



Children with Cancer UK

Cost Guidance for 2026 Research Grant Call

As is standard for medical research charities, Children with Cancer UK will only pay Directly Incurred Costs (DIC). These costs are explicitly identifiable as arising from the conduct of a project and may include: salaries, research consumables, equipment (where absolutely necessary and agreed before commencement of award), dissemination activities (including travel to collaborator meetings and conferences), publication costs etc.

Infrastructure costs such as heating, lighting or routine office supplies will not be funded.

Salary	
Allowed Costs	Disallowed Costs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Researchers on fixed term contracts (part- or full-time) working specifically on the funded project. This may include but is not limited to the salary of fellows, research assistants, data managers, technicians and nurses. – Salaries should be calculated from the start date of the project based on national pay scales or recognised local pay models. When submitting your application, please include the salary basic rate (with grade and spine point), NI, superannuation and London Allowance (if applicable). <p>Costs may include</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Salary costs for Principal and for Co-Investigators – Exceptions may be made for early career co-investigators; applicants should justify this in their proposal – Recruitment costs (including advertising, interviewees travel expenses, CRB checks) – Lab bench fees – UK apprenticeship levy – Redundancy, childcare costs – Secretarial support, librarians, general lab support staff – The number and seniority of any staff to be employed on the project must be carefully considered and clearly justified within the application. Salary costs that appear to

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - basic salary (on the appropriate national pay scale). Salaries should allow for normal increments during the term of the grant. - employer's contributions, including National Insurance and pension scheme costs. Pension contributions should be no higher than the rate used by the University Superannuation Scheme (USS) or NHS pension scheme - Locally recognised allowances e.g. London Allowance 	<p>be excessive will be queried and may be reduced, and any costs considered inappropriate will be removed.</p>
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Consumables	
Allowed Costs	Disallowed Costs
<p>Consumables and materials directly attributable to the project and where fully justified. A non-exhaustive list of example acceptable costs includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Laboratory chemicals and materials (e.g. reagents, isotopes, peptides, enzymes, antibodies, gases, proteins, cell/tissue/bacterial culture, plastic ware and glassware) - Gloves, lab coats, goggles, protective shoes - Costs to support the authentication of cell lines, for example, screening for contamination by mycoplasma, STR profiling for human cell lines or DNA fingerprinting for non-human cells. We will also cover purchase of cell lines from cell banks such as ATCC - Animal costs may include animal purchase and transportation costs, maintenance (including food). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Home Office Project Licences - Animal handling training costs and facility licence costs

Equipment

Allowed Costs	Disallowed Costs
<p>Equipment essential and directly attributable to the project. Costs must be acceptable and proportionate in the context of the total amount funded. A non-exhaustive list of example acceptable costs includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Costs may include purchase, delivery, and installation of scientific equipment if that equipment is specific to the research covered by the grant - Software license(s) (if project specific) - Dissemination costs per project. This should include any costs associated with project dissemination, including: publication charges, poster printing, media production. - Access charges for shared equipment / facilities - Where justified, personal computing costs for named individuals engaged to work specifically on the grant (capped at £1,500 per person over the duration of the grant) - Maintenance charges applicable for the duration of the award - Use of research facilities at the host organisation if they're essential to the project - Archiving, repository fees, data storage costs and data management services. Sharing and management costs 	<p>Any equipment awarded is donated to the Research Institution and is provided solely for the benefit of the research grant. All equipment will remain the property of Children with Cancer UK and should not be used for other projects without written permission from Children with Cancer UK.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Standard per unit IT sharing charges - Open access database publication fees - Basic/general laboratory equipment including PCs for researchers (unless specifically required for the project – this must be included in the ‘justification for support’ section) - Generic office software - VAT, maintenance, service costs related to the purchase of the equipment - Computer accessories including drives, cases, chargers, batteries

<p>must be reasonable and proportionate in the context of the overall grant.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Quotes must be obtained for items of equipment over £10,000 and must be included within your application. 	
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Travel and Subsistence	
Allowed Costs	Disallowed Costs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Costs to cover economy travel, subsistence, and registration fees to present research at or attend scientific meetings relevant to the grant. - Covers costs for lead applicants, staff employed on the grant or others contributing to the research to attend research meetings, visit collaborators and facilities, collect samples and undertake field work. Advance economy fares should always be purchased to minimise costs. - Costs related to training on specific skills relevant to the research project, for example techniques required specifically to carry out the proposed research. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - First class travel - Conference and meeting attendance where not related to the funded proposal - Non science specific training, such as personal development

- Other	
- Allowed Costs	- Disallowed Costs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Poster costs: producing, displaying and presenting posters at conferences. - Open access costs (article processing charges or APCs) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Full economic costs, directly allocated and indirect costs – such costs may be eligible under the Charity Research Support Fund

- Patient involvement costs including recruitment (excluding participation fees), reasonable travel and refreshment costs for volunteers. Costs can also include materials, including printing and publishing and venue hire costs where focus groups or advisory meetings are to be held
- Appropriate and justified fees and costs associated with patient sample collection, processing and shipping
- Archiving, repository fees, data storage costs and data management services. Data management and sharing costs must be reasonable and proportionate in the context of the overall grant. Data sharing costs do not include open access publication fees.
- Direct Costs related to the filing, prosecution and maintenance of the Intellectual Property, as well as Technology Transfer fees will be covered in accordance with the charity's Intellectual Property policies.

- General office expenses not specific to the project such as photocopying, printing, postage etc. An exception may be made for admin assistance and printing costs if the project is epidemiological/questionnaire based
- Incentives to patients associated with sample collection
- General postage costs and office software
- Journal subscriptions, professional membership fees
- Health and safety
- Furniture, telephone handsets and conference call hubs
- Shared catering
- Insurance
- Gifts
- Stationary
- Utilities
- Printing and photocopying
- Insufficiently evidenced costs
- Building and premises maintenance such as cleaning, waste disposal
- Salary recovery costs for those employees funded full time by the host organisation