Pfizer Announces a Research Grant RFP

*2022/2023 Global COVID-19 ASPIRE**

Competitive Grant Program- using External Review Panel

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 Request for Proposal (RFP) that provides detail regarding a specific area of interest, sets timelines for review and approval, and uses an external review panel (ERP) to make final grant decisions. Organizations are invited to submit an application addressing the specific gaps in research, practice or care as outlined in the specific RFP.

For all Investigator Sponsored Research (ISRs) and general research grants, the grant requester (and ultimately the grantee) is responsible for the design, implementation, sponsorship, and conduct of the independent initiative supported by the grant, including compliance with any regulatory requirements. Pfizer must not be involved in any aspect of study protocol or project development, nor the conduct or monitoring of the research program. An ISR grant request cannot be submitted for a study that has already commenced and was not originally supported by Pfizer.

*ASPIRE: Advancing Science and Patient care through Innovative Research and Education

Competitive Grant Program Eligibility

Geographic Scope	Global
Applicant Eligibility Criteria	To be eligible: • Only organizations are eligible to receive grants, not individuals or medical practice groups. • The applicant (PI) must have a medical or postdoctoral degree (MD, PhD, or equivalent), an advanced nursing degree (BSN with a MS/PhD), or a degree in Pharmacy, Physiotherapy, Psychology or Social Work. • Applicant must be affiliated with a host institution

Requirements

Date RFP Issued	October 20, 2022
Clinical Area	Anti-Infectives – COVID-19
Area of Interest Focus	The following areas of research will be considered in-scope: a. Societal impact of COVID-19 • Understand the psychological impact, impact on working behaviors, social determinants of health, child development, education, access to healthcare, healthcare resource utilization, direct and indirect costs and impact on QoL b. Key populations at high-risk of severe COVID-19 outcomes • Further understand impact of COVID-19 in high-risk population groups, especially in immunocompromised and elderly patients and in patients with multiple co-morbidities. c. Long term outcomes of COVID-19 • Studies assessing long-term or secondary consequences of the disease, including impact of reinfection and effects of different variants (includes but not exclusive to Long COVID/ post-acute sequelae of SARS CoV-2 infection (PASC)) d. Treatment of mild-to-moderate COVID-19 in vaccinated and or

	seropositive patients with nirmatrelvir/ritonavir e. Impact of treatment for mild-to-moderate COVID-19 with nirmatrelvir/ritonavir on viral load, infectivity and/or transmission and/or viral rebound and/or symptom resolution f. Regarding use of nirmatrelvir/ritonavir and showing outcomes: prescription behaviors (reason for non-prescription), patient refusal reasons, access and adherence to treatment Applicants are encouraged to collaborate across departments where appropriate (e.g. education, social services, health etc) and there will be interest in seeing multi-country applications to allow for comparisons between countries on certain areas of interest. Requests for drug will be accepted. Commercial supply will be available only if approved in your country, not placebo matched drug.
Expected Approximate Monetary Range of Grant Applications	• Individual projects requesting up to $200,000 USD will be considered. Pfizer anticipates awarding up to 5 grants • Requests for drug will be accepted. Commercial supply will be available only if approved in your country, not placebo matched drug. • The amount of the grant Pfizer will be prepared to fund for any project will depend upon the external review panel's (ERP) evaluation of the proposal and costs involved, and will be stated clearly in the approval notification
Key Dates	• RFP release date: October 20, 2022 • Letter of Intent (LOI) due date: November 17, 2022 [Please note the deadline is 23:59 Eastern Time (New York, GMT -5).] • Review of LOIs by ERP: December 2022 – January 2023 • Anticipated LOI Notification Date: February 1, 2023 • Full Proposal Deadline: *March 31, 2023 *Only accepted LOIs will be invited to submit full proposals [Please note the deadline is 23:59 Eastern Time (New York, GMT -5).] • Review of Full Proposals by ERP: April – May 2023 • Anticipated Full Proposal Notification Date: May 2023 • Grants will be distributed following a fully executed agreement and submission of Final Protocol, documentation of IRB/IEC approval, regulatory approval (if applicable), exemption or waiver.
How to Apply	• Please go to www.cybergrants.com/pfizer/loi and sign in. First-time users should click "Create your password". *[Note: there are individual portals for each grant application type (e.g., knowledge, LOI, research full*

