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Tax ID: 52-1319756

2026 CCF Giant Food NextGen Award

The Children's Cancer Foundation, Inc. (CCF) is accepting proposals for the 2026 CCF Giant Food NextGen Award for advancing pediatric cancer treatments and outcomes. Please share this Request for Proposals with Young Investigators in your department as you deem appropriate.

About the NextGen Award

The Next Generation, or "NextGen," Grant has been created specifically for Young Investigators and is CCF's most prestigious grant award. With just one recipient selected each year, the NextGen Award is the only CCF grant that prioritizes both the research and the investigator's career.

NextGen grant recipients are typically investigators committed to pursuing a long-term career in Pediatric Oncology research, are at the end of their fellowship training or early in their research career, and are working in a hospital or research facility in the **Maryland/DC/Northern Virginia** area.

As this grant includes funding for career advancement, the application must include a statement from a Mentor in the proposed research field from the Sponsoring Institution that clearly indicates the support of, and involvement in, the Research Project.

There will be one (1) 2026 NextGen Grant with a maximum award amount of up to \$100,000. The Grant will be awarded for a period of one (1) year.

All NextGen applicants not selected to receive the Award will automatically be considered for a CCF Research Award. The maximum amount for CCF Research Awards is \$75,000.

The NextGen Award is generously funded by Giant Food.

Qualifications

A "Young Investigator" for the purpose of this Grant is defined as an individual who:

- holds the degree of M.D., Ph.D., D.O., MBBS, MSN-NP or any combination thereof;
- has completed a Pediatric Oncology Research Fellowship or equivalent training;
- is no more than 6 years post highest doctoral degree; and no more than 3 years post completion of Research Fellowship;
- does not hold an appointment higher than Assistant Professor.





At the time of application, candidates must be United States citizens or foreign nationals holding either a permanent resident (I-551 or Green Card) or a USCIS-issued I-551 temporary evidence stamp in one's passport. At the time of application and throughout the award, an applicant must be employed by a U.S. institution. CCF does not require the paperwork itself, just a letter from the institution noting that the applicant is in good standing.

Selection Process and Award Details

Grant Proposals are reviewed by an independent Selection Committee comprised of senior researchers from outside the Baltimore-Washington region. All submitted proposals will receive a score and at least one comprehensive critique. The Selection Committee reserves the right to determine applicant's eligibility based on the information and justifications included in the application materials.

Applicants must specify that a minimum of 50% of the Applicant's time is allocated to the CCF-funded research. Applicants MAY be involved in other research grants, but there must be clear documentation of mechanisms to avoid scientific and/or budgetary overlap.

Notification of the grant award will be made by **August 2026**, and a formal agreement will follow. A check presentation to the NextGen, Research and Program Grant Awardees will be held during the CCF Gala on November 7, 2026.

A recipient of the CCF Giant Food NextGen Award is not eligible to apply for this grant again. However, the NextGen Awardee is welcome to apply for CCF Research Award in future years. All NextGen applicants not selected to receive the Award will automatically be considered for a 2026 CCF Research Award. The maximum amount for CCF Research Awards is \$75,000.

2026 CCF Grant Submission Process

Please ensure that the following elements are included with the proposal:

- Cover Sheet (enclosed), completely filled out, including Department Chair signature (can be electronic signature or printed, signed, and scanned),
- All appropriate Biosketches,
- All current and pending grants, particularly those with overlapping scientific aims, are disclosed,
- Young Investigator Profile, including the reason for pursuing a career in Pediatric Oncology Research,
- Letter of support from the Young Investigator's Mentor, and
- Letter of support from the hospital/university where the Research Project is being conducted. An explicit level of institutional support showing independence includes start-up package information about lab space, salary, and supplies, if appropriate.



Submit the proposal as a SINGLE PDF file (no larger than 10MB) to the CCF office through **WeTransfer** (<https://childrenscancerfoundation.wetransfer.com/>), using the following naming convention:

“(P.I. Last Name) 2026 CCF NextGen Grant Application.pdf”

Proposals are due no later than 11:59 PM (EST) on **May 3, 2026**.

Award Obligations

The expectations for receipt of a NextGen Research Award are:

- Submission of a 2-3 page report within 90 days of grant end date.
- Attendance at the CCF Gala on November 7, 2026 at Martin’s Crosswinds in Greenbelt, MD to receive Award.
- Participation in the 11th Annual CCF Research Symposium in June 2027 through a talk or poster
- Citation of CCF support in ALL relevant published material and notification to CCF of publications. Failure of citation may impact future funding eligibility.

Children with cancer need the best and brightest to conquer this terrible disease. The CCF Giant Food NextGen Award recipient, their mentor, and their institution will be recognized by CCF in many different ways-- in 2026 and into the future.

Sincerely,

Two handwritten signatures are shown side-by-side. The signature on the left is for Jerry Chadwick, and the signature on the right is for Tasha Museles.

