



**2026 St. Baldrick's Foundation Grant Application
Information and Guidelines for
Summer Fellowship Awards**

Full Proposal Due: February 20, 2026 5PM ET

There is no Letter of Intent (LOI) for Summer Fellowship awards

Award decisions announced by May 1, 2026

Summer Fellowship begins: Summer 2026

ABOUT THE ST. BALDRICK'S FOUNDATION

The St. Baldrick's Foundation is a volunteer and donor powered charity committed to supporting the most promising research to find cures for childhood cancers and give survivors long and healthy lives.

It started with a friendly dare: would you shave your head to raise money for kids' cancer research? What happened next would change the world. This bold act of baldness has gained major momentum, since its start in 2000. Today, we have more than 1,000 head-shaving events taking place around the world – virtually and at pubs, restaurants, schools, churches, parks, firehouses, military bases – you name it. It is our constituents' way of changing the world, in a meaningful way. Volunteers also raise funds through athletic challenges, livestream fundraisers and many other activities.

Since the Foundation's first grants as an independent charity in 2005, St. Baldrick's has invested more than \$368 million in childhood cancer research grants worldwide. It's about collaboration. It's about powerful ideas, big and small. It's about never giving up until we have cures for all kids with cancers.

For more information, please visit StBaldricks.org. You can also search current and past grants at StBaldricks.org/grants.

FUNDING HIGHLIGHTS

The St. Baldrick's Foundation works hard to be sure that every dollar makes the biggest impact possible in childhood cancer research. The Foundation is proud to have received the National Cancer Institute Peer Review Funder designation for selection of grants. The Foundation has held several Research Priorities Summits with many of the country's leading pediatric oncology researchers participating to advise the staff and board of directors on funding priorities.

The St. Baldrick's team and scientific advisors meet regularly to be sure St. Baldrick's funds make the greatest impact on pediatric cancer research.

Current funding priorities are divided into four categories:

- New discovery research
- Translational research and early phase clinical trials
- Phase III clinical trials & infrastructure support of participating institutions (primarily the fall grant cycle)
- Education of new pediatric oncology researchers

In addition to research to understand the biology of childhood cancers and discover leads to more effective treatments, topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

- Adolescents & young adults
- Survivorship, outcomes, and quality of life
- Supportive care
- Epidemiology and pediatric cancer predispositions
- Precision medicine
- Alternative & complementary therapies

FUNDING CYCLES

Spring Grant Cycle

Spring cycle grants are funded based on scientific review. The following programs/categories are typically available in the Spring Cycle:

- St. Baldrick's Scholars
- St. Baldrick's International Scholars
- Consortium Research Grants
- Research Grants
- Supportive Care Research Grants
- St. Baldrick's Summer Fellows (*no LOI, applications due February*)

Fall Grant Cycle

Fellows are funded based on scientific review. Infrastructure grants are funded based on need, expected outcomes, and local St. Baldrick's participation, with a strong priority on

geographic areas with no other St. Baldrick's funding. The following programs/categories are available in the Fall Cycle:

- Infrastructure Grants
- St. Baldrick's Fellows

Grants will be made according to revenues available.

Summer Fellowship Award: Eligibility Requirements/Qualifications

St. Baldrick's offers Summer Fellowship Awards, funding stipends for one undergraduate, graduate, or medical school student to work in a pediatric oncology research setting for a summer. The total award, paid to the mentor's institution, is \$5,000.

- Mentor and student pair is a prerequisite for applying.
- The mentor and student should work together on the application, but applications must be submitted with the mentor as Principal Investigator (PI) via ProposalCentral.
- Summer fellowship should last 8-10 weeks during summer. Preferred dates are between May and August.
- Students must currently be enrolled in an undergraduate, graduate, or medical degree program.
- Students may train at an institution other than their own institution.
- Institutions may submit only one (1) new Summer Fellow application per year.
 - *Note: The limited submissions policy exception detailed in other program guidelines is not applicable for Summer Fellow awards.*
- Mentor may apply only once per year in the Summer Fellow category. Applying for a Summer Fellowship does not affect eligibility to apply in other St. Baldrick's funding categories.
- Mentor's Institution must be located in the United States.
- Mentor and/or student need not be American citizens; however, the mentor must work at an academic, medical, or non-profit research institution within the United States.
- A program/institution is defined as an entity essentially operating under one management.
 - Any questions or questionable situations will be reviewed by a subset of the Scientific Advisors of St. Baldrick's. Questions can be emailed to Grants@Stbaldricks.org, please include a copy of the mentor's biosketch.
- Institutions that are actively involved in (sponsor, promote, or participate in) non-St. Baldrick's head-shaving fundraising events are not eligible to apply for St. Baldrick's funding.
 - St. Baldrick's understands that hospitals and their fundraising agents and organizations cannot control what their many *volunteers* do. Some may undertake head-shaving fundraisers that hospital/agent/organization is not aware of and does not sanction or promote. These activities would not prevent the hospital's researchers from applying for St. Baldrick's grants.

