

Priority Program 'Visionary Novel Concepts in Cancer Research'

Applicants' Guidelines for Letter of Intent / Project Outlines

Introduction

Deutsche Krebshilfe (German Cancer Aid) is launching a new call to support visionary research projects that bear the potential to fundamentally challenge and change the way we currently prevent, diagnose and treat cancer. By opening radically novel research directions and by conquering seemingly cancer-unrelated scientific territories and technological advances, German Cancer Aid would like to promote entirely new ways of thinking about cancer and anti-cancer strategies, i.e. 'out-of-the box' and different from 'mainstream research'.

Projects eligible for this program are not suitable for regular funding programs of German Cancer Aid or other funding agencies due to the early stage and more risky and unorthodox nature of the project proposal.

General Comments / Procedure

We wish to point out that applications are not accepted from members of profit-making organizations or from persons not permitted to publish results in a generally accessible form.

The application and evaluation procedure takes place in three steps:

- Applicants must inform German Cancer Aid by August 27, 2018, 1:00 pm that they plan to submit an application (Letter of Intent).
- Project outlines must be submitted no later than September 27, 2018, 1:00 pm.
- If the preliminary evaluation is favorable, full applications must be submitted by March 15, 2019, 1:00 pm.

The project outlines and applications submitted will be evaluated by an international committee of experts. For this reason, all project outlines and applications must be in English. Summary and title have to be submitted also in German. Please use the section numbers as below, with the corresponding titles. The requirements for 'Letter of Intent' and project outlines are described in detail in the following sections. Please do not exceed page limits.

Please submit all required printed documents by post/courier (not by e-mail or fax) to the offices of German Cancer Aid. Please note: only the date and time of receipt in our offices (receipt stamp) is valid and not the postmark.

Deutsche Krebshilfe
Abteilung Förderung
Buschstraße 32
D-53113 Bonn

Within two weeks of receipt of the project outlines by the offices of German Cancer Aid, the corresponding applicant will receive a written confirmation of receipt. If you fail to receive a confirmation of receipt, please send an email to the Funding Department of German Cancer Aid (foerderung@krebshilfe.de), giving the full project title and your telephone number.

If you have any questions, please contact:

- Dr. Christine Paprotka, 0228 / 79990-218, e-mail: paprotka@krebshilfe.de
- Kim Tiede, 0228 / 79990-217, e-mail: tiede@krebshilfe.de
- Dr. Simone Billig, 0228 / 72990-219, e-mail: billig@krebshilfe.de

A. Guideline for Letter of Intent

1. Applicant / s

The following information is needed for all applicants. Please give the name of the principal investigator, who is responsible for all co-applicants and for correspondence with German Cancer Aid first:

- First name, surname, degree
- Full name of the institution at which the applicant works (including address, telephone number and e-mail address)
- List of all participating research groups including the names of co-applicants and their institutions

2. Project title (not more than 160 characters, including commas and spaces)

3. Short description

Please describe your project in three to five sentences. Name the entity to be examined and very briefly describe your intended methodology.

Please note: Interdisciplinarity is not mandatory, but desirable to connect with experts from other scientific areas. The letter of intent must be signed by the principal investigator.

B. Guideline for Project Outlines

Please submit six copies of the project outline (one original and five copies) to the office of German Cancer Aid. Also send a PDF-Document of your project outline by e-mail (foerderung@krebshilfe.de).

To simplify the evaluation process for the reviewers:

- Start the application with a table of contents and include the page numbers.
- Address all points mentioned in the guidelines, repeating all section numbers / letters, as well as the complete section titles.
- Use 'Verdana', font size 10 and 1.2 line spacing.

For consistency in the review process, only use the following terms for participating persons:

- Lead applicant
- Co-applicant*
- Co-operation partner** (Co-operation partners do not receive any funding.)

* Co-applicants (as well as the lead applicant) cannot be employed in a foreign country, as no funding from German Cancer Aid is to be used outside of Germany. Companies are not allowed as co-applicants. If companies offer material, we need a MTA (Material Transfer Agreement) for the full proposal. In the MTA it must clearly state that all rights to the results / findings of the project / trial belong to the applicant. See Appendix 2 of this guideline for more information about MTAs.

**Persons from foreign countries can participate only as co-operation partners.

The project outline must be signed by all applicants. You may use electronic signatures.

Please note:

German Cancer Aid reserves the right to refuse and send back incomplete applications or applications, which have not been prepared according to the guidelines. Therefore, we urge you to address all points in the guidelines. Please adhere strictly to the given page limits for each section.

Please use the section numbers as below, with the corresponding titles.

