



## Japan Society of Clinical Oncology and Pfizer Announce an **Independent Medical Education Grant RFP**

### ***Educational Projects for Healthcare Professionals to Promote Cancer Patient Support***

#### **Competitive Grant Program - using Expert Review Panel**

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Note this RFP is also available in [Japanese](#) for your convenience

#### **I. Background**

Japan Society of Clinical Oncology (JSCO) has signed a partnership agreement with Pfizer Japan Inc. (Pfizer) to implement innovative education and a transformation strategy.

The aims of JSCO are to facilitate communication, collaboration and promotion of research concerning cancer prevention, diagnosis and treatment and play an instrumental role in the progress and dissemination of cancer care, thereby contributing to academic (scientific) culture advancements and human well-being. As Pfizer also promotes high-quality education and a change management project that would enable healthcare professionals to improve patient outcomes through the practice of appropriate standard treatments, the company has set the same goal as JSCO.

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.

April2022

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

For all independent medical education grants, the grant requester (and ultimately the grantee) is responsible for the design, implementation, and conduct of the independent initiative supported by the grant. Pfizer must not be involved in any aspect of project development, nor the conduct of the independent education program.

## II. Eligibility

<b>Geographic Scope:</b>	Japan
<b>Applicant Eligibility Criteria</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The following may apply: medical, dental, nursing, allied health, and/or pharmacy professional schools; healthcare institutions (both large and small); professional associations and medical societies; medical education companies; and other entities with a mission related to healthcare professional education and/or healthcare improvement.</li> <li>If the project involves multiple departments within an institution and/or between different institutions / organizations / associations. all institutions must have a relevant role and the requesting organization must have a key role in the project.</li> </ul>

## III. Requirements

<b>Date RFP Issued</b>	April 20, 2022
<b>Clinical Area</b>	Oncology
<b>Specific Area of Interest for this RFP:</b>	<p>Within the field of oncology, we invite applications for educational projects to nurture healthcare professionals who can help improve environments regarding cancer patient support.</p> <p>In order to construct a regional symbiosis society where cancer patients can live in comfort, proactive support for patients and their families is required<sup>#1</sup>. The number of consultations at the Cancer Counseling and Support Center, which is part of such efforts, has been increasing every year, and a network of counseling and support is being established. <sup>#2</sup> However, the efforts and implementation status of patient support differ between institutions and regions. <sup>#1</sup> With the increase in the number of people experiencing cancer, a variety of approaches are required in the contents of consultations and also efforts to improve the QOL of individuals. <sup>#1</sup></p> <p>Eligible educational projects cover, but are not limited to, the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Educational project to nurture healthcare professionals who can provide high-quality support</li> <li>Educational project that offers comprehensive learning of the support needed by cancer patients to promote enhanced knowledge and skills for addressing such needs</li> <li>Educational project that promotes social collaboration for cancer control with multidisciplinary team approach</li> </ul> <p>The educational project may take the form of an event (e.g., lecture meetings and seminars), satellite symposium, workshop, online course, e-learning,</p>

