



V FOUNDATION®

Victory Over Cancer

## Pediatric V Scholar Cancer Research Grant

### 2025 Request for Applications

#### PURPOSE OF AWARD:

This Request for Applications (RFA) is specifically for **pediatric** cancer research through the V Scholar grant mechanism. This award supports tenure-track faculty early in their cancer research career by funding projects that are **either laboratory-based fundamental research or translational research**. Emphasis for this grant mechanism is on supporting exceptional early career investigators at the Assistant Professor stage to be better positioned to leverage large R01 or similar sustaining grants.

#### SPECIAL FOCUS AREA:

This RFA is specifically for **pediatric** cancer research. Please note that research areas **not** included in this scope are epidemiology, behavioral science, and health services research.

#### AVAILABLE GRANT AWARDS:

**V-Scholar** - This award is for applicants that may be applying for the first time, or those applicants who have applied in the past, though may not have been selected for funding. The purpose is to jump start the careers of the best early-stage investigators.

**BIostatISTICS:** A biostatistical or bioinformatics plan is **required** for every application or it will not be considered

#### GRANT SPECIFICS:

- A three-year, \$600,000 grant, paid in \$200,000 annual installments.
- No indirect costs allowed.
- The V Foundation follows NIH Guidelines regarding salary caps. Institutions are welcome to supplement a grant recipient's salary with institutional funds if desired.

#### APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY:

**Inclusion:** Nominee must meet **all** of the following criteria **by the nomination due date:**

- Nominated by their Cancer Center Director or similar high ranking research official.
- Employed at a non-profit research institution (e.g., 501c3, Section 170).
- Either a US Citizen or a permanent legal resident in the US. This requirement does not apply to invited Canadian institutions.
- Possess at least 2 years post-doctoral (MD or PhD) fellowship training. For MDs, a minimum of one year is acceptable if only one year is required for their specialty.
- Clinical scientists are eligible if the research institution demonstrates that it will fully support the research applicant (e.g., dedicated lab space, committed research time, start-up funds).
- Must be in a full