



ChadTough Defeat DIPG Foundation New Investigator Grant Application

Application Deadline:
February 6, 2025, 11:59pm EDT



About ChadTough Defeat DIPG Foundation

We at ChadTough see a world where kids diagnosed with DIPG/DMG have a bright future and can live out their dreams. To make this vision a reality, we are committed to funding the most innovative, promising research on childhood brain cancer.

The foundation's founding families, the Carrs and the Mosiers, lost their sons, 5-year-old Chad and 6-year-old Michael, in 2015 to DIPG. Now, also fueled by other parents who have faced a pediatric brain cancer diagnosis, our Family Partners, and guided by a Scientific Advisory Council made up of the leading experts in the field, the ChadTough Defeat DIPG Foundation ensures every dollar possible funds the most incremental, promising research available anywhere in the world.

New Investigator Grant Description

The ChadTough Defeat DIPG New Investigator Grant provides three years of funding to a new DIPG/DMG investigator for hypothesis-driven research projects. The investigator may be either a newly independent researcher establishing a new DIPG/DMG research lab, or an established researcher who has not previously conducted brain tumor research. The ChadTough Defeat DIPG New Investigator Grant is up to \$400,000 over 3 years (maximum of \$135,000 in any one year).

Key Dates

Application Deadline: February 6, 2025 11:59pm EDT

Award Notifications: May 2025

Grant Start Date: July 1, 2025

First Interim Progress Report: June 1, 2026

Second Interim Progress Report: June 1, 2027

Grant End Date: June 30, 2028

Final Report: September 1, 2028

Review and Selection Process

- Each application is reviewed by the ChadTough Defeat DIPG Scientific Advisory Council.
- The Scientific Advisory Council makes recommendations to the ChadTough Defeat DIPG Foundation, and the foundation makes the final funding decision.
- All application evaluations are considered confidential and are available only to the Scientific Advisory Council and the foundation's Board of Directors and staff.
- When an application is approved for funding, the grant award is contingent upon all legal documents being signed and approved by the foundation and the applicant's institution.

Conditions of Grants

- We fund research to better understand the causes of DIPG/DMG and to advance its treatment and cure. To help achieve this goal, we expect researchers to publish their findings in peer-reviewed journals and to make their data available to other researchers.
- All grants are payable to the grant recipient's institution or laboratory.
- No funds may be used for indirect costs.
- Overlap in funding is not permitted. This includes scientific, budget, and commitment overlap, as defined by the National Institute of Health.



- Requests for transfers to another institution while the grant is in effect will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- Grant recipients will work with the foundation to coordinate a joint press release to announce the grant.

Eligibility Requirements

- Except as discussed below, applicants must have an academic appointment and be in their first independent faculty position or equivalent at an accredited college, university, medical school, or other research facility.
- Applicants should be in their faculty role for not more than 6 years at the time of application.
- Independence is typically demonstrated by a full-time faculty appointment, a tenure-track position, allocated space, a start-up package, and institutional commitment. We understand that this definition may not align to the practices of all institutions. If you have questions regarding your eligibility to apply, please contact us at grants@chadtough.org.
- Applicants who are beyond their first independent faculty position for more than 6 years are eligible if they have no previous research on DIPG/DMG tumors.
- Applicants must be employed by an academic institution, nonprofit research institution, or laboratory.
- Applicants need not be U.S. citizens.

Grant Reporting and Publications

- The second and third years of funding are contingent upon a noncompetitive review of the progress report. The report must demonstrate satisfactory progress toward completion of proposed research objectives and appropriate budget expenditures.
- No Cost Extensions may be requested by emailing grants@chadtough.org. Requests must state the amount of funds remaining, provide a progress report, an explanation of why the extension is necessary, and the length of time requested.
- If a No Cost Extension is not requested or approved, grant recipient must return any unexpended funds at the termination of the grant period.
- Publications, presentations, and posters featuring results of the experiments funded by this grant should acknowledge (1) ChadTough Defeat DIPG Foundation, and (2) if applicable, any Research Partner who has committed funds to us to support the grant. We will inform you of any Research Partner(s) that should be acknowledged. Copies should be sent via email to grants@chadtough.org.

Contents of Application

1. Cover Page

Please use our template, which is available at <https://www.chadtough.org/grants>. Cover Page must be signed.

2. Layman's Summary (0.5 page)

Provide a brief summary of the research project in layman's terms. By submitting this application, Primary Investigator consents to the foundation's public use of this summary if the project is funded. Accordingly, the summary cannot include any confidential or proprietary information.



3. Specific Aims (0.5 page)

Describe the goals of the proposed research and summarize the expected outcome(s).

4. Research Plan (4 pages)

A. Significance (0.5 page)

Explain the importance of the problem addressed and how the proposed research project will improve scientific knowledge, technical capability, or clinical practice for DIPG.

B. Innovation (0.5 page)

Describe how the application will advance, or challenge, the current DIPG research and clinical practices. Describe any novel theoretical concepts, approaches, or methodologies.

C. Approach (3 pages)

Describe the overall strategy to accomplish the aims of the project. Describe the methods and analyses to be used to accomplish the specific aims of the project. Address potential difficulties and limitations and how these will be overcome or mitigated. Provide a work plan (including timetable) for completing the project. Provide an account of the applicant's preliminary studies relevant to the project.

5. Literature Cited

Provide a list of publications relevant to the project. A maximum of 20 references are allowed.

6. Proposed Budget

Using our template, prepare a budget outlining proposed expenditures. Budget cannot include any indirect costs and cannot exceed \$135,000 for any year. Our template may be downloaded at <https://chadtough.org/research/grant-application/>.

The following items may NOT be included:

- Construction, renovation, or maintenance of buildings/laboratories
- Office and laboratory furniture
- Office equipment and supplies
- Patient services
- Professional association membership dues
- Recruiting and relocation expenses
- Scientific publication subscriptions
- Secretarial/administrative salaries
- Student tuition

Travel costs should not be included, but Primary Investigator may request additional funding from the foundation for travel to meetings to present research funded by the grant. Requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

7. Statement of Other Support

Provide a list of: (1) active support; (2) applications and proposals pending review or funding; (3) applications and proposals planned or being prepared for submission. Include all federal, nonfederal, and institutional grant and contract support. For each item give the source of support, identifying number, project title, name of principal investigator, applicant's time or percent of effort on the project, annual direct costs, and entire period of support.



8. Biographical Sketches

Provide the NIH biographical sketches for the Primary Investigator and key personnel.

9. IRB Approval

If the project includes human subjects or otherwise requires IRB approval, provide the IRB approval letter. If IRB approval is not required, state that no IRB approval is necessary.

10. Additional Institutional Contact Information

Provide contact information (name, email address, and phone number) for accounts payable, grants management, and media or public relations should the project be funded.

11. Potential or Actual Conflicts of Interest

Provide a description of any financial interest (e.g., ownership or investment interest, compensation arrangement, opportunity) or other actual or potential conflict of interest Primary Investigator has, directly or indirectly, through business, investment or family relationships in the proposed research.

Application Submission Instructions

1. Please combine all parts of the application into a single PDF.
2. Email the application to grants@chadtough.org.

Contact

If you have any questions about the New Investigator Grant or the application process, please send us an email at grants@chadtough.org.