# Cure4 Cystic Fibrosis Grant Guidelines

## Guidelines

Cure4 Cystic Fibrosis (Cure4CF) Research Grants support the development of new therapies that will result in a material increase in average life expectancy or cures for people with cystic fibrosis.

Our focus is on funding innovative research in therapeutics, cell and gene therapies, antimicrobials, and vaccines that build on existing knowledge with a clearly identified path and commitment for translational impact, including alleviation of medical impact from CF. This research would be considered within the technology readiness levels of 4 to 7. Epidemiological studies that aim to produce therapeutic or policy directives are eligible to apply. Diagnostics, devices, nutrition, exercise and observational studies are not areas of research priority.

### Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible to apply for funding through this scheme, the following conditions must be met:

- The applicant must complete and submit the application form.
- The application must be led by an applicant who is an Australian permanent resident or citizen, with research to be conducted primarily in Australian-based research facilities.
- The application must clearly meet Cure4CF's Research Priority which is to support innovative and high impact research that includes a clear pathway to deliver tangible and beneficial outcomes to our community.
- The project must be less than 24-months in duration.

Collaboration is encouraged and applicants can involve more than one research group or institution.

Eligible expense items include salaries and on-costs, consumables, equipment, travel and other direct costs associated with delivering the project. Salary on-costs include superannuation, workers compensation and payroll tax. Expense items, overheads, capital works and non-essential items such as trade subscriptions, catering etc will not be supported. Commercialisation and/or marketing costs will also not be supported.

An application will be considered incomplete if it fails to comply with the instructions.

It is highly desirable that outcomes from projects funded by Cure4CF generate sufficient data to support applications for subsequent funding to support further research translation.

Successful applicants will ensure research is conducted in accordance with all applicable laws, regulations and codes of practice and all necessary licences and approvals must have been obtained and are adhered to. This includes those concerning the use of animals and the obtaining of patient consents and ethics committee approvals, as relevant to the research.

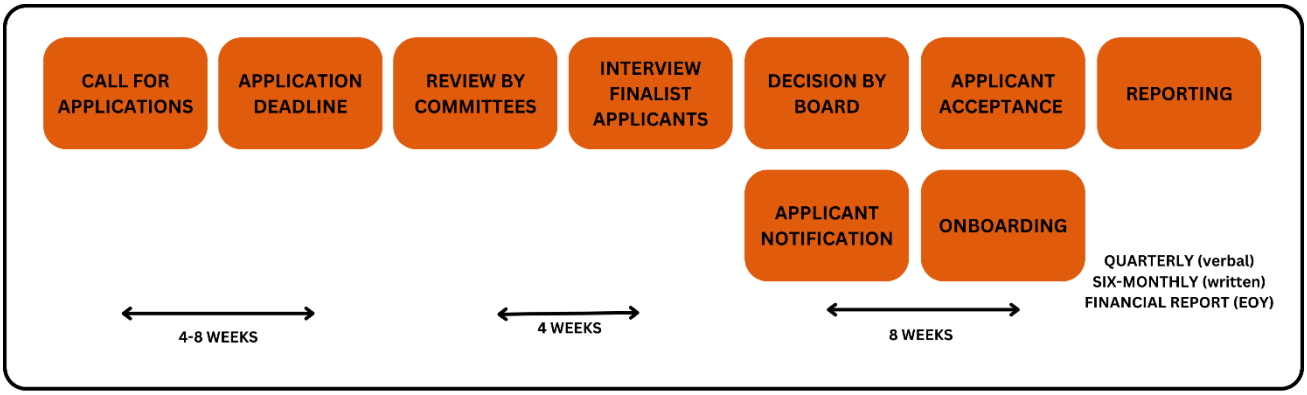
## Assessment Criteria and Scoring

The following scoring framework will be used to assess applications.