- The following applies to hospitals, their fundraising agents and organizations as institutions. Researchers from hospitals would be ineligible to apply for St. Baldrick's grants if the hospital/agent/organization promotes (advertises, emails, blogs, media stories, social media posts, shares, reshares, likes, tweets, re-tweets or hosts web pages) a non-St. Baldrick's head-shaving fundraiser through any type of marketing, advertising, outreach or public-facing collateral or ancillary materials, or on any channel (television, radio, print, social media, website, etc.), using any content that sponsors, highlights, advocates or recommends a head-shaving event other than St. Baldrick's.
- St. Baldrick's funds may not be used for human embryonic stem cell research.
- No institutional overhead or indirect funding is provided under the terms of the grant. See Budget Guidance section for more details.
- Research projects must have direct applicability and relevance to pediatric cancer. They may be in any discipline of basic, clinical, translational, or epidemiological research.
- The mentor should currently hold an M.D./D.O., or Ph.D. degree and be working in the field of pediatric oncology research.
- Summer Fellow must not have been a past awardee.
- The grant budget may include student salary/stipend, supplies, and other direct costs related to the summer fellowship expenses. Grant funds cannot be used for tuition. See Budget Guidance section for more details.
- All awards will be payable to the Mentor's academic institution, non-profit research institution, or laboratory.
- All qualified applicants will receive consideration for funding without regard to race, color, ethnicity/national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, pregnancy, religion, belief and spirituality, age disability status, protected veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law.

PAYMENT STRUCTURE

- All awards will be payable to the lead academic institution, non-profit research institution, or laboratory to administer for the purposes of this grant only.
- Sub awards are allowable on St. Baldrick's Foundation Research Grants and International Scholar awards. Sub awards are not allowed on Scholar awards, Fellowship awards or Summer Fellow awards.
- St. Baldrick's will issue annual payments to the lead institution. The lead institution will be responsible for coordinating any sub-awards.
- If a sub-award institution is legally unable to receive payment from the lead institution, St. Baldrick's may consider direct payment on a case-by-case basis.

Any such circumstances must be disclosed in the Assurance Questions section of the application in ProposalCentral.

- St. Baldrick's will not make direct payments to for-profit entities or individuals.

Summer Fellowship Award: Application Requirements

- There is no LOI for Summer Fellowship awards.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS AND DESCRIPTION

- All application instructions and templates/requirements will be available in ProposalCentral.
- It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure and to verify that the application is received by the deadline date and that the application is complete and correct prior to submission.
- E-signatures are required from the PI and PI Institutional Official to submit the application.
- Required Application Sections (please see full requirements in ProposalCentral):
 - General Information
 - Title, Applicant Information, Organization, Abstracts and Keywords
 - Research and training plan
 - Personal statement from the student
 - Resume/CV – student
 - Letter of Support from the mentor
 - Biosketch – mentor
 - Budget and Budget Justification
- Applicants can enable other users to access their proposal (e.g., department or grants administrators) in the full proposal section of ProposalCentral.
- All application evaluations are considered confidential and are available to scientific reviewers, the Foundation's Board of Directors, and the administrative personnel of the St. Baldrick's Foundation only.

REVIEW AND SELECTION PROCESS

Recommendations for funding are made to the St. Baldrick's Foundation Board of Directors, which makes the final decisions. The total funds granted are determined based on the funds available and the scientific quality of the applications.

Applicants selected for funding will be notified as soon as possible. Funding status shall be relayed through ProposalCentral, by mail, email, or by phone. All rankings and evaluations are considered confidential.

