



CCF RESEARCH FUNDING CONSIDERATIONS

The Children's Cardiomyopathy Foundation (CCF)'s Research Grant Program has a competitive review process. CCF's medical advisors have all served as expert reviewers for the American Heart Association, National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute and other rare disease organizations. The evaluation process is comparable in process and standards to other national granting agencies.

Before submitting a letter of intent or grant application (if invited to do so), please review the below an understanding of what studies are funded and the common reasons why some proposals are not selected for funding.

Funding Considerations

A successful grant application usually meets all these requirements

- Submission follows CCF's letter of intent and research grant guidelines, and the requested supporting documents are included.
- Lay summary fully and clearly explains the study aim, design and significance of the study to children at risk or diagnosed with cardiomyopathy.
- Study's purpose is relevant to pediatric cardiomyopathy, and study findings can be directly applied to children (birth to age 18) affected by primary cardiomyopathy.
- Study focuses on cardiomyopathy as a primary disease. Studies focused on cardiomyopathy as a secondary disease (Friedreich's Ataxia, Barth syndrome, Duchenne muscular dystrophy, metabolic/mitochondrial diseases, Noonan syndrome, Anthracycline-induced cardiomyopathy) are less likely to be funded, especially if another funding organization exists for the disease.
- Study results are applicable to a larger cardiomyopathy patient population.
- Disease models are relevant to pediatric heart disease, specifically to cardiomyopathy.
- Preliminary research findings are included to support the proposed research concept.
- Institutional letter of support is included.
- No IRB approval concerns on proposed procedures on children.

- If clinical study, specific information about the patient population is included such as sample size and control group with breakdowns in age, gender, ethnicity and type of cardiomyopathy.
- If the study exceeds the allowable grant amount of \$50,000, additional funding sources and timing are indicated.
- Investigator has expertise in the chosen field of study.
- Background on co-investigators, research team members and mentors are provided.

Preference is given to studies that:

- Impact a younger more vulnerable pediatric population
- Are translational and findings can be applied to children with cardiomyopathy within 5 years.
- Utilizes existing patient database or DNA/tissue samples
- Are multi –center

Application Process

There are two separate documents outlining the application process for 1) letter of intent and 2) research grant application. These documents are downloadable from CCF's website at www.childrenscardiomyopathy.org under "Research/Grants & Awards."