



Hyundai Hope On Wheels®

Helping Kids Fight Cancer Since 1998

**Request for Proposals
2025 Hyundai Hope On Wheels
Pediatric Cancer Research Funding**

**Hope Scholar Grant
Young Investigator Grant**

Table of Contents

2025 Grants Program Overview	3
• Introduction	3
• Philosophy.....	3
Hope Scholar Grant	4-5
Young Investigator Grant	6
Application Process	7
• Overview	7
• Detailed Content of Application	8
• ProposalCENTRAL Process.....	9
• Awards Guidelines & Timeframe.....	9

HYUNDAI HOPE ON WHEELS

2025 HYUNDAI HOPE ON WHEELS GRANTS PROGRAM OVERVIEW

INTRODUCTION

Hyundai Hope On Wheels® [“HHOW”] is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that joined the fight against childhood cancer in 1998. The organization funds life-saving research and creates awareness for childhood cancer. Since its inception, HHOW has donated more than \$225 million to fund pediatric cancer research.

In 2025, the following categories of research grants for pediatric cancer are available per this RFP:

- Hope Scholar Grant: \$400,000 (two-year award), please see pages 4-5 for details.
- Young Investigator Grant: \$250,000 (two-year award), please see page 6 for details.

Eligibility to apply for a Hope Scholar or Young Investigator Grant is limited to Children’s Oncology Group (“COG”) member institutions in the U.S. Each eligible institution may submit up to **one** application per grant category. Applicants will be notified by April 2 2025, about grant awardees. If selected, the first funding installment is planned for release on December 31, 2025. Approved research projects may begin upon receipt of the initial grant award disbursement. If selected, material conditions for the institution that receives a grant are to agree to all terms and conditions of the grant agreement, and to agree to host a Hyundai Hope On Wheels handprint ceremony at its location or virtually during August or September of 2025.

PHILOSOPHY OF HYUNDAI HOPE ON WHEELS GRANTS

The intent of the HHOW pediatric cancer research grants is to provide funding for principal investigators (herein referred to as “PI”), whose research projects are likely to have a significant impact on improving the understanding of the biology of childhood cancer and/or developing novel diagnostic, prognostic, and therapeutic approaches for pediatric malignancies. Projects eligible to be funded by this program will pursue innovative research that has translational potential, i.e. the possibility of directly impacting childhood cancer diagnosis and treatment. **Proposals requesting support for clinical trials are not eligible for consideration.** However, projects may propose to utilize specimens that have already been obtained from already completed clinical trials, i.e. specimens must already be in hand and not dependent on ongoing patient accrual to a clinical trial. In addition to basic and translational pediatric cancer research projects, proposals may also address issues related to pediatric cancer outcomes, survivorship and disparities.

Grants are awarded **to the applying institution** (herein referred to as the “applicant”) for the purpose of supporting the PI and the research specified in the proposal. Submitting PIs must include a **letter of support** from the division chief of pediatric oncology at the applicant institution, and concurrence of the development office. With the submission of the Grant application(s), the PI(s) confirm(s) that each is authorized by the officers of the institution to submit the application and the institution agrees to abide by all terms and conditions of the grant.

The funds of awarded grants may not be transferred to a different institution under any circumstance, should the designated PI leave the institution for any reason. However, the institution may nominate a new qualified candidate to serve as the PI, subject to the new candidate meeting all guidelines and with no substantive changes to the approved project. Any such requests will be reviewed for scientific and PI qualifications and it should not be assumed that automatic transfer of funds will be approved. The original

PI must have completed all progress reports and funding documentation for transfer to an alternative PI to be considered.

HYUNDAI HOPE ON WHEELS

2025 HOPE SCHOLAR GRANT

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2025

APPLICATION CRITERIA/PROCESS

As material conditions precedent to receiving the grant, the Applicant institution must abide by all terms and conditions herewith and in the grant agreement and agrees to host a check presentation on its campus or virtually in August or September 2025.