1. General Information

1.1 Project title (not more than 160 characters)

1.2 Applicant / s

For each applicant:

- First name, surname, degree
- Full name of the institution at which the applicant works
- Postal address
- Telephone and e-mail address

1.3 Requested Funding Period (in months)

1.4 Short summary and description of the planned project (not more than 0.5 page)

Description of the overall concept and the main focal points of the project.

1.5 Hypothesis and visionary aspects of the proposed project (not more than 0.5 page)

Please explain in what way the conceptual idea behind the approach is truly novel and innovative.

1.6 Strategy / Work Program (not more than two pages)

What kind of cancer-related strategy are you following (e.g. from molecules to subcellular machineries to cells to environment to organ to system-wide approaches)?

Please explicitly explain why and how the novel direction proposed is likely to succeed.

2. Financial plan

Tabular overview of the estimated total amount of funding for the complete funding period. Please note that all contracts / agreements with third parties (for sequencing, analyses etc.) go under the rubric 'Other' and not 'Consumables'. Please use the table on the following page as model (Appendix 1).

Note: The project outline should not exceed three pages max.

3. Appendix

CVs and publication lists for all applicants

For each applicant:

- Current tabular CV (not more than 1.5 pages)
- Publication list of the five most important publications from the last five years

Additional Comments

- No legal claim for funding can be derived from the submission of an application. The applicant has no claim that a submitted application should be returned.
- German Cancer Aid retains the right to check for duplicate funding by providing other external funding sources with the applicant's information (name, theme and objective of the project).
- The acceptance of a research grant obligates the funding recipient to comply with the rules of Good Scientific Practice. The rules of Good Scientific Practice are described in detail in the user guidelines for research funds from the German Research Foundation (DFG preprints 2.01 and 2.02). In the event of scientific misbehavior, sanctions can be concluded. In particular, scientific misbehavior is present when false information is provided deliberately or with gross negligence in a context of considerable scientific importance, or the intellectual property of others is violated or their research work is impaired. The circumstances of the individual case are always decisive.

APPENDIX 2: Co-operation with Industries

Conditions, which must be fulfilled, when the execution of the research project is essentially dependent on a substance or service produced and provided by a company:

1. Studies, which are the focus and interest of the industry (e.g. pharmaceutical industry, manufacturers of medical products), are excluded from funding.
2. It must be clearly shown, that the project could not be executed without the support of German Cancer Aid (sole financing by company not possible).
3. During the entire study period, the study management must be prepared to reveal the complete project financing to German Cancer Aid at any time (transparency).
4. Industrial partners are not allowed to influence the design or execution (no contract research) of the project. Nor are they to influence the evaluation and publication of the study results (publication rights).
5. Written agreements with industrial partners must be attached to application.
6. The project management must have data sovereignty.

APPENDIX 3: Average Personal Wages of German Cancer Aid

TV-L	Euros p.a.	Ärzte	Euros p.a.	Euros p.a.
E 1	30,500 €			
E 2	37,400 €			
E 3	39,900 €	Ä 1 / 1	74,800 €	
E 4	41,400 €	Ä 1 / 2	79,000 €	
E 5	43,200 €	Ä 1 / 3	82,100 €	
E 6	44,900 €	Ä 1 / 4	87,300 €	
E 7	46,200 €	Ä 1 / 5	93,600 €	
E 8	48,600 €	Ä 1 / 6	96,000 €	
E 9	53,300 €	Ä 1 / 1 - 6		85,500 €
E 10	59,900 €	Ä 2 / 1	98,700 €	
E 11	63,000 €	Ä 2 / 2	107,000 €	
E 12	68,000 €	Ä 2 / 3	114,300 €	
Doktorand/in	46,605 €	Ä 2 / 4	118,400 €	
E 13, 65 %	46,605 €	Ä 2 / 5	120,600 €	
E 13	71,700 €	Ä 2 / 6	123,700 €	
E 14	77,300 €	Ä 2 / 1 - 4		113,800 €
E 15	85,000 €	Ä 3 / 1	123,700 €	
E 15Ü	106,300 €	Ä 3 / 2	130,900 €	
Professuren		Ä 3 / 3	141,300 €	
W2	97,200 €	Ä 3 / 1 - 3		132,000 €
W3	107,300 €	Ä 4 / 1	145,500 €	
		Ä 4 / 2	155,900 €	
		Ä 4 / 3	164,100 €	
		Ä 4 / 1 - 3		155,200 €
		Hilfskräfte		
		Stud. HK	12,00 € / Stunde	
		Wiss. HK	18,00 € / Stunde	