

Competitive Grant Program - internal Pfizer review process

I. Background

Pfizer Global Medical Grants (GMG) supports the global healthcare community's independent initiatives (e.g., research, quality improvement, or education) to improve patient outcomes in areas of unmet medical need that are aligned with Pfizer's medical and/or scientific strategies.

Pfizer's GMG competitive grant program involves a publicly posted general Request for Proposal (RFP) that provides detail regarding a general area of interest, sets timelines for review and approval, and uses an internal Pfizer review process to make final grant decisions. Organizations are invited to submit an application addressing the research gaps as outlined in the specific RFP.

For all Investigator Sponsored Research (ISRs) and general research grants, the grant requester (and ultimately the grantee) is responsible for the design, implementation, sponsorship, and conduct of the independent initiative supported by the grant, including compliance with any regulatory requirements. Pfizer must not be involved in any aspect of study protocol or project development, nor the conduct or monitoring of the research program.

II. Eligibility

Geographic Scope:	Europe, Australia, New Zealand, Korea and Japan
Applicant Eligibility Criteria	• The institution and principal investigator (PI) must be based in one of the eligible countries noted above. • Only organizations are eligible to receive grants, not individuals or medical practice groups. • The applicant (PI) must have a medical or postdoctoral degree (MD, PhD, or equivalent) or a degree in Pharmacy, Mycology, Microbiology or Radiology. • Applicant must be affiliated with a host institution.

III. Requirements

Date RFP Issued	• June 30, 2021
Clinical Area	• Invasive Fungal Infections
General Area of Interest for this RFP:	• Projects that will be considered for Pfizer support will focus on innovative research in the following area: o Use of diagnostic tools alone or in their combination and/or in combination with imaging techniques to improve the early diagnosis of invasive fungal infections.
Expected Approximate Monetary Range of Grant Applications:	• Individual projects requesting up to $70,000 USD will be considered. The estimated total available budget related to this RFP is $200,000 USD.
Key Dates:	• RFP release date: June 30, 2021 • Grant Application due date: August 11, 2021 • Anticipated Grant Award Notification Date: September 2021 *Processing time may take longer for organizations outside of the U.S* *Grants will be distributed following a fully executed agreement, receipt of IRB/IEC Approval and Final Protocol.* • Anticipated Project Start: on or after November 2021 *Research is expected to be completed and submitted for presentation/ publication within 2 years of study start.*

How to Submit:	• Please go to www.cybergrants.com/pfizer/Research and sign in. First-time users should click "Create your password". *[Note: there are individual portals for each grant application type (e.g., knowledge, LOI, research full proposal, and QI full proposal). Please be sure to use the URL above.]*
	• Click the "Start A New Research Grant Application" button.
	• In the application:
	o For the question "Are you replying to a Request for Proposal as part of the Competitive Grant Program?" select Yes
	o Select the following Competitive Grant Program Name: ==2021 HOS G – Research on Early Diagnosis of Invasive Fungal Infections==
	o Select the following Primary Area of Interest: Infectious Disease - Fungal
	• Requirements for submission: Complete all required sections of the online application and upload your project proposal (see Appendix) in the Proposal/Protocol field.
	• If you encounter any technical difficulties with the website, please click the "Technical Questions" link at the bottom of the page.
	IMPORTANT: Be advised applications submitted after the due date will not be reviewed.
Questions:	• If you have questions regarding this RFP, please direct them in writing to the Grant Officer, Jessica.Romano@pfizer.com, with the subject line "Invasive Fungal Infections Research RFP June 2021."
	• Please click here to view Frequently Asked Questions regarding the Competitive Grant Program.
Grant Agreements:	• If your grant is approved, your institution will be required to enter into a written grant agreement with Pfizer. The agreement is expected to be signed by both parties within 2021 and without change. Please click here to view the core terms of the agreement.
	• Pfizer has drafted the terms of these agreements to be balanced and reasonable and to further the goals of both parties. Negotiating grant agreements requires significant resources, so please ensure that your institution (including your legal department) is able and willing to abide by these terms before proceeding with submission of your application as they will need to be accepted in their entirety.
Review and Approval Process	• Grant requests received in response to a general RFP are reviewed by Pfizer to make final grant decisions.

Mechanism by which Applicants will be Notified:	• All applicants will be notified via email. Applicants may be asked for additional clarification during the review period.

Reference:
Rodrigues ML, Nosanchuk JD (2020) Fungal diseases as neglected pathogens: A wake-up call to public health officials. PLOS Neglected Tropical Diseases 14(2): e0007964. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pntd.0007964

Appendix A
General RFP Submission Requirements

Project Proposals/Protocols should be single-spaced using Calibri 12-point font and 1-inch margins. Note there is a 15-page limit exclusive of references. Please include the following:

Goals and Objectives	• Provide the main goal of the study and the study population (if applicable). Provide a detailed definition that is directly linked to the primary objective.
Assessment of Need for the Project	• This should reflect your study rationale. Provide a brief description of the medical/scientific question and the rationale of how this trial or study addresses the question.
Target Audience	• Describe the primary audience(s) targeted for this project. For Investigator Sponsored Clinical Trials, please specify the age, gender and other demographic information for trial population. • Also indicate whom you believe will directly benefit from the project outcomes. Describe the overall population size as well as the size of your sample population.
Project Design and Methods	• Describe concisely the research design and methods for achieving the stated goals. For a clinical interventional study, include inclusion/exclusion criteria, treatment plan and statistical plan.
Innovation	• Explain what measures you have taken to assure that this project idea is original and does not duplicate other projects. Describe how this project builds upon existing work, pilot projects, or ongoing projects developed either by your institution or other institutions related to this project.
Evaluation and Outcomes	• Specify type and frequency of safety, efficacy, and/or outcome measures. Also indicate the method(s) used to assess measures. • Provide a publication plan describing intended submission of abstracts to (a) congress(es) or intended submission of (a) publication(s) to peer-reviewed journals. All publications must follow ICH guidelines.

Anticipated Project Timeline	• Provide an anticipated timeline for your project including project start/end dates.
Additional Information	• If there is any additional information you feel Pfizer should be aware of concerning the importance of this project, please summarize here. • Early-career applicants: Letter(s) of support from mentor(s) and collaborators describing how the award will advance the applicant's career.
Organization Detail	• This information is used to assess the capability of the organizational resources available to perform the effort proposed. Identify the facilities to be used [laboratory, animal, clinical and "other"]. If appropriate, indicate their capacities, pertinent capabilities, relative proximity and extent of availability to the project.
References	• Bibliography of relevant references.