Application Details:

- The Hope Scholar Grant is a two-year, \$400,000 award (paid \$200,000 per year) that is intended to support mid- to late-career investigators. Approved funding may be used only for the purposes expressly set forth in the applicant's proposal and specifically performed under the direction/leadership of the PI identified in the proposal.
- Applicant eligibility for **Hope Scholar Grant**:
 1. PI must be an MD/DO or MD/DO/PhD pediatric oncologist whose research is focused on pediatric oncology
 2. PI must hold the rank of Assistant Professor or higher, and **no less than** 7 years may have elapsed from the start of their pediatric oncology fellowship training
 3. A PhD is not eligible to be a PI, for the purposes of the award, but may participate as a member of a research team
 4. Individuals who are **not** pediatric oncologists (including but not limited to pediatric surgeons, pediatric pathologists, pediatric radiation oncologists) are **not** eligible to apply for the Hope Scholar Grant
 5. PI may have no more than 1 R01 or R01-equivalent grant at the time of application
 6. There should be no overlap of the current Hope Scholar proposal with concurrent funding
 7. Applicant must be based in and research focused on projects within the United States
 8. Proposals requesting support for clinical trials are not eligible for consideration. However, projects may propose to utilize specimens/data that have already been obtained as a correlative aim of a clinical trial, i.e., specimens and/or data must already be in hand and not dependent on ongoing patient accrual to a clinical trial. In addition to basic and translational pediatric cancer research projects, proposals may also address issues related to pediatric cancer outcomes, survivorship and disparities.
 9. Applicant may not have concurrent HHOW funding, but may apply during the second year of funding for a second HHOW grant (i.e. consecutive funding)
- The proposal shall be submitted online via the ProposalCENTRAL website and shall include:
 1. An Executive Summary that shall not exceed **3,000 characters** and must state project aims, outcomes, and benefits to pediatric cancer. The executive summary should also include brief bulleted statements in lay language on the goals of the project. These will be used to describe approved projects in HHOW websites and promotional materials.
 2. The Proposal shall not exceed 4 pages and must use Microsoft Word format, Aptos font, 11 pt., with a minimum of 1" margins on all sides. It must include: a) project aims, b) research design, c) expected outcomes, d) research findings, and e) other relevant information for the review.

3. Eligible projects must be those with a translational impact on research. Support will not be provided for clinical trials and correlative biological studies in a clinical trial.
4. A separate one-page budget summary in Excel format is required. The budget shall:
 - a) Reflect projected expenditures allocated by category in total and by year.
 - b) If any portion of the project includes funding from other grantors, the applicant shall identify the other grantors' funding, the terms and relationship of HHOW funding.
 - c) PI shall also describe the use of the Hope Scholar Grant funding separate from the other funding.
 - d) PI must have a minimum 5% effort allocated to the project or provide justification why effort is not allocated.
5. Must submit each of the following: NIH-style Bio-sketch, Applicant Institution's W9, IRS Determination Letter, Division Chief Letter of Support, PI photo, and a separate one-page summary of project expected milestones and measurable goals for every year during the Hope Scholar Grant period.

Other Grant Application Process Related Information:

- The Applicant may submit only **one** Grant application in each category, and an individual PI may submit an application for either the Hope Scholar or the Young Investigator category, but not both. The application(s) shall include a letter of support from the applicant's division chief of pediatric hematology-oncology. The letter should not exceed two pages.
- An applying PI may **not** have two separate HHOW grants concurrently but may apply during the second year of funding for a second HHOW grant (see #7 above).
- *A HHOW grant agreement is required to be executed for all approved Grants. No changes, of any sort, to the HHOW grant agreement will be allowed. Applicant agrees that failure to abide by terms and conditions of an approved grant may result in revocation of un-released grant funds, potential requirement to return already disbursed funds, and future ineligibility for HHOW grants.*
- **ABSOLUTELY NO CHANGES OR EXCEPTIONS ALLOWED TO THE HHOW GRANT AGREEMENT. PLEASE DO NOT APPLY IF YOUR INSTITUTION WILL NOT AGREE TO THESE TERMS.**

2025 HYUNDAI YOUNG INVESTIGATOR GRANT
SUBMISSION DEADLINE: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2025

APPLICATION CRITERIA

The criteria and application details for the Young Investigator Grant are the same as the Hyundai Hope Scholar Grant, with the exception of eligibility criteria.

