Most asked Questions from Annual Grant Round 2022/23

- Can a similar team (but a different Chief Investigator) apply for more than one grant (but different categories based on the eligibility guidelines? (e.g.) Senior Research vs Early or Mid-career Scientist or Pioneering? Yes, if the chief investigator meets the TDC (Tour De Cure) grant guidelines for each category. We do ask that an institution who are applying for multiple grants rank the application per category as a guideline for TDC. We are putting a limit of 5 applications per grant category by Institutions for 2024

- May one Chief Investigator from the same institution apply for two different grant schemes (e.g.) Pioneering Research Grant versus Mid-Career Research Grant in the same round? Yes, you can and if the chief investigator meets the TDC (Tour De Cure) grant guidelines for each category There is no limit on applications if they fall withing the TDC guidelines. We are putting a limit of 5 applications per grant category by Institutions for 2024

- Regarding the Eligible Organisation priority ranking for multiple applications in the same category, I have a two-part query: As the applications are submitted via Smarty Grants, there may be applications that are submitted without our (Research Administration Office) knowledge. We always _try_ to find out about every application, but we cannot force the applicants to reach out to us ahead of time. What is Tour de Cure's intention with applications that are submitted without a ranking, or with an inaccurate ranking. If they are not ranked it does not matter. We have requested the ranking for the TDC Grant committee as a guideline only.

- As the ranking is to be provided in the application – what verification does Tour de Cure require to confirm that the ranking is genuine? (i.e., provided by the Eligible Organisation, not self-reported by the applicant.) Is there a way for the Eligible Organisation to provide this ranking privately, to avoid any potential conflicts? (As everyone will want to be ranked 1st, do we need to disclose the institutional priority ranking to the applicant?) You can email a list of the applicants to TDC. We would like a guideline from the institutions of the importance and priority of the application, and this will help guide TDC in the right direction with its reviews. Institutes can rank each grant category, not just the applicants to be more concise if needed.

- I just wanted to raise a concern we have around the 'ranking' of applications. With the ability of researchers to submit via Smarty Grants they can do so without notifying the grants team or University. I was wondering if it were possible for Tour de Cure, once submission has

occurred, to send the list of submitted applications to the organisation IF they need to be ranked?? This would achieve a couple of things; we can engage properly with you and rank ALL the applications and it also would ensure that the University knows who has submitted an EOI (Expression of Interest). Yes, this can be done; can you please send me an email after the application's closing date.

- I have had a couple of researchers enquire today about the organisational **ranking** process for the TdC grant round. I am assuming the organisational ranking is still required although can you please just confirm this for me? The ranking is not mandatory for applications. The ranking is only a *guideline* for our Grants Committee. It to help the TDC Committee to understand what your priority projects are and the preferred direction you are taking. You know your researchers better than anyone and if you were to only receive funding for one grant, who would you choose? The ranking is not a requirement but suggestible, just put '0' in the application box if you do not want to rank the application

- In addition, I notice that the 'TDC grant guidelines' still have on the front page <u>2020</u>. Knowing researchers this will cause them angst so I wondered if this could be updated, even if the guidelines are the same otherwise, I suspect you will have to field multiple emails/phone calls asking for the 'new' guidelines. The Guidelines have not changed since 2020, this is still a legal document. We do not need to change the date year on year, it gets updated when reviewed and edited.

- I am wondering if there is a **limit to how many grants** you can put in as the CI? I have two grant applications and was hoping to submit one to the **Mid-Career Scientist/Researcher** scheme and the other to the **Pioneering or Matching** scheme. I know that in many cases you can only submit one, so I just wanted to check. A chief investigator can be named in several applications, it is not just limited to one. We understand that CI can be overseeing several projects in their role.

- For **PhD students**, is my understanding correct that they must be Australian citizens, PR visa holders, or have applied for Australian Permanent Residency by the time they submit their full application (if they have passed the EOI stage)? They must be an Australian citizen, PR visa holders, or have applied for Australian Permanent Residency by the time they are awarded the grant. This will be mid-December 2023. They will need to be approved residency before payment is made in March 2021

- **Letter of Support** from my institute is not required for these two schemes. I can see that it is stated clearly that the Letter of Support is only required for the PhD applications. However,

this still shows as a required item in the preview of the application. You are correct, you do not need a letter of support for the EOI. This will be required for round two with the full grant applicants.

- With regards to the letter of support from the Eligible organisation, does this come from my direct supervisor or the Head of School/Department? Additionally, is there any specific information that is required in this letter? The Head of School or Department would be perfect. ……….To save you the trouble at this moment, you can hold off on getting the document. We have decided to get the official letters of support from everyone (except the PhD scholarship grants) till the second round with the full applications. One less thing you need to do.

- Would you mind clarifying if there are any guidelines on when funding must commence or the duration of the funding? Thanks for your advice. The start of the grant can commence once awarded and in the calendar year of payment (March 2023). On average the duration of the grant is 1 to 2 years although we have had a couple of studies over a 5-year period.

- There is no grant period/time frame stipulated, is 1 to 1.5 years an acceptable period for the project I am proposing? Yes, the period you mentioned is acceptable. There is no time limit on the grants and if you need 2 years that's ok. We have had grant that are 3 to 5-year study. Most grant periods are for 1 to 2 years.

- Regarding the budget: Just confirming that salary for research assistant/post-doc support is permissible. Also, how much detail is needed under the "Budget, Equipment, Consumables and Other Costs" section? For example, should we be breaking down the consumables budget to fine detail or keep it broad for the EOI? Keep it broad for the budget for the EOI Application: Equipment, Consumables, Tissue samples etc. We will ask for a detailed costing in round 2 full application.

