

Pfizer Independent Medical Education RFP *Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis (JIA) Patient Education*

Competitive Grant Program – using Expert Review Panel



Overview

This competitive program seeks to champion patient learning and address educational needs amongst caregivers and patients living with juvenile idiopathic arthritis.



Geographic Scope

US



Project Types and Area of Interest

Potential applicants are encouraged to identify and address the educational and support resources for caregivers and patients with JIA.



Key Milestones

- Application submission deadline: *September 7, 2023*
- Anticipated decision notification date: **October 5, 2023**
- Anticipated project start date: November 1, 2023



Funding Range and Project Length

Individual projects requesting up to \$50,000 USD will be considered. The estimated total available budget related to this RFP is \$150,000. Project length will be a maximum of 18 months.

I. Background

JIA is chronic arthritis that affects approximately 1 in every 1,000 children. JIA affects children less than 16 years of age. It is not usually inherited. JIA may affect one or many joints. Oligoarticular JIA occurs in half of all children with JIA. It affects fewer than five joints and occurs more often in girls. Polyarticular JIA affects five or more joints. Children with JIA may also have silent eye inflammation, fevers, or rash. Other forms of JIA include systemic JIA, juvenile psoriatic arthritis, and enthesitis-related arthritis, which affects the spine.¹

Children with JIA may lead normal, active lives. They should attend school and engage in social, extracurricular, and family activities. Some children with JIA may need physical or occupational therapy to improve function, endurance, joint flexibility, and strength. Physical activity offers several benefits (improves joint mobility, builds strong muscles and bones, etc.) and should be encouraged. Teaching children and teens the importance of self-care is key to managing disease activity. Children and teens with JIA are more likely to get depressed because they are living with a chronic disease. Having a strong support system of friends and family can provide emotional support during tough times. Therapist and psychologists can also help kids with JIA deal with tough emotions and teach positive coping strategies.^{1,2}

II. Eligibility

Geographic Scope:

- US

Applicant Eligibility Criteria

- Only organizations are eligible to receive grants, not individuals or medical practice groups.
- The following may apply: patient advocacy organizations, healthcare institutions (both large and small), professional associations or medical societies, medical education companies that currently provide or seek to provide education and support to caregivers and patients impacted with juvenile idiopathic arthritis.
- 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.

III. Requirements

Date RFP Issued

- June 15, 2023

Clinical Area

- Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis

Specific Area of Interest for this RFP:

- Potential topics of interest include but are not limited to:
 - Introductory, intermediate, and advanced educational materials based on gender, age at diagnosis and time since diagnosis (for example ages 2-5, 6-9, 10-13, 14-17)
 - Disease state, diagnosis, treatment options, disease management and comorbidities associated with juvenile idiopathic arthritis

- Transition of care from pediatric rheumatologist to an adult rheumatologist, e.g. preparing the patient transition from the patient and caregiver’s point of view and increasing dialogue between the referring pediatric rheumatologist and adult rheumatologist.
- Address emotional and mental health needs of patients and caregivers
- Novel tools to empower caregiver/patients to have conversations with their provider that leads to shared decision making and drive patient engagement in their care

Formats may include but not limited to live in-person, live-virtual, live-hybrid, digital, social media based, print based, videos, podcasts, one on one trainings, demonstrations, cartoons, analogies, case studies, stories, posters, etc.

It is not our intent to support clinical research projects. Projects evaluating the efficacy of therapeutic or diagnostic agents will not be considered.

Target Audience

- Patients and/or caregivers

Expected Approximate Monetary Range of Grant Applications:

- Individual projects requesting up to \$50,000 USD will be considered. The estimated total available budget related to this RFP is \$150,000 USD
- Award amounts include direct costs, institutional overhead costs (capped at 28% per Pfizer policy), and indirect costs.
- 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 involved and will be stated clearly in the grant agreement.

Key Dates:

- RFP Release Date: 6/15/2023
Grant Application Due Date: 9/7/2023 Please note the deadline is 23:59 Eastern Standard Time (e.g., New York, GMT -5).
- Review of applications by ERP: 9/27/2023
- Anticipated Grant Award Notification Date: 10/5/2023
- Grants will be distributed following a fully executed agreement.
- Anticipated Project Start and End Dates: 11/1/2023 to 12/31/2024.

