

# **Senior Investigator Award in Molecular Biology or Therapeutics of Cancer**

## **Grant Amount: \$500,000**

Tower Cancer Research Foundation supports forward thinking research work in Southern California. In general, the scientific advisory board evaluates grant applications based on the following criteria:

- Novelty of hypothesis
- Scientific quality
- Feasibility of the proposal
- Evidence of institutional support for the project
- Relevance leading to potential cancer therapeutics

### **Eligibility Requirements**

- Applicants must hold an assistant professor position or higher. (No preference is given to any title - non-tenure and tenure assistant, associate, and full professors are all given equal consideration). Projects with Co-Principal Investigators are also eligible. Multiple Principal Investigators may apply from the same institution.
- Applicants must be Southern California based (Counties of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Ventura, Santa Barbara, Kern, Imperial, Inyo, Mono).
- The project must entail research towards potential oncological clinical applications in the area of molecular therapeutics or diagnostics of cancer. The project may be laboratory-based or “translational” meaning it may involve clinical subjects but must have a direct laboratory component
- The Principal Investigator must hold either an MD or a PhD (or both) and have an existing active lab.
- 50% of the Principal Investigator 's time must be protected time for research in general (not necessarily for the proposed project only)
- Principal Investigators are not required to have funds already secured in order to apply for the Investigator Grant. Likewise, investigators with other private or government funding are still eligible to apply.

### **Funding Terms**

- The Investigator recipient will receive a \$500,000 grant (\$100,000 annually for 5 years, 2022-2027).
- At least one \$500,000 5-year Senior Investigator grant will be awarded this grant cycle.
- All grant awards are for 5 year only. The grant award must be used to cover research related expenses during the terms of the agreement. There are no opportunities of grant renewal.
- Grant funds are to be applied towards salary, processing fees, equipment and/or supplies. There is no salary cap for Principal Investigators. Grant funds are not permitted to be used for overhead expenses (i.e. rental expenses, equipment maintenance, and insurance fees are not allowable costs).

## Submission Procedures

- Submissions are due Friday, October 14, 2022 by 5pm (PST). Applicants will receive an email confirming receipt of the submission.
- For questions regarding the application or application process contact Kelli Sargent at (310) 299-8470 [or kelli@towercancer.org](mailto:kelli@towercancer.org)
- Applications will be reviewed by a panel of renowned clinician-scientists determined by Tower Cancer Research Foundation. Applicants will be notified by no later than Wednesday, November 23, 2022 of the panel's decision

## Formatting Guidelines

- The SurveyMonkey Apply (SMapply) grant portal will require you to fill in forms and upload required documents for a complete application. The step-by-step process allows you to fill out your application at your own pace, save your work, and edit the application until you are ready to submit.
- Please use the following formatting guidelines where applicable
  - Title each PDF upload as:
    - Last Name.SeniorInvestigatorGrant.Institution.Section Name
  - Include a header with the applicant's last name, first name, section name in the upper right-hand corner of each page
  - Use Times New Roman or Arial in font size 11. Minimum of 0.8 inch paper margins on all sides.
- **Section 5: Description of Proposed Project:** Include a footer with the page number on the bottom right-hand corner and adhere to the page maximums indicated for each section. Only complete and correctly ordered applications will be considered.
- **Section 8: Budget:** Follow directions on the application

## Application Outline

### 1. Table of Contents

Create a table of contents with the corresponding page numbers for each section of the application:

- Section 1: Basic Information
- Section 2: Non-Technical Abstract
- Section 3: Technical Abstract
- Section 4: NIH Biographical Sketch of Investigator and Collaborators
- Section 5: Description of Proposed Project
- Section 6: References
- Section 7: Letters of Support
- Section 8: Budget
- Section 9: Certifications or Statements of Exemption

# Investigator Basic Information Form

1. Project Title (Do not exceed 90 typewritten spaces):

## **APPLICANT INFORMATION**

2. Name of Applicant:

3. Applicant's  
Degree(s):

M.D.

Ph.D.

Other

5. Applicant's institution:

6. Applicant's department:

7. Type of Organization:

Federal

State

Local

Private Nonprofit

8. Institution's Federal ID Number:

9. Applicant's mailing Address:

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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City

State

Zip Code

10. Applicant's telephone number:

11. Applicant's email address:

## **FISCAL OFFICE INFORMATION**

**12. Name of Fiscal Office grant contact:**

**13. Mailing address of Fiscal Office grant contact:**

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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**City**

**State**

**Zip Code**

**14. Telephone number of Fiscal Office grant contact:**

**15. Email address of Fiscal Office grant contact:**

## **SIGNING OFFICIAL INFORMATION**

**16. Name of official signing for sponsor organization:**

**17. Title of official signing for sponsor organization:**

**18. Mailing address of official signing for sponsor organization:**

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**City**

**State**

**Zip Code**

**19. Telephone number of official signing for sponsor organization:**

**20. Email address of official signing for sponsor organization:**

## PROJECT INFORMATION

### 21. Certifications:

a) **Vertebrate Animals:**       Yes       No

If yes, specify IACUC approval  
date:

b) **Human Subjects:**       Yes       No

If yes, specify IRB approval date or exemption number:

c) **Biohazards:**       Yes       No

If yes, specify Biohazard Committee approval date or exemption number:

**22. Applicant's Research Involvement** – Approximately what percentage of the applicant's time will be devoted to the following:

Research	
Clinical Work	
Teaching	
Administration	
Other (Specify)	

**\*\*\*\*NOTE: applicants must spend a minimum of 50% of his/her time on research in general (not necessarily on the proposed project alone).**

**23. If selected, checks should be made payable to:**

# WAIVER

By signing this RESEARCH GRANT AWARD form (the “Applicant”), each of the signatories (collectively, the “Applicants”) hereby release, discharge and absolve TOWER CANCER RESEARCH FOUNDATION, and its respective successors, assigns, affiliates, officers, directors, employees and agents (collectively, “TOWER CANCER RESEARCH FOUNDATION Parties”), from any and all actions, suits, claims and demands of any kind whatsoever, which the Applicants or their heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, not limited to, the operation of the application process and the determination and awarding of fellowships and grants. Applicants further agree that in no event will TOWER CANCER RESEARCH FOUNDATION Parties be liable for any direct, indirect, consequential or exemplary damages arising from or relating in any way to this Application.

**I declare that to the best of my knowledge the statement and other information contained in this application are truthful, complete and accurate. I further understand that an incomplete application will not be reviewed.**

**Applicant signature** - *person named in 2* (“Per” signature not acceptable)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Date**\_\_\_\_\_

**Institutional Official signature** - *person named in 16* (“Per” signature not acceptable)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Date**\_\_\_\_\_

## **2. Non-Technical Abstract (maximum of 100 words)**

Briefly describe your project in 100 words or less using NON-TECHNICAL language. The description should explain the significance of the proposed work to the field. It should be understandable to the average reader of a daily newspaper.

## **3. Technical Abstract (maximum of 100 words)**

Briefly describe your project in 100 words or less using TECHNICAL language. The description should explain the significance of the proposed work to the field.

## **4. Biographical Sketch**

Submit your official NIH Biographical Sketch of Investigator and Collaborators

## **5. Description of Proposed Project (max of 10 pages including tables, figures etc.)**

Provide a clear statement of the work to be undertaken and may include (but is not limited to):

- Background and Relevant Knowledge
- Specific Aims
- Research Plan
- Study Population
- Methods
- Data Analysis
- Analytic Strategy
- Discussion and Expected Outcomes
- Relevance

## **6. References**

References pertinent to project only. References do not count as part of the 10 page limit

## **7. Letters of Support**

Letters of Support from institution, collaborators, chairman of department or division chair.

## **8. Budget**

Applicants are to provide a yearly budget for each year of the grant period as well as a cumulative budget for the entire grant period (all 5 years).

## **9. Certifications or Statements of Exemption (if applicable)**

- a. Vertebrate Animals Certification (either the IRB-approved protocol covering the project or the NIH Human Subjects Research Certificate)
- b. Human Subjects Certification (either the respective agency numbers or the actual CITI certifications for the Principal Investigator)
- c. Biohazard Certification