- Could you let me know the amount available from TdC (Tour De Cure) under the Matching Grant category please? You can apply for either of 2 matching grants categories; $50,000 or the $100,000. With your institute matching the grant with TDC, the total funding will be either of $100,000 or the $200,000 for the project.

- I would like to know (especially in relation to the Pioneer Research Grants) whether there is a non-disclosure A\agreement (NDA) in place and whether the project proposal will be

considered confidential. I assume this is the case, but they would like some further confirmation. All applications and project proposal will be considered confidential.

- We are interested in applying for a Tour de Cure Grant, however, would like to confirm that our **organisation is eligible** before proceeding further with our expression of interest application. Our **organisation is a company**, …………………..   I am hoping you can provide clarity on our organisations eligibility to apply. With confirmation form our legal team, there is currently no approval to fund private organisations for research grants. I advised to apply for the grant through your university status.

- I am supporting University of Sydney applicants the Tour de Cure programme across a range of grant categories. Would you mind clarifying if there are any guidelines on when funding must commence or the **grant duration** of the funding? Thanks for your advice. The start of the grant can commence once awarded and in the calendar year of payment (March 2023). On average the duration of the grant is 1 to 2 years although we have had a couple of studies over 5-year period and a few 3-year projects.

- Are there any limitations as to the number of applications under a CIA? No, A chief investigator can be named in several applications, it's not just limited to one. We understand that CI can be overseeing several projects in their role.

- Regarding the processes that the grant selection committee use to manage **conflict of interest**. If you can send me a summary of what processes the committee use to manage any potential conflicts of interest, that would be great! This is just to help us classify the Tour de Cure grants into the appropriate Research income Category If there are any areas of conflict with the members of the Tour de Cure Grants Committee in relation to the review process of applications in the Annual Grant Round, they are requested to remove themselves till the process is completed. This is done through all types of communication and physically. TDC has a clear governance process in place to manage any potential conflicts of interest when it arises.

- Can I please confirm – how many applications can a CI be named on? A chief investigator can be named in several applications, not just limited to one. We understand that CI can be overseeing several projects in their role.

- different grants, can our institution **rank** them independently for their specific grant source Yes, they can be ranked differently under each grant category. The ranking is only a *guideline*

for our Grants Committee, it is to help us understand what your priority projects are and the preferred direction you are taking.

- For the support letter from my organisation, I am wondering who I should address to? Thanks very much. Please address it to the Tour De Cure Grants Committee, c/o Jos Kevan

- Can you please confirm that the **duration** for the senior research research grants is 2 years? Or is it 1 year? We can't find any reference in the guidelines. We have no set research period for the grant as we are aware that each study is different. On average the duration of the grant is 1 to 2 years although we have had a couple of studies over 5-year period and a few 3-year projects. The payment for the grant occurs in March 2023

- Can patient consumers be included as researchers on the application? (i.e. as part of the research team) If they are a key part to the research and will be included in the entire process, please do.

- Is a **PhD student** still eligible to apply even though she does not meet the citizenship/residency requirements (but her supervisor does). If they are not an Australian resident or citizen and not in the process of applying for residency are *not eligible* for a TDC grant.

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- Would it be ok if an applicant mentioned another researcher who has an application in another category? Yes, we understand that researchers work across several projects.

- Are you able to provide me with an example of a **letter of support?** The letter of support needs to contain who you are, what your researching, your achievements, support from the university and acknowledgement from the person who is writing the letter.

- Indirect costs in the **Budget** - that your organisation understands that in-direct costs are part of research projects and that these can be charged if justified. Our indirect research costs concern things like access to labs/ library / software etc, things the university needs to pay for but can't be directly attributed to a project. Tour de Cure understands that in-direct costs are part of research projects and that these can be charged if justified in the Budget Justification and are noted in the Budget costs.

- I am putting in my EOI application for the Tour de Cure grants, but I accidently created another EOI (**RSP-490-FY2023**). Is there a way I can delete this application or is it okay to just leave it unsubmitted? Just leave it unsubmitted

- Since payment is made in March 2023 – would this also be the recommended **start date** or would you expect for the project to start Jan 2023. I could not find a proposed start date in the guidelines. Would Feb/March 2023 would be suitable start date? The successful applicants will be notified mid- December so you can have a start date from January if needed. Most grants start 1st of March.

- **Duration of a grant**? We have no set research period for the grant period as we are aware that each study is different. On average the duration of the grant is 1 to 2 years although we have had a couple of studies over 5-year period and a few 3-year projects. The start of the grant can commence once awarded and in the calendar year of payment (March 2023).

- is the Senior Research Grant meant to be funding for 1 year only? We have no set research period for the grant period as we are aware that each study is different. On average the duration of the grant is 1 to 2 years although we have had a couple of studies over 5-year period and a few 3-year projects. The start of the grant can commence once awarded and in the calendar year of payment (March 2023), the funding is a one-off payment.

- We have a couple of PhD students who are looking to apply to the PhD scholarship category. should they name themselves as CI on the application. The PhD student applying (as themselves) is the CI of their research and on the application

- As a **PhD** student am I the Applicant or the CI? The applicant is the organisation, and you are the Chief Investigator (you can put under the *Chief investigator Position – Your name and "PhD Student"*)

- . Does the **PhD** candidate need to be the CI for the application? Yes

- Could you please confirm whether a **PhD student** needs to submit their academic record, career development and objectives at the EOI stage or only if they are invited to apply at the following stage? In other words, they would only need to upload their letter of support at this stage? We require a letter of support for all PhD applications in the EOI's. All other categories will need to supply this in round two with the full grant application. Their academic record,

career development and objectives will be required by everyone in round two with the full grant application