



# Fellowship Grant Application

## Pre-Doctoral and Post-Doctoral Awards

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Application Deadline:  
September 15, 2023, 11:59pm EDT



### About ChadTough Defeat DIPG Foundation

We at ChadTough see a world where kids diagnosed with DIPG/DMG have a bright future and can live out their dreams. To make this vision a reality, we are committed to funding the most innovative, promising research on childhood brain cancer.

The foundation's founding families, the Carrs and the Mosiers, lost their sons, 5-year-old Chad and 6-year-old Michael, in 2015 to DIPG. Now, also fueled by other parents who have faced a pediatric brain cancer diagnosis, our Family Partners, and guided by a Scientific Advisory Council made up of the leading experts in the field, the ChadTough Defeat DIPG Foundation ensures every dollar possible funds the most incremental, promising research available anywhere in the world.

### Fellowship Grant Description

The ChadTough Defeat DIPG Fellowship Grant is intended to attract and support promising scientists embarking on careers involving DIPG research. By providing funding to outstanding fellows under the guidance of a mentor, we seek to assist in the development of the next generation of leaders in the field of DIPG research. The ChadTough Defeat DIPG Fellowship Grant is available to pre-doctoral and post-doctoral researchers. The amount of the grant is up to \$200,000 over 3 years (maximum of \$67,000 per year) for pre-doctoral fellows, and up to \$300,000 over 3 years (maximum of \$100,000 per year) for post-doctoral fellows.

### Key Dates

Application Deadline: September 15, 2023 11:59pm EDT

Award Notifications: November 2023

Grant Start Date: January 1, 2024

First Interim Progress Report: December 1, 2024

Second Interim Progress Report: December 1, 2025

Grant End Date: December 31, 2026

Final Report: March 1, 2027

### Review and Selection Process

- Each application is reviewed by the ChadTough Defeat DIPG Scientific Advisory Council.
- The Scientific Advisory Council makes recommendations to the ChadTough Defeat DIPG Foundation, and the foundation makes the final funding decision.
- All application evaluations are considered confidential and are available only to the Scientific Advisory Council and the foundation's Board of Directors and staff.
- When an application is approved for funding, grant award is contingent upon all legal documents being signed and approved by the foundation and the applicant's institution.

### Conditions of Grants

- We fund research to better understand the causes of DIPG and to advance its treatment and cure. To help achieve this goal, we expect researchers to publish their findings in peer-reviewed journals and to make their data available to other researchers.
- We do not fund proposals for research utilizing human embryonic stem cells.
- All grants are payable to the grant recipient's institution or laboratory.



- The post-doctoral grant is to cover salary and fringe benefits only. The pre-doctoral grant is for a stipend to cover living expenses and for the cost of tuition and fees. No funds may be used for indirect costs.
- Grant is limited to cover the applicant's research time, not clinical time.
- Overlap in funding is not permitted. This includes scientific, budget, and commitment overlap, as defined by the National Institute of Health.
- Requests for transfers to another institution while the grant is in effect will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- No-Cost Extensions may be requested by emailing [grants@chadtough.org](mailto:grants@chadtough.org).
- Grant recipients will work with us to coordinate a joint press release to announce the grant.

### Eligibility Requirements

- Applicant need not be a U.S. citizen.
- Applicant must not have received more than one prior fellowship.
- Applicant must commit at least 75% of full-time effort to research.
- Applicant must identify a mentor who will provide supervision, facilities, and research support.
- For pre-doctoral applicants:
  - Applicant must be enrolled in a research doctoral degree program at an accredited academic institution.
- For post-doctoral applicants:
  - Applicant must hold an M.D. and/or Ph.D. by the application deadline.
  - Applicant must be no more than 6 years post-completion of last degree.
  - Applicant must be employed by an academic institution, nonprofit research institution, or laboratory.