How to Submit:

Note: Please read this section carefully since applications submitted not following these instructions will not be accepted and will be cancelled

- Please go to www.cybergrants.com/pfizer/knowledge and sign in. First-time users should click “Create your password”. [Note: there are individual portals for each grant application type. Please be sure to use the URL above.]
- Click the “Start A New Knowledge Gap Application” button.
- In the application:
 - For the question “What type of request are you submitting?” select Response to a Request for Proposal (RFP)
 - For the question “Are you replying to a Request for Proposal (RFP) as part of the Competitive Grant Program?” select Yes
 - Select the following Competitive Grant Program Name: 2023 I&I US JIA Patient Education IME

- Select the following Primary Area of Interest: Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis
- Requirements for submission:
Complete all required sections of the online application and upload your project proposal (see Appendix) in the General RFP Submission 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, Sarthak Pandit (sarthak.pandit@pfizer.com), with the subject line “Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis Patient Education”

Grant Agreements:

- If your grant is approved, your institution will be required to enter into a written grant agreement with Pfizer. 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.
- Payment will only be made to requesting Institution.

Review and Approval Process

- A specific grant program RFP uses an expert review panel (ERP) to make final grant decisions.
- The panels are comprised of parents of children with JIA.

Mechanism by which Applicants will be Notified:

- All applicants will be notified via email by the dates noted above.
- Applicants may be asked for additional clarification during the review period.

References

1. Juvenile arthritis. Available at: <https://rheumatology.org/patients/juvenile-arthritis> (Accessed: 05 June 2023).
2. *Juvenile idiopathic arthritis*. Available at: <https://www.arthritis.org/getmedia/6398ed64-029b-4629-82e7-bf91fa61d8f5/Juvenile-Idiopathic-Arthritis-JIA-FactSheet-101122.pdf> (Accessed: 05 June 2023).

About Pfizer Global Medical Grants

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 expert review panel (ERP) to make final grant decisions. Organizations are invited to submit an application addressing the knowledge gaps 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.

Appendix

RFP Submission Requirements

Applications will be accepted via the online portal listed in the [How to Submit](#) section. Project Proposals should be single-spaced using Calibri 12-point font and 1-inch margins. Note there is a 15-page limit exclusive of references. When uploading your Project Proposal please ensure it addresses the following sections:

Goals and Objectives

- Briefly state the overall goal of the project.
- List the objectives you plan to meet with your project, in terms of learning and expected outcomes.

Needs Assessment for the Project

- Include a description of your organization's needs assessment for this proposed project which may include a quantitative baseline data summary, initial metrics, or a project starting point (please cite data on gap analyses or relevant patient-level data that informs the stated objectives) in your target area.

Target Audience

- Describe the primary audience(s) targeted for this project. 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 the planned project, the educational approach, and the way the planned methods address the established need.

Innovation

- Explain what measures you have taken to assure that this project is original and does not duplicate other projects or materials already developed. Describe how this project builds upon existing work, pilot projects, or ongoing projects developed either by your institution or other institutions.

Evaluation and Outcomes

- In terms of the metrics used for the needs assessment, describe how your organization will determine if the gap was addressed for the target group. Identify the sources of data your organization anticipates using to make the determination. Describe how your organization is expected to collect and analyze the data. Explain the method used to control for other factors outside this project (e.g., use of a control group or comparison with baseline data). Quantify the amount of change expected from this project in terms the target audience. Describe how your organization will determine if the target audience was fully engaged in the project.

Dissemination Plan

- Describe how the project may have extended benefit beyond the grant. Will the teaching materials be made available to others to use? Will there be tools or resources that are made publicly available beyond the initial project. Describe how the project outcomes might be broadly disseminated.

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

Organization Detail

- 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.

Budget Detail

- Please include a budget narrative that describes in greater detail the line items specified in the budget submitted within the application
- While estimating your budget please keep the following items in mind:
 - Independent Medical Education Grants awarded by GMG cannot be used to purchase therapeutic assets (prescription or non-prescription).
 - Overhead rates of up to 28% of the total proposed project budget may be supported by Pfizer. Please [click here](#) for details.