Applications are evaluated on the following criteria:

- Mentor experience and support for student
- Student potential and commitment to pediatric oncology research
- Local participation in St. Baldrick's events

Any questions following the notification of awards should be addressed in writing to:

Laura Chung
Director of Grants Administration
Laura@StBaldricks.org
626.792.8247, ext. 236

Summer Fellowship Award: Grant Terms

- When an application is approved for funding the transfer of funds is contingent upon all legal documents being signed and approved by the St. Baldrick's Foundation.
- No Cost Extensions must be requested and approved by email: Grants@StBaldricks.org. Email Grants@StBaldricks.org for a template. Requests should include the amount of funds remaining, a brief report of progress, an explanation of why the extension is necessary, and the length of time requested.
- For multi-year awards, the Principal Investigator may request that funds be moved from a previous or current period into a future period. Carry-forward requests should be submitted in writing (email: Grants@StBaldricks.org) with an explanation for the unexpended balance, a plan for the use of funds, and a side-by-side comparison between the original budget and future budget categorical items. Funds cannot be carried forward between two different award IDs.
- Re-budget requests should be submitted in writing (email: Grants@StBaldricks.org) with an explanation of each change and a side-by-side comparison between the original budget and revised budget categorical items. Rebudgeting that results in expansion of scope will be reviewed by St. Baldrick's scientific advisors for approval.
- Some grants will be "named" for significant St. Baldrick's constituents (Hero Funds, major donors, high-ranking fundraising teams, corporate or foundation partners, etc.). Recipients of named grants must use the title designated by the Foundation whenever referring to the grant (example: The ABC Company St. Baldrick's Scholar or the Team Courtney St. Baldrick's Fellow). These grant recipients may also be asked to meet or communicate with these constituents.
- The institution's public relations staff will ensure all requirements detailed in the Publicity Form are understood and met. This form will be provided with the award acceptance paperwork. PR questions can be addressed to: media@stbaldricks.org.
- Grant recipients will work with the Foundation to coordinate a joint press release to announce the grant and will give recognition to the St. Baldrick's Foundation where funders are listed on the institution's website and in its annual report.
- Grant recipients will become familiar with the St. Baldrick's Foundation and be prepared to speak publicly about its work, when appropriate. The Foundation encourages participation by grant recipients in St. Baldrick's events held in the geographic vicinity of their institution. Shaving one's head is not required; there are many ways to participate, including speaking at the

event, helping to connect patients or survivors and their families to the Foundation to be honored, and participating in your favorite activity to raise funds for pediatric cancer research (i.e. running, walking, climbing a mountain, hosting another event, etc.).

- Grantees are expected to maintain accurate grant and research records, cooperate with any St. Baldrick's review and promptly report research misconduct or significant changes in the funded researcher's status. Failure to meet these requirements may result in suspension or termination of funding.
- If awarded, funds will be released upon receipt and sufficiency of all paperwork by the St. Baldrick's Foundation. Any inconsistency noted relative to the award shall be resolved by giving precedence in the following order: The signed award acceptance form; and, The St. Baldrick's Foundation Grant Application Information and Guidelines.
- Infrastructure grants and Summer Fellow grants are influenced by local St. Baldrick's participation. All other grants are funded based on scientific review.

IDENTIFICATION

The St. Baldrick's Foundation shall be identified as a funding source in all printed and/or electronic publications regarding the research project. Identification with the Foundation shall also be made in any news released pertaining to the research project by the public relations department or its equivalent at the sponsoring institution.

FINAL REPORTS

Within thirty (30) days of the summer fellowship end date, the Mentor will work with the student to submit a final progress report, using the templates provided in ProposalCentral. The Foundation will continue to stay in touch with each Summer Fellow to determine how Foundation funding has influenced his/her career and how it has contributed to finding a cure and/or better treatments for childhood cancer.

PUBLICATIONS

Please notify the St. Baldrick's Foundation (email: Grants@StBaldricks.org) as soon as you know of a publication's acceptance, to allow time for preparation for any publicity, blog stories, etc., to be coordinated between St. Baldrick's and your institution. Grant recipients are required to complete the annual publication webform in ProposalCentral, listing all publications resulting from the grant during the reporting period.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS

The grant recipient must submit a report of expenditures, due within sixty (60) days of the end of the grant year. All expenditures are expected to follow the approved budget. The expenditure reports must be submitted as a budget webform via ProposalCentral. Instructions on how to complete and submit the budget deliverables can be found on page 11 here: https://docs.proposalcentral.com/Instructions_Award_Info.pdf

HUMAN INVESTIGATION

All human subject research or research on human tissue which is supported by St. Baldrick's must comply with the regulations applicable to that supported by the National Institutes of Health (NIH). As part of the application, the applicant will be asked to submit documentation of approval of the study by their Institutional Review Board (IRB), along with the Institution's Human Subjects Assurance Number. Approval is not required at the application stage but will be required prior to issuing funds. If the grant recipient's research plan changes after the award to include human subjects or tissue, they must submit proper documentation of IRB approval to St. Baldrick's.

