



**ALLIANCE FOR CANCER GENE THERAPY, INC. ("ACGT")
REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS
2012 Investigator's Award in Clinical Translation of Gene Therapy for Pancreatic Cancer
RESEARCH GRANT**

**Abstract Deadline: March 7, 2012 at 4pm E.S.T.
Invitation to Submit Application: March 23, 2012
Deadline for Completed Application: April 26, 2012 at 4 pm E.S.T.**

February 13, 2012

PROGRAM GUIDELINES:

PURPOSE

Alliance for Cancer Gene Therapy, Inc. (ACGT) funds research aimed at furthering the development of gene therapy approaches to the treatment of cancer. To this end, ACGT offers awards in Clinical Translation of Gene Therapy for Cancer, to qualified scientists at the assistant professor level and above. This award is specifically for those conducting Gene Therapy Research for Pancreatic Cancer and is entitled, **2012 Investigator's Award in Clinical Translation of Gene Therapy for Pancreatic Cancer**.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Candidates for the **2012 Investigator's Award in Clinical Translation of Gene Therapy for Pancreatic Cancer Award** must hold an MD, PhD, or equivalent degree and be a tenure-track or tenured faculty. The investigator must be conducting original research as an independent faculty member. ACGT has no citizenship restrictions, and research supported by the award must be conducted at medical schools and research centers in the United States or Canada.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The award provides up to a maximum of \$500,000 distributed over 2-3 years, inclusive of a maximum of 10% indirect costs. The funds may be used at the recipient's discretion for salary, technical assistance, supplies, animals or capital equipment, but may not support staff not directly related to the project, e.g. secretaries or administrative assistants. Purchase of equipment is not allowed in the final year of the grant. Continued support is contingent upon submission and approval of a non-competitive renewal application each year.

ACGT RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

A number of gene therapy approaches for cancer have been shown to be efficacious and safe in laboratory animal models in the recent years, but their translation into clinical trials has been hindered by a lack of resources. Recognizing this critical need, ACGT is accepting grant applications to produce and release-testing of the clinical trial agents under cGMP, conduct the necessary pre-clinical pharmacological and toxicological studies in appropriate animal models, and/or conducting the clinical translational trials in

*patients in support of an Investigative New Drug (IND) application to the FDA. While the unambiguous demonstration of **PRECLINICAL TREATMENT EFFICACY DATA IN TUMOR-BEARING ANIMALS** in cancer treatment by gene therapy is a pre-requisite, entering into the clinical trial during the funding period is also a requirement. Applications that do not include this specific aim will be deemed unresponsive to the RFA.*

Application Procedures

There is a two-step process for submitting applications electronically via proposalCENTRAL, an outside service provider hosted by Altum. Access is available using links provided in the ACGT website, www.acgtfoundation.org or directly through the proposalCENTRAL website at: <https://proposalcentral.altum.com/Login.asp>.

A candidate must submit the following by the required deadlines:

- Step 1: A pre-application (called Letter of Intent [LOI] on proposalCENTRAL site) that includes an abstract of the proposed research and an updated biographical sketch. The LOI/abstracts will then be reviewed by the Scientific Council and selected ones will be invited to submit full applications
- Step II: For those invited to submit, a completed electronic application, including templates and a Signed Administrative and Signature Page(s) scanned and attached to the front of the completed application template

NOTE: A paper copy submission is NOT required.

INSTRUCTIONS

Instructions for completing the application are available at the ACGT website under Research Grants and also through the proposalCENTRAL website.

CUSTOMER SUPPORT

If you have any questions regarding the online application, please contact proposalCENTRAL Customer Support by e-mail at pcsupport@altum.com
Telephone: 1-800-875-2562 x 227 (toll-free) or (301) 916-4557 x 227.

REVIEW PROCESS

Each applicant's abstract of the proposed project is reviewed blindly by members of the ACGT Scientific Advisory Council. All applicants will be evaluated on the basis of scientific and technical merit and a corresponding fit with the research objectives of the grant. These scientists whose projects are selected are then invited to submit a full application for consideration. These applications are then peer reviewed by two experts in the field, with the highest scores determining the pool of finalists from which the Scientific Advisory Council will select for recommendation to the Board of Directors. The announcement of the recipient is scheduled for July, 2012.

INSTITUTIONAL POLICY

Grant funds will be disbursed following execution of a grant agreement between the grantee institution and ACGT. The following items will be covered in ACGT grant agreements with grantee institutions:

- Overhead of up to 10% is included in the awarded amount. The 2012 INVESTIGATOR'S AWARD IN CLINICAL TRANSLATION OF GENE THERAPY FOR PANCREATIC CANCER Award will support research projects with two to three year time frames for completion, with annual non-competitive renewal applications.
- Grantees and their affiliated institutions are required to submit periodic progress reports to ACGT. In addition, they are expected to share their research findings with the scientific community in a timely fashion through presentation at professional meetings and publication in scientific journals.
- ACGT will request acknowledgment of the grant in any presentations and/or publications by the investigators and/or institutions.
- ACGT shall receive a reasonable royalty return, including license fees on inventions and improvements made by investigators on research supported by its grants.
- The grantee institution will agree (i) to indemnify ACGT solely with respect to claims relating to the award of a grant and (ii) that all research supported by ACGT will be conducted in accordance with all applicable state and Federal laws, rules and regulations.
- Awards to an institution will terminate when the principal investigator departs from the grantee institution, and can be re-initiated at an alternate institution subject to ACGT approval.

RESPONSIBILITY OF THE GRANTEE INSTITUTION

An application for a grant must bear the signature of the official authorized to sign for the institution, **acknowledging the above policies.**

PROGRAM INQUIRIES

For application information, policy and procedures, and general information, please visit ACGT's Website at www.acgtfoundation.org.