Application details and other application process:

The Hyundai Young Investigator Grant is a two-year, \$250,000 (\$125,000/year) **early career grant**. Approved funding may be used only for the purposes expressly set forth in the applicant's proposal and specifically performed under the direction/leadership of the PI identified in the proposal.

- Eligible Criteria for Young Investigator:
 1. PI may be an MD/DO or MD/DO/PhD who is currently in the 3rd or 4th year of an ACGME-accredited pediatric hematology-oncology fellowship training program and conducting pediatric cancer research

OR

 2. PI may be a pediatric oncologist holding a rank no higher than Assistant Professor
 3. No more than 7 years may have elapsed since the start of pediatric hematology-oncology fellowship training
 4. A PhD is not eligible to be a PI, for the purposes of the award, but may participate as a member of a research team
 5. Individuals who are **not** pediatric oncologists (including but not limited to pediatric surgeons, pediatric pathologists, pediatric radiation oncologists) are **not** eligible to apply for the Young Investigator Grant
 6. Applicant must be based in and research focused on projects within the United States
 7. There should be no overlap of the current Young Investigator proposal with concurrent funding
 8. Proposals requesting support for clinical trials are not eligible for consideration. However, projects may propose to utilize specimens/data that have already been obtained as a correlative aim of a clinical trial, i.e., specimens and/or data must already be in hand and not dependent on ongoing patient accrual to a clinical trial. In addition to basic and translational pediatric cancer research projects, proposals may also address issues related to pediatric cancer outcomes, survivorship and disparities.
 9. Applicant may not have concurrent HHOW funding, but may apply during the second year of funding for a second HHOW grant (i.e. consecutive funding)

**2025 HYUNDAI HOPE ON WHEELS
GRANTS APPLICATION PROCESS**

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2025

OVERVIEW

1. Research proposals will be evaluated based on:
 - Relevance to pediatric cancer
 - Quality of science
 - Innovation
 - Potential for success
 - Potential impact on the field
 - Quality of applicant
 - Quality of institutional environment
 - Demonstrated need for funding
2. Only **ONE** proposal in each category (i.e. one Young Investigator and one Hope Scholar may be submitted from any individual Applicant), for a maximum total of **TWO applications per institution**.
3. A PI may apply in either category, but not both. An applying PI may not have two HHOW grants at the same time. If the PI is a current HHOW grant awardee, they may not apply for a second HHOW grant award until the second year of their current award.
4. Grant funds may be used to support bench, translational, outcomes or survivorship research and must have a direct relevance to pediatric cancer.
5. No more than 10% of funds may be used for indirect costs – note that this is included in the \$400,000 or \$200,000 total award.
6. Applicants may use funds in conjunction with another award on the same topic. However, the difference must be clearly identified in the budget.
7. If Applicant has submitted multiple applications to other foundations or granting agencies, for funding the same project concurrently, HHOW must be notified in the written application (Section VII below)
8. The PI for either the Young Investigator or Hope Scholar award may not have more than one (1) R01 or R01-equivalent at the time of application. K awards or equivalent career development awards are permitted for Young Investigator and Scholar PIs.
9. All applications are to be submitted via the ProposalCENTRAL website.
10. **All proposals must be submitted no later than 5 p.m. PDT on Friday, February 14, 2025.**

DETAILED CONTENT OF APPLICATION

The following sections are mandatory, and **appendices or supplemental materials are not permitted**. Grant proposals that do not meet these guidelines will be immediately disqualified and will not be reviewed.