BIOHAZARDS

During the application process, the institution shall submit an acknowledgment of potential biohazards involved and provide an institutional statement of assurances regarding potential biohazards and safeguards pertaining to this aspect of the research proposed in the application to the Foundation. Projects which do not involve biohazards must so state. The St. Baldrick's Foundation assumes no responsibility or liability for any such biohazard and shall be held harmless from the results of the use of any such biohazard.

LABORATORY ANIMALS

The Foundation adheres to the most current guidelines applicable to the care and treatment of animals used in laboratory work as outlined by the National Institutes of Health. Prior to award of the grant, the institution must submit a statement that the institution meets and adheres to these policies. Failure to notify the St. Baldrick's Foundation of compliance with these guidelines or the use of laboratory animals may result in termination of the grant.

BUDGET GUIDANCE

- All budgets must be justified, meet the test of reasonableness, and be consistent with institutional policy.
- No institutional overhead or indirect funding is provided under the terms of the grant.
- Fringe rates should follow institutional policy.
- Fringe benefits are generally defined as medical and dental insurance, life insurance, and retirement benefits and are payable only for eligible participation in such programs.
- Overlap in funding is not permitted. St. Baldrick's policy on overlap applies to Scientific, Budget, and Commitment Overlap as defined by the NIH.
 - Scientific Overlap: Scientific overlap occurs when substantially the same research is proposed in more than one application or is submitted to two or more different funding sources for review and funding consideration; or

when a specific research objective and the experimental design for accomplishing that objective are the same or closely related in two or more pending applications or awards, regardless of funding source.

- Budget Overlap: Budgetary overlap occurs when duplicate or equivalent budgetary items (i.e., equipment, salary) are requested in an application but are already funded by another source.
- Commitment Overlap: Commitment overlap occurs when any project-supported personnel has time commitments (i.e., percent effort) exceeding 100%, regardless of how the effort/salary is being supported or funded.
- Situations may occur when an applicant has similar applications pending with different agencies that, if all funded, will present overlap issues. If an overlap occurs before award is accepted, it must be addressed with the St. Baldrick's Foundation before the new award can be accepted and will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- If overlap occurs during an award, all grant recipient's must be forthright regarding their support and notify the foundation by emailing Grants@StBaldricks.org. Adjustments will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- Travel costs are not allowable on Fellowship Awards. Fellowship Awards are limited to salary and fringe benefits.
- Publication and meeting-related poster printing costs are not allowable on Fellowship Awards. Fellowship Awards are limited to salary/benefits.
- Equipment purchases are not allowable on Fellowship Awards. Fellowship Awards are limited to salary and fringe benefits.
- Unused and remaining amounts of \$100 and over must be returned to the Foundation at the end of each grant year, unless an approved carry forward or No Cost Extension is on file.
- All budgets and expenditure reports must be submitted in USD.
- Expenditure reports are expected to follow approved budgets. Any budget line item that changes more than 25% from approved budget to expenditure report (without an approved Carry Forward on file) will result in follow up from the Foundation for explanation. Explanations will be reviewed for approval.
- Applicable to all awards, the Foundation does not provide funds for items such as:
 - Secretarial/administrative salaries.
 - Student tuition (tuition is allowable for International Scholar awards).
 - Office and laboratory furniture.
 - Office equipment and supplies.
 - Recruiting and relocation expenses.
 - Non-medical services to patients (travel to a clinical site or patient incentives are allowable expenses).
 - Construction, renovation, or maintenance of buildings/laboratories.
 - Professional association membership dues.

- Scientific publication subscriptions.

SUMMER FELLOWSHIP AWARD APPLICATION AND AWARD TIMELINE

Application submission deadline: February 20, 2026

Award Announcements by: May 1, 2026

USING ProposalCentral

Summer Fellowship awards do not have an LOI

The St. Baldrick's Foundation uses ProposalCentral (proposalcentral.com) for electronic submission of all LOIs and Full Applications. Fax, email, or hard copy submissions will not be accepted. See "How to Create an Application using ProposalCentral" at <https://docs.proposalcentral.com/CreateApp.pdf> for more information.

Registration

First-time users must register and fill out a Professional Profile in ProposalCentral to begin the LOI/Application process (see "How to Register as a ProposalCentral User" at <https://docs.proposalcentral.com/RegUser.pdf> for more information).

