

## Leukaemia UK Project Grant guidelines 2026

### Scope

Applications must focus on leukaemia and/or precursor conditions such as myelodysplastic syndrome (MDS), myeloproliferative neoplasms (MPNs) and Clonal Haematopoiesis of Indeterminate Potential (CHIP). Of note, applications related to precursor conditions must focus on the progression of such conditions to leukaemia in order to inform approaches or interventions to prevent leukaemia from developing from that precursor condition. Leukaemia UK will **not** fund new applications on lymphoma or myeloma.

Leukaemia UK will fund only novel, clearly defined projects, and will not financially supplement existing research projects.

Successful applications must be able to demonstrate:

- An innovative research proposal
- Scientific excellence and potential for translation and future patient impact. Directly translational projects, or projects where there is a clear line of sight to (subsequent) translation are particularly encouraged

### Eligibility

Relevant, high quality and feasible applications are invited from established clinician scientists and/or research scientists, who are group leaders or at group leader level, with an outstanding research track record. For those with a time-limited post, the duration of this post must encompass the proposed timescale of the research proposal.

Joint applications can be submitted, by a Lead applicant and a Co-applicant, subject to the following criteria:

**Lead applicant:** The 'Principal Investigator' for the proposed research. They must be a senior clinician scientist / senior research scientist, a group leader, or at group leader level. The Lead applicant will have overall responsibility for the project and must be affiliated with a UK research centre, which will be deemed as the 'Host Institution' for contractual purposes.

**Co-applicant:** An investigator who will contribute to the research project but need not be affiliated with the 'Host Institution'. The Co-applicant should be an established clinician scientist or research scientist but need not be a group leader or at group leader level.

**Host Institution:** A non-profit research centre of excellence within the UK that will provide the facilities for carrying out the proposed research project.

### Grants

Grants are for up to £250,000, to span a maximum duration of three years. The grant may be used for salary and direct costs of the project, but it will not support equipment costs or indirect costs such as institutional overheads. Consumables costs are capped at £15,000 per year. Funding should support a post-doctoral scientist or clinician scientist, research assistant or research technician who can be either named on the application or recruited. Funding for PhD students is not permitted.

The application should provide financial information as to how the award will be utilised, corroborated by the relevant finance department.

## Application process

Applications must be submitted via the new [Leukaemia UK Funding Management System](#), and will be subject to review by members of Leukaemia UK's Expert Review Panel, independent external expert reviewers, and people with experience of leukaemia. The application review process is summarised below; full details can be found on [the Leukaemia UK website](#).

**Initial Assessment:** Applications may be rejected following an initial assessment after which the applicant will be informed accordingly.

- Applicants must comply with the eligibility criteria.
- The proposed research project must be within the 'scope' described above. Applications must be properly completed and signed, and page and word limits must be strictly followed.

**Expert review:** Applications that pass the initial assessment will be sent for expert review to be:

- Assessed and scored by at least five members of Leukaemia UK's Project Grant Expert Review Panel
- Assessed and scored by at least two expert reviewers who are independent of our Panel
- Assessed by lay, patient member(s) of Leukaemia UK's Patient Experience Advisory Panel who provide input and opinion but who do not score applications.

**Application feedback:** Feedback may be available at the discretion of Leukaemia UK, but this cannot be guaranteed.

## Closing date

The closing date for receipt of applications is **midday on 08 July 2026**. All applicants will be informed of the outcome of their application by **22 December 2026**.

**Please contact [research@leukaemiauk.org.uk](mailto:research@leukaemiauk.org.uk) with any questions.**

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