To: All Cooper

From: Susan Bass Levin, President & CEO Cooper Foundation
Generosa Grana, MD, Director of MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper
Christine Winn, SVP, MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper

Subject: Cancer Research Funding Opportunities

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**Request for Proposals for 2017 Cancer Research Grants**

The Cooper Foundation is seeking applications from Cooper University Health Care Investigators for new research funding opportunities to support the mission of MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper.

Our goal is to encourage research applications that are consistent with Cooper’s commitment to quality, safety and excellence in patient care. Proposals with a direct focus on patient care are encouraged.

Four grants of up to $20,000 each will be awarded to Cooper University Health Care Investigators.

Grants will be awarded, in amounts up to $20,000 per grant, in four different categories:

1. **Breast Cancer Research:** A grant up to $20,000 is available to fund research relating to breast cancer. This is funded by the Pink Roses Teal Magnolias Fund.

2. **Gynecological Cancer Research:** A grant up to $20,000 is available to fund research relating to gynecological cancer. This is funded by the Pink Roses Teal Magnolias Fund.

3. **Lung Cancer Research:** A grant up to $20,000 is available to fund research relating to lung cancer. This is funded by the Jim Fifis Lung Cancer Research Fund.

4. **Andres Ferber, MD Hematologic Malignancy Research (NEW):** A grant up to $10,000 is available to fund research relating to hematologic cancer. This is funded by the DiFlorio Family.

5. **Cancer Research:** A grant up to $20,000 is available to fund Cooper investigators for a research project that is consistent with the mission of MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper.

All proposals in Categories 1-4 will also be considered for Category 5.

**ELIGIBILITY**

Applicants must be Cooper University Health Care employees.

- Any applicant (Principal or Co-investigators) with a current open Cooper Foundation research grant is not eligible to apply for funding in 2017.
• Applicants (Principal or Co-investigators) who have received a Cooper Foundation research grant in the past must provide a list of publications and any other grants received, based on the prior Cooper Foundation support.
• Physicians, nurses and allied health professionals are eligible to apply as investigators or co-investigators.
• Residents and Fellows may not apply as the Principal Investigator.

Investigators with budgets under $15,000 are encouraged to apply.

APPLICATION AND BUDGET
• The attached Grant Application should be completed and submitted to Frances Lee (lee-frances@cooperhealth.edu) on or before Friday, February 24, 2017.
• The proposal must include a budget not to exceed $20,000.
• The budget should contain provisions for post-award Cooper Research Institute bio statistical services if required. (Costs incurred for work conducted prior to grant award will not be covered.)
• Indirect costs/overhead will not be assessed against these awards.
• Applications should be limited to 5 pages and include a 200 word abstract outlining the objectives and methods of the proposal. The proposal should include a Project Title and the names of the Principal Investigators and Co-investigators.
• The following funding restrictions apply:
  o Grant funding may not be used for investigator/co-investigator/scientist salary for any existing, budgeted employee at Cooper University Health Care, but may be used to support coordinator/technician time that is not covered by an existing budgeted Cooper or Rowan salary.
  o Grant funding cannot be used to support employee salaries of non-Cooper institutions.
  o Grant funding cannot be used for lab assays/tests, in excess of $1,000 at outside universities, hospitals, or laboratories.
  o Grant funding cannot be used for healthcare considered to be standard-of-care and covered by Medicare, Medicaid or other third-party payer.
  o Grant funding for IT, necessary for the research project, is limited to $1,000, but may not be used to purchase any IT computer/laptop equipment/tablet or smartphone.
  o Grant funding may not be used to purchase capital equipment/instruments in excess of $2,000.
  o Grant funding for laboratory supplies at the Cooper Medical School of Rowan University is limited to thirty (30) percent of the total grant application, and must be matched by funding from the Cooper Medical School of Rowan University (CMSRU).
  o Grant funding for travel, conference, and publication costs are restricted to presenting the results of the Cooper Foundation funded research project and will only be made available once the project has ended.
EVALUATION

The applications will be reviewed by an evaluation committee chaired by Dr. Generosa Grana and Christine Winn.

The proposals will be judged on:
- scientific merit
- research objectives are S.M.A.R.T.:
  - Specific: clearly defines what will be done.
  - Measurable: defined quantifiable metrics.
  - Attainable/Achievable: research is feasible, given available resources.
  - Relevant: has a direct and immediate impact on patient care.
  - Time-Bound: feasibility of completion in one year’s time.
- support from the department of the Principal Investigator
- potential for publication of research
- potential for research advancing the academic career of the Principal Investigator
- potential for research to lead to subsequent, successful extramural research grant award
- direct and immediate impact on patient care, quality, safety and performance improvement

THE COOPER FOUNDATION

The Executive Committee of The Cooper Foundation will review the evaluations, make the final selections seeking a diversity of proposals, and announce the award winners in June 2017. Funding will commence July 2017.