Submitting the LOI/Application

1. **LOG-IN & BEGIN AN LOI/APPLICATION.** To start a new LOI/application, login as an Applicant, and select the Grant Opportunities tab (grey tab on the top right). Find St. Baldrick's Foundation in the "Filter List by Grant Maker" drop-down list. Find the program for which you wish to apply, and click "Apply Now" to begin the proposal.
2. **COMPLETE AN APPLICATION AFTER LOI APPROVAL.** Login as an Applicant, and select the Proposals tab. Select the "In Progress" status from the "Proposal Status" drop-down menu. Find the LOI that was approved, and click the "Edit" button to access and complete your application.
3. **ENABLE ACCESS FOR OTHER USERS.** The Principal Investigator must start the LOI or Application. However, once an application is begun, access for application submittal can be given to other users, such as collaborators, assistants, or grants and contracts staff.
4. **SAVE.** Applicants do not need to complete the LOI/Application in one session; a partially completed application can be saved and completed at any time prior to the deadline.
5. **NOTIFICATION OF LOI APPROVAL.** The system will notify you when the LOI has been approved, and you will be asked to login to the ProposalCentral website to access and submit the full application by the application deadline.
6. **VALIDATE.** Applications that have not been validated cannot be submitted. "Validate" checks for required items and attachments, and you will not be able to submit if required items and/or attachments are missing.
7. **SUBMIT.** After successfully passing the validate check and providing the required E-signatures, click the "Submit" link. An email will confirm your submission. Once your application is submitted, you may view it by accessing the "Submitted" proposal status under the "Proposals" tab.

It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure and verify that the application is received by the deadline date, before 5 p.m. ET and that the application is complete and correct prior to submission.

Instructions for Submitting Deliverables

The ProposalCentral system is designed to collect and manage all grant information. Grantees must keep their ProposalCentral profile current for the duration of the grant. ProposalCentral should be used to upload all required reports (deliverables) and publications related to the grant. Report templates and deadlines can be found on the site, as well. Grantees may provide access to others at their institution (e.g. grants officers) to access and upload deliverables.

See “Instructions for Navigating Your Awarded Grant” at https://docs.proposalcentral.com/Instructions_Award_Info.pdf for more information.

Uploading Award Deliverables

1. Login to ProposalCentral under the “Applicant Login” section:
<https://proposalcentral.com/>.
2. Click the “Awards” tab.
3. Click the blue Identifier number link.
4. Click the blue “Deliverables” link.
5. On this page you will see a table which lists all of the deliverables that are scheduled for your grant. The templates for these deliverables are at the bottom of this page.
6. To upload completed deliverables, click the blue “Upload” link next to the appropriate deliverable. If you have a pop-up blocker turned on, make sure you disable it for this site as the deliverable upload feature is a pop-up.
7. In the deliverable pop-up window, click the “Browse” button to select the file. You can add a description in the "Deliverable Description" if you choose. When finished, click the “Save” button, and it will upload your deliverable.
 - When completing the Budget Webform, click the blue plus icon to be able to enter your expenses in the Expenditure column on the right
 - Please note, only contacts who have Administrative and/or Edit access to the award are able to electronically sign and submit this webform. If there are others who may need to sign and submit the budget, please let us know so we can grant them access to do so.
 - Instructions on using the budget webform can be found at the ProposalCentral link, starting at the bottom of Page 11:
https://docs.proposalcentral.com/Instructions_Award_Info.pdf

Submitting Publications

Copies of printed and/or electronic publications related to the work done using St. Baldrick's funds can be uploaded to ProposalCentral on a continual basis. Publications must be manually entered by selecting the "Add Deliverable" option in the deliverables section of the award.

1. To add a deliverable, click the blue "Add Deliverable" link at the top left of the deliverable table. If you have a pop-up blocker turned on, make sure you disable it for this site as the deliverable upload feature is a pop-up.
2. In the deliverable pop-up window, choose Publications from the drop-down menu, "Select Deliverable Type."
3. Click the "Browse" button to select the file. You can add a description in the "Deliverable Description" if you choose. When finished, click the "Save" button, and it will upload your deliverable.

Useful Resources for ProposalCentral

- How to register your institution (grants and contracts personnel only):
<https://docs.proposalcentral.com/RegInst.pdf>
- How to register as a ProposalCentral user:
<https://docs.proposalcentral.com/RegUser.pdf>
- How to create an application using ProposalCentral:
<https://docs.proposalcentral.com/CreateApp.pdf>
- Grantee instructions to access award information:
https://docs.proposalcentral.com/Instructions_Award_Info.pdf

Contact

For help using the online application system:
ProposalCentral Customer Support
pcsupport@altum.com
800.875.2562