	proposal, and QI full proposal). Please be sure to use the URL above.] • Click the "Start a New LOI" button. Requirements for submission: • For the question "Competitive Grant?" select Yes • Select the following Competitive Grant Program Name: **2022 HBU G: COVID-19 ASPIRE** • Complete all required sections of the online application. See Appendix A for additional details • If you encounter any technical difficulties with the website, please click the "Technical Questions" link at the bottom of the page
Questions:	• If you have questions regarding this RFP, please direct them in writing to the Grant Officer, Derek Warnick (derek.warnick@pfizer.com), with the subject line "2022/2023 Global COVID-19 ASPIRE." • Please click here to view Frequently Asked Questions regarding the Competitive Grant Program
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.
Review and Approval Process	• Grant requests received in response to a specific RFP are reviewed by an external review panel (ERP) to make final grant decisions. • The panels are comprised of professionals from the external medical community with advanced degrees and expertise in particular clinical areas, or specific needs of a geographic region/learner group, or expertise in research, continuing professional development or quality improvement
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:

Appendix A

Letter of Intent Requirements

The Letter of Intent (LOI) will be accepted via the online application. When answering the LOI questions in the application please keep the following in mind:

Goals and Objectives	• Provide the main goal of the study and the study population (if applicable). Provide a detailed definition that is directly linked to the primary objective
Assessment of Need for the Project	• This should reflect your study rationale. Provide a brief description of the medical/scientific question and the rationale of how this trial or study addresses the question
Target Audience	• Describe the primary audience(s) targeted for this project. For Investigator Sponsored Clinical Trials, please specify the age, gender and other demographic information for trial population • Also 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 concisely the research design and methods for achieving the stated goals. For a clinical interventional study, include inclusion/exclusion criteria, treatment plan and statistical plan
Innovation	• Explain what measures you have taken to assure that this project idea is original and does not duplicate other projects. Describe how this project builds upon existing work, pilot projects, or ongoing projects developed either by your institution or other institutions related to this project
Evaluation and Outcomes	• Specify type and frequency of safety, efficacy, and/or outcome measures. Also indicate the method(s) used to assess measures • Provide a publication plan describing intended submission of abstracts to (a) congress(es) or intended submission of (a) publication(s) to peer-reviewed journals.
Anticipated Project Timeline	• Provide an anticipated timeline for your project including project start/end dates o An ISR grant request cannot be submitted for a study that has already commenced and was not originally supported by Pfizer.
Additional Information	• If there is any additional information you feel Pfizer should be aware of concerning the importance of this project, please summarize here • Early-career applicants: Letter(s) of support from mentor(s) and collaborators describing how the award will advance the applicant's

	career.
Organization Detail	• This information is used to assess the capability of the organizational resources available to perform the effort proposed. Identify the facilities to be used [laboratory, animal, clinical and "other"]. If appropriate, indicate their capacities, pertinent capabilities, relative proximity, and extent of availability to the project
Budget Detail	• A total amount requested is the only information needed for the LOI stage. Full Budget is not required. This amount can be adjusted at the Full Proposal stage as applicable. • **The budget amount requested must be in U.S. dollars (USD).** • While estimating your budget please keep the following items in mind: o General organizational running costs such as insurances, heating, lighting, rent, building maintenance may be included. Pfizer does not provide funding for capital purchases (infrastructure expenses such as equipment, purchases of software or software licenses, technology or bricks and mortar). Equipment hire/leasing is acceptable and may be included in project budget. o The inclusion of these costs cannot cause the amount requested to exceed the budget limit set forth in the RFP. o It should be noted that grants awarded through GMG cannot be used to purchase Pfizer therapeutic agents (prescription or non-prescription). • Pfizer maintains a company-wide, maximum allowed overhead rate of 28% for independent studies and projects. Please click here for details.