| | | SCIENTIFIC EXCELLENCE | CLINICAL RELEVANCE & IMPACT | TRANSLATIONAL POTENTIAL |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | ineligible | A zero or one in any category will make the project ineligible for funding | | |
| | | Not feasible or unjustified scientific rationale | Irrelevant or impractical in clinical practice | No translational pathway |
| 1 | poor | Feasible project, but based on poor scientific rationale, methodology or planning | May be relevant in clinical practice, but likely requires significant adaptation | Potential translational pathway, but with major challenges |
| 2 | adequate | Feasible project, sound rationale and plan, but little innovation | Relevant in clinical practice, but will not realise significant outcomes | Sound translational pathway |
| 3 | good | Good scientific rationale and research plan, evidence of innovation | Relevant in clinical practice, potential to realise significant impact | Good translational pathway with some consideration of IP and partners |
| 4 | very good | Very good scientific rationale and research plan, innovative, good data | Highly relevant in clinical practice, highly likely to realise significant impact and life extension | Excellent translational pathway, clear strategies for IP and partners in place |
| 5 | exceptional | Excellent rationale and plan, highly innovative, extensive evidence, and data to justify potential outcomes | Addresses high need, would result in significant impact to many, clear path for clinical adoption, exceedingly likely to realise significant life extension | Excellent translational pathway, IP generated, partners in place, regulatory strategy determined |

## Review & Award Process

The grant review timeline is as follows:




Applications will be evaluated by Cure4CF's Research and Commercialisation (R&C) Committee where scores will be collated, and ranks determined to generate a shortlist. The short-listed applications will be reviewed by an Independent Research Advisory Committee (IRAC) comprised of representatives from clinical practice,

industry, research and consumers. The IRAC will score applications and make a recommendation to the R&C Committee, who then interview shortlisted applicants before making a recommendation to the Cure4CF Board.

Successful applicants are notified of their success through the receipt of a Notice of Success Letter and a Research Sponsorship Agreement. Unsuccessful applicants will also be notified by letter and an opportunity to receive feedback will be provided. Successful applicants must formally accept the Cure4CF grant by signing and returning the Grant Funding Agreement. The grant will not be activated, nor any monies released until this has been received and the on-boarding meeting is completed.

The grant must be activated within three (3) months of the date of the issue of the Notice of Success Letter. If the grant has not been activated within this timeframe, Cure4CF reserves the right to withdraw the offer of the grant, unless an extension has been approved.

Projects must be underway within three (3) months following the On-boarding session. We strongly advise grantees to apply for ethics approval (if required) immediately upon receipt of a notice of success to avoid project delays.

## Obligations of Grantees

### *Reporting*

The successful applicant must ensure all expenditure relating to the Cure4CF grant can be reconciled.

Cure4CF will require a verbal quarterly update and a written report every six months to ensure responsible use of the Cure4CF grant by the Grantee. Funds will be released on completion of milestones as outlined in the agreement. A Final Report will be required from all Grantees within three months of the project's end. Awardees will be transitioned to the Cure4CF Alumni program at the completion of their project.

Grants will be closed, and any remaining balances written off six months after the scheduled end date of the grant unless an extension is approved in advance.

### *Intellectual Property*

Cure4CF will not seek ownership of intellectual property developed by Grantees. However, Cure4CF will seek a beneficial return including financial benefit, of value realised from intellectual property commercialisation. The terms for such beneficial return will be outlined in the Research Sponsorship Agreement.

As a charitable foundation, Cure4CF must ensure that the results of the research we fund has maximum impact in terms of the public good, which includes translation of findings to substantially extend the lives of those living with CF. Often, translation requires some form of commercialisation. Cure4CF asks that award holders obtain our consent before commercialisation events occur so that we can ensure that the commercialisation terms align with this interest. Cure4CF typically take a share of any net revenue our Grantees generate from commercialisation and use this to support our charitable objectives.

### *Engagement in Cure4CF Activities*

Cure4CF is seeking a partnership with successful grant recipients and encourages grantees to consider other resources, expertise, and support Cure4CF may offer beyond the funding period.

Grantees must be willing to contribute to Cure4CF promotional activities as requested.

## Alumni Program

Once the project is finalised and off boarding completed, Grantees will have the opportunity to join Cure4CF's alumni program. This is a newly established program that aims to ensure that the partnership between Grantees and Cure4CF continues to flourish and make a lasting impact in the fight against cystic fibrosis.