### Grant Reporting and Publications

- The second and third years of funding are contingent upon a noncompetitive review of the progress report. The report must demonstrate satisfactory progress toward completion of proposed research objectives and appropriate budget expenditures.
- All progress reports shall be accompanied by an evaluation report from the mentor.
- Publications, presentations, and posters featuring results of the experiments funded by this grant mechanism should acknowledge (1) ChadTough Defeat DIPG Foundation, and (2) if applicable, any Research Partner who has committed funds to us to support this grant award. We will inform you of any Research Partner(s) that should be acknowledged. Copies should be sent via email to [grants@chadtough.org](mailto:grants@chadtough.org).

### Contents of Application

#### 1. Cover Page

Please use our template, which is available at <https://www.chadtough.org/grants>. Cover Page must be signed.



## 2. Layman's Summary

Provide a 300-word summary of the research project in layman's terms. The summary should focus on the research proposed in the application, and it need not include a description of DIPG or its current prognosis. By submitting this application, applicant consents to our public use of this summary if the project is funded. The summary should not include any confidential or proprietary information.

## 3. Specific Aims (0.5 page)

Describe the goals of the proposed research and summarize the expected outcome(s).

## 4. Research Plan (4 pages)

### A. Significance (0.5 page)

Explain the importance of the problem addressed and how the proposed research project will improve scientific knowledge, technical capability, or clinical practice for DIPG.

### B. Innovation (0.5 page)

Describe how the application will advance, or challenge, the current DIPG research and clinical practices. Describe any novel theoretical concepts, approaches, or methodologies.

### C. Approach (3 pages)

Describe the overall strategy to accomplish the aims of the project. Describe the methods and analyses to be used to accomplish the specific aims of the project. Address potential difficulties and limitations and how these will be overcome or mitigated. Provide a work plan (including timetable) for completing the project. Provide an account of the applicant's preliminary studies relevant to the project.

## 5. Literature Cited

Provide a list of publications relevant to the project. A maximum of 20 references are allowed.

## 6. Proposed Budget

Provide a budget outlining proposed expenditures. Budget cannot include any indirect costs. For a post-doctoral applicant, the budget must be limited to salary and fringe benefits and cannot exceed \$100,000 per year. For a pre-doctoral applicant, the budget must be limited to a stipend (up to \$35,000) and tuition and fees, the total of which cannot exceed \$67,000 per year.

## 7. Statement of Other Support

Provide a list of: (1) active support; (2) applications and proposals pending review or funding; (3) applications and proposals planned or being prepared for submission. Include all federal, non-federal, and institutional grant and contract support. For each item give the source of support, identifying number, project title, name of principal investigator, applicant's time or percent of effort on the project, annual direct costs, and entire period of support.



## 8. Mentor's Letter of Support

A signed Letter of Support must be submitted by the mentor, describing his/her role and commitment to advancing the career independence of the applicant. The letter should address the following:

- The mentor's commitment to mentoring the applicant and plan to support the applicant's career development during the grant term.
- The applicant's potential for success as an independent investigator.
- The resources to be provided to the applicant to support the research project.
- The mentor's experience mentoring pre-doctoral and post-doctoral level researchers.
- Verification that the applicant is eligible for the fellowship grant.

## 9. Biographical Sketches

Provide the NIH biographical sketches for the applicant and mentor.

## 10. IRB Approval

If the project includes human subjects or otherwise requires IRB approval, provide the IRB approval letter. If IRB approval is not required, state that no IRB approval is necessary.

## 11. Additional Institutional Contact Information

Provide contact information (name, email address, and phone number) for accounts payable, grants management, and media or public relations should the project be funded.

## 12. Potential or Actual Conflicts of Interest

Provide a description of any financial interest (e.g., ownership or investment interest, compensation arrangement, opportunity) or other actual or potential conflict of interest Primary Investigator has, directly or indirectly, through business, investment or family relationships in the proposed research.

## Application Submission Instructions

1. Please combine all parts of the application into a single PDF.
2. Email the application to [grants@chadtough.org](mailto:grants@chadtough.org).

## Contact

If you have any questions about the Fellowship Grant or the application process, please send us an email at [grants@chadtough.org](mailto:grants@chadtough.org).