Jerry Chadwick
Chairman

Tasha Museles
President

Attached: CCF Giant NextGen Grant Proposal Specifications and Grant Proposal Cover Sheet



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2026 CCF Giant Food NextGen Grant Proposal Specifications

The CCF Giant Food NextGen Grant Proposal must include the following:

1. **Cover Sheet** (attached to this letter)
 2. **Narrative** (No more than SIX (6) pages)
 - a. Introduction
 - b. Specific Aims
 - c. Background and Significance
 - d. Preliminary Data
 - e. Experimental Design/Methods
 3. **References Cited** (not included in 6-page limit; no limit on number of references or page length)
 4. **Budget** (up to \$100,000 for ONE (1) year)
- Direct costs may include salary, research supplies and equipment. Equipment costs must be less than \$5,000 and not be administrative in nature. Grant funding MAY NOT be used for indirect costs such as travel associated with the research, administrative supplies, advertising/PR, student or university memberships and parking or other facility-related fees.
5. **Lay Summary** (~1/2 page recommended)

6. Applicant's Statement of Long-term Career Goals (~1 page)

Applicant should include reasons for commitment to pediatric oncology research, plans for career development and mentoring activities, and long-term career goals.

7. Mentor's Letter of Commitment

The letter, signed by the identified primary mentor, should include the mentor's level of involvement and time commitment to the Research Project, the acknowledgment that the mentor has reviewed and approved the Grant Application, and the mentoring strategies to be used when working with the Young Investigator. It must also be clearly stated that the applicant will be primarily responsible for the execution of the research project.





8. **Support Letter from Sponsoring Institution** (Hospital or University Department Chair, Division Director, or Dean, or equivalent)
- Acknowledges that adequate space will be provided as well as access to the available resources of the hospital/university or research institution.
 - If the sponsoring institution will be providing matching or other funding, include the type and amount of that support.
 - Indicate explicit level of institutional support showing independence, including start-up package information: lab space, salary, and supplies, if appropriate.
 - A signature from an institutional representative on the cover page of the Grant Application accepts the provision that the award will not cover any indirect costs.

9. **NIH Biosketch**

Please include NIH Biosketch of Applicant, Mentor, and any other key personnel involved in this Project. The current NIH biosketch format is preferred: [OMB No. 0925-0001 and 0925-0002 (Rev. 10/2021 Approved Through 01/31/2026)], and instructions can be found here: <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm>.

Format

The Narrative of the proposal (Section 2, a-e) should NOT EXCEED SIX (6) PAGES and should use NIH standard: font 11 points or larger, no fewer than 6 lines per inch, and margins no smaller than 0.5" (top, bottom, left and right.) It is recommended to use Arial, Georgia, Helvetica or Palatino Linotype.

The Grant Proposal must contain the signature of the Department Chair (can be electronic signature or printed, signed, and scanned.)

Grants failing to meet these standard format and length requirements will NOT be reviewed.

Submission

Submit the proposal as a SINGLE PDF file (no larger than 10MB) to the CCF office through **WeTransfer** (<https://childrenscancerfoundation.wetransfer.com/>), using the following naming convention:

"(P.I. Last Name) 2026 CCF NextGen Grant Application.pdf"

Proposals are due no later than 11:59 PM (EST) on **May 3, 2026**.

Please be sure to review the **Frequently Asked Questions** on the CCF website's application page: <https://childrenscancerfoundation.org/what-we-do/apply-for-a-grant/> Questions may also be directed to Rose Ann Verrilli at info@childrenscancerfoundation.org or 443-546-4479.

Awardees will be notified by **August 2026** and formal agreements will follow.



The Children's Cancer Foundation, Inc.
2026 Research/NextGen Grant Application

Date Rec'd	#
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Title of
Project:

Principal Investigator Name/Title:

Other staff name /title: Co-P.I.?

Institution:

Type(s) of cancer being addressed:

Department:

Dep't Head:

Street
Address:

I have previously received **CCF** research
funding for my work: Yes No

City/St/Zip:

Please state the year(s) you received funding:
informational purposes only - does not impact eligibility or ranking

Phone:

Email:

Administration Official Name/Title to be notified if awarded:

I have included information in my Biosketch on
current sources of funding, and applications
pending for sources of funding for same or
similar grants as this Grant Proposal.

Street
Address:

Yes No N/A

City/St/Zip:

Amount Requested:

Phone:

Email:

Dates of Project:

EIN #:

I attest that all Human Subjects Research protocols have been or will be approved by our IRB, and that all Animal Subjects Research has been or will be approved by the Animal Care and Use Committee.

I certify that everything in this cover sheet and included in the Grant Application is true to the best of my knowledge. I have read and recommend this Grant Proposal for CCF's consideration.

Signature of Principal Investigator(s)

Signature of Department Head