- I. **Contact information** (PI Name, title, institution, email, phone, and mailing address; also, include the name, email and phone of Development Office contact information)
- II. **Executive summary** (no more than 3000 characters; 1 page) – in 11 pt. Aptos font (and not less than 1 inch side, top and bottom margins).
- III. **Research Proposal** (NOT TO EXCEED 4 pages). ***If the proposal exceeds this page limit, the proposal will be immediately disqualified and not reviewed.*** This will be STRICTLY ENFORCED. **No appendices or supplemental materials are permitted; figures should be embedded within the text.** The Proposal must use 11 pt. Calibri font, and side, top and bottom margins must be at least 1 inch.
 - a) Background and Rationale
 - b) Specific Aims
 - c) Approach/Methods
 - d) Expected Results/Pitfalls
 - e) Significance to the field of pediatric cancer
- IV. **Bibliography / References** (no page limit)
- V. **Budget Breakdown** – estimated amounts, to nearest \$5,000, in the following categories:
 - 1) Personnel – identify specific individuals by name (if possible) and role on project
 - 2) Supplies
 - 3) Equipment – describe specific equipment requests
 - 4) Publication/Travel – this category is limited to \$2500/year
- VI. **Biosketch** in current NIH format (no more than 4 pages)
- VII. **Other Grant Support** (Current, Pending, and Past 3 years)
- VIII. **Letter of Support from Division Chief of Pediatric Hematology-Oncology** addressing reason for selecting candidate/project: impact, quality of candidate, quality of science, institutional commitment to career development, need for support.
- IX. Documentation to include:
 - Copy of Institutional IRS Letter of Determination
 - Completed W9 form

Due to the high volume of applications, HHOW may not be able to provide specific feedback to any individual or organization regarding the status, merit and/or denial of its application. All materials submitted, as part of these proposals will not be returned.

ProposalCENTRAL Application Process

- The division chief of pediatric hematology-oncology must nominate the principal investigators (PI) who will be applying for each grant. The applicant must apply through the ProposalCENTRAL portal. Once logged on as an applicant, select Hyundai Hope on Wheels from the grant opportunity drop-down. It will take you directly to the ProposalCENTRAL login for the HHOW programs.

AWARD GUIDELINES & TIMEFRAME

- All completed grant applications will be reviewed by a panel of medical experts identified and convened by HHOW.
- All applicants will be notified of grant selection status by April 2, 2025. Review comments will not be available for any proposal, whether selected for funding or not.
- Proposals selected for funding can begin research projects immediately upon receipt of initial funding installment or by December 31, 2025, whichever is sooner.
- For approved projects, an initial progress report is to be submitted to HHOW by December 1, 2026, and a final report shall be submitted by June 1, 2028. The format of the reports is included in the final grant terms and conditions letter of agreement.
- A one-time no cost extension request not to exceed **6 months** may be requested, and must be submitted no more than 3 months prior to the conclusion of the grant term.
- Selected grant recipients must sign the HHOW grant agreement, which includes permission for HHOW to use Applicant's logo, images, photos and posting of research proposal title/results by HHOW in conjunction with the national promotional campaign. HHOW is a separate entity from Hyundai Motor America (HMA). Neither HHOW nor HMA shall use the winning institution's logos, name or likeness in relation to HMA's retail sales advertising. Approval of a grant award shall not constitute any endorsement of HMA products or services by the winning institution.
- Submittal of the application does not entitle Applicant to an award of a grant from HHOW. HHOW reserves the right to select grant recipients in its sole and absolute discretion or to refrain from selecting any one or all of the grant applicants.
- Failure to complete all grant application materials, including signing of the HHOW grant agreement, within the approved time, shall constitute grounds for disqualification of the application and revocation of any grant award notification, at HHOW's sole and absolute discretion.