	<p>printed material, etc.</p> <p>It is not our intent to support clinical research projects. Projects evaluating the efficacy of therapeutic or diagnostic agents will not be considered. Information on how to submit requests for support of clinical research projects can be found at <a href="#">Investigator Sponsored Research</a></p>
<b>Target Audience:</b>	<p>Healthcare professionals involved in cancer medical services and care (including those involved in nursing care and welfare)</p> <p><i>NOTE: Projects whose target is "Patients only" are not eligible.</i></p>
<b>Disease Burden Overview:</b>	<p>The Basic Plan to Promote Cancer Control Programs (the 3rd term) states that in order to construct a regional symbiosis society where cancer patients can live in comfort and with dignity on their own, regardless of where they live, it is necessary to strengthen social collaboration for cancer control and provide proactive support to patients and their families. #1 As the Cancer Counseling and Support Centers at designated cancer care hospitals consult not only with their patients but also with patients at other hospitals or medical institutions, the number of consultations is increasing every year. A network of counseling and support beyond secondary medical areas and prefectures is being established, and a wide range of information is being provided to cancer patients. #2 In addition, education to promote social collaboration with multidisciplinary team approach for cancer control is required.</p>
<b>Recommendations and Target Metrics:</b>	<p>Related Guidelines and Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Basic Plan to Promote Cancer Control Programs (the 3rd term) #1 and Counseling Support at Designated Cancer Care Hospitals #2</li> </ul>
<b>Barriers:</b>	<p>Due to the diversity of requests for counseling and support that we receive, there is a need for proper allocation of human resources and further training for support counselors. #1 In addition, since the number of cancer survivors has increased with an improvement in cancer treatment, efforts for home palliative care, rehabilitation, work support, and improvement of the QOL of cancer patients and cancer survivors after discharge are required, and new needs have emerged. #1</p>
<b>Current National Efforts to Reduce Gaps:</b>	<p>As a part of the activities of the Japan Society of Clinical Oncology, training of certified cancer network navigators and senior cancer network navigators is being conducted for the purpose of promoting the development and progress of cancer care in Japan and contributing to the welfare of the people. #3</p>
<b>Expected Approximate Monetary Range of Grant Applications:</b>	<p>Ceiling for on project:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Large-scale project: up to 15,000,000 JPY</li> <li>Small-scale project: up to 5,000,000 JPY</li> </ol> <p>The amount of the grant Pfizer will be prepared to fund for any project will depend upon the expert review panel's evaluation of the proposal and costs</p>

	involved and will be stated clearly in the approval notification.
<p><b>Key Dates:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RFP release date: April 20, 2022</li> <li>• LOI due date: <del>May 31, 2022</del> <b>Extended Due Date: June 7, 2022</b> Please note the deadline is midnight Eastern Time (New York, GMT - 5).</li> <li>• Review of LOIs by External Review Panel: <del>June 2022</del> <b>July 2022</b></li> <li>• Anticipated LOI Notification Date: <del>June 2022</del> <b>July 2022</b></li> <li>• Full Proposal Deadline: <del>July 2022</del> <b>August 2022</b> *Only accepted LOIs will be invited to submit full proposals</li> <li>• Review of Full Proposals by External Review Panel: August 2022</li> <li>• Anticipated Full Proposal Notification Date: October 2022</li> <li>• Grants distributed following execution of fully signed Letter of Agreement</li> <li>• Anticipated Project Start and End Dates: January 2023 – December 2025 (up to 3 years)</li> </ul>
<p><b>How to Submit:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Please go to <a href="http://www.cybergrants.com/pfizer/loi">www.cybergrants.com/pfizer/loi</a> and sign in. First-time users should click “Create your password”.</li> <li>• In the application:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Select the following Project Type: “<i>Education / Education Research</i>”.</li> <li>○ Select the following Primary Area of Interest: “<i>Oncology-Other</i>”</li> <li>○ Select the following Competitive Grant Program Name: “<i>2022 ONC JP: Educational Projects for HCPs to Promote Cancer Patient Support</i>”</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Requirements for submission: Complete all required sections of the online application and upload the completed LOI template (see Appendix).</li> <li>• If you encounter any technical difficulties with the website, please click the “Technical Questions” link at the bottom of the page.</li> </ul> <p><b>IMPORTANT:</b> Be advised applications submitted through the wrong application type and/or submitted after the due date will not be reviewed by the committee.</p>
<p><b>Questions:</b></p>	<p>If you have questions regarding this RFP, please direct them in writing to the Grant Officer, Akihiro Kamina (meg.japan@pfizer.com), with the subject line “Educational Projects for HCPs to Promote Cancer Patient Support.”</p>

<b>Grant Agreements:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• If your grant is approved, your institution will be required to enter into a written grant agreement with Pfizer. Please click <a href="#">here</a> to view the core terms of the agreement.</li><li>• 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.</li></ul>
<b>Review and Approval Process:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A specific grant program RFP uses an expert review panel (ERP) to make final grant decisions.</li><li>• The panels are comprised of professionals from the medical community with advanced degrees and expertise in particular clinical areas, or specific needs of a geographic region/learner group, or expertise in research, continuing professional development or quality improvement.</li></ul>
<b>Mechanism by which Applicants will be Notified:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• All applicants will be notified via email by the dates noted above.</li><li>• Applicants may be asked for additional clarification or to make a summary presentation during the review period.</li><li>• The selected institutions (organizations) are to present the outlines of the projects at the 61st Annual Meeting of JSCO in 2023. The final outcomes of the projects are to be presented at a subsequent annual meeting of JSCO.</li></ul>

## References:

- #1 <https://www.mhlw.go.jp/file/06-Seisakujouhou-10900000-Kenkoukyoku/0000196975.pdf>
- #2 <https://www.mhlw.go.jp/file/05-Shingikai-10901000-Kenkoukyoku-Soumuka/0000186422.pdf>
- #3 <http://www.jSCO.or.jp/jpn/index/page/id/1343>



## Appendix A

### Letter of Intent Requirements

The Letter of Intent (LOI) will be accepted via the online application. When answering the LOI questions in the application please keep the following in mind:

<b>Goals and Objectives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Briefly state the overall goal of the project. Also describe how this goal aligns with the focus of the RFP and the goals of the applicant organization(s).</li> <li>List the <i>overall</i> objectives you plan to meet with your project both in terms of learning and expected outcomes. Objectives should describe the target population as well as the outcomes you expect to achieve as a result of conducting the project.</li> </ul>
<b>Assessment of Need for the Project</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Please include a quantitative baseline data summary, initial metrics (e.g., quality measures), or a project starting point (please cite data on gap analyses or relevant patient-level data that informs the stated objectives) in <i>your</i> target area. Describe the source and method used to collect the data. Describe how the data was analyzed to determine that a gap existed. If a full analysis has not yet been conducted, please include a description of your plan to obtain this information.</li> </ul>
<b>Target Audience</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe the primary audience(s) targeted for this project. 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</li> </ul>
<b>Project Design and Methods</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe the planned project and the way it addresses the established need.</li> <li>If your methods include educational activities, please describe succinctly the topic(s) and format of those activities</li> </ul>
<b>Innovation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explain what measures you have taken to assure that this project idea is original and does not duplicate other projects or materials already developed.</li> <li>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.</li> </ul>
<b>Evaluation and Outcomes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In terms of the metrics used for the needs assessment, describe how you will determine if the practice gap was addressed for the target group. Describe how you expect to collect and analyze the data.</li> <li>Quantify the amount of change expected from this project in terms of your target audience.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe how the project outcomes will be broadly disseminated.</li> </ul>
<b>Anticipated Project Timeline</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide an anticipated timeline for your project including project start/end dates</li> </ul>
<b>Additional Information</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If there is any additional information you feel Pfizer should be aware of concerning the importance of this project, please summarize here</li> </ul>
<b>Organization Detail</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe the attributes of the institutions / organizations / associations that will support and facilitate the execution of the project and the leadership of the proposed project. Articulate the specific role of each partner in the proposed project. Letters of support from partner organizations will be required at the Full Proposal stage only and should not be included with the LOI.</li> </ul>
<b>Budget Detail</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A total amount requested is the only information needed for the LOI stage. Full Budget is not required. This amount can be adjusted at the Full Proposal stage as applicable.</li> <li>The budget amount requested must be in Japanese YEN (JPY).</li> <li>While estimating your budget please keep the following items in mind:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Institutional overhead and indirect costs may be included within the grant request. Examples include human resources department costs, payroll processing and accounting costs, janitorial services, utilities, property taxes, property and liability insurance, and building maintenance as well as additional project expenses such as costs for publication, IRB / IEC review fees, software license fees, and travel. Please note: Pfizer does not provide funding for capital equipment.</li> <li>The inclusion of these costs cannot cause the amount requested to exceed the budget limit set forth in the RFP.</li> <li>It should be noted that grants awarded through GMG cannot be used to purchase therapeutic agents (prescription or non-prescription).</li> <li>Consumption tax should be included in your budget.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Pfizer maintains a company-wide, maximum allowed overhead rate of 28% for independent studies and projects.</li> </ul>