The recipients of the grants are expected to present the results of their research to the Cooper Foundation at the conclusion of their research. A two-page summary report must be presented to Susan Bass Levin, President and CEO of The Cooper Foundation within 30 days of the grant completion.

QUESTIONS

Questions may be directed to Generosa Grana, MD, and Director, MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper.

The deadline for submission for grant applications is Friday, February 24, 2017.
2017 Cancer Research Grants - Frequently Asked Questions

What are the eligibility requirements?
Applicants must be Cooper University Health Care employees. Residents and Fellows may not apply as the Principal Investigator. Nurses and allied health professionals interested in submitting a research proposal should do so under the are eligible to apply as investigators or co-investigators.

If I have an open Cooper Foundation grant, can I still apply?
No. Any applicant (Principal or Co-investigators) with a current open Cooper Foundation research grant is not eligible to apply for funding in 2017.

What will the evaluation of proposals be based upon?
The proposals will be judged on:

- scientific merit
- research objectives are S.M.A.R.T.:
  - Specific: clearly defines what will be done.
  - Measurable: defined quantifiable metrics.
  - Attainable/Achievable: research is feasible, given available resources.
  - Relevant: has a direct and immediate impact on patient care.
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- support from the department of the Principal Investigator
- potential for publication of research
- potential for research advancing the academic career of the Principal Investigator
- potential for research to lead to subsequent, successful extramural research grant award
- direct and immediate impact on patient care, quality, safety and performance improvement

Are there any funding restrictions?
Yes. The following funding restrictions apply:

- Grant funding may not be used for investigator/co-investigator/scientist salary for any existing, budgeted employee at Cooper University Health Care, but may be used to support coordinator/technician time that is not covered by an existing budgeted Cooper or Rowan salary.
- Grant funding may not be used to support employee salaries of non-Cooper institutions.
- Grant funding may not be used for lab assays/tests, in excess of $1,000 at outside institutions, including universities, hospitals, or laboratories.
- Grant funding may not be used for healthcare considered to be standard-of-care and covered by Medicare, Medicaid or other third-party payer.
- Grant funding for IT, necessary for the research project, is limited to $1,000, but may not be used to purchase any IT computer/laptop equipment/tablet or smartphone.
- Grant funding may not be used to purchase capital equipment/instruments in excess of $2,000.
- Grant funding for laboratory supplies to be used at the Cooper Medical School of Rowan University is limited to thirty (30) percent of the total grant application, and must be matched by documented funding from the Cooper Medical School of Rowan University (CMSRU).
- Grant funding for travel, conference, and publication costs are restricted to presenting the results of the Cooper Foundation funded research project and will only be made available once the project has been completed.

Preference will be given to clinical research and proposals that have an impact on patient care.

What is the submission deadline?
Completed applications, with necessary attachments, should be submitted via email to Frances Lee on or before February 24, 2017 at lee-frances@cooperhealth.edu.

When will award winners be announced?
The Executive Committee of The Cooper Foundation will review the evaluations, make the final selections seeking a diversity of proposals, and announce the award winners in June 2017. Funding will commence in July 2017.
2017 Cancer Research Grant Application

☐ Name

☐ Category of Grant - Check One
   ☐ Breast Cancer Research
   ☐ Gynecological Cancer Research
   ☐ Lung Cancer Research
   ☐ Hematologic Cancer Research
   ☐ Cancer Research

☐ Department/Division at Cooper University Health Care

☐ Education (Include year of degree)

☐ Year Medical Residency/ Fellowship/Training Completed

☐ Project Title (20 words maximum)

☐ Project Abstract (200 words maximum)

☐ Research Plan (500 words maximum): Include a statement of the project, hypothesis, specific objectives (S.M.A.R.T.), expected outcome and the significance of the project.

☐ Impact on Cooper Patients: Indicate how the project has an immediate and positive impact on Cooper patients. (500 words maximum)

☐ Research Timeline

☐ Bibliography

☐ Biosketch in NIH Format (2 page maximum)

☐ Other Current Financial Support

☐ Proposed Budget and Justification

☐ Documentation of Prior Grant Support: Indicate if either the Principal and/or Co-Investigator has received a research grant from The Cooper Foundation in the past. Provide a list of publications and any other grants received, based on the prior support with the 2017 grant application.

APPLICATIONS DUE FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2016

Please forward completed application with attachments as an electronic WORD or PDF File to Frances Lee at lee-frances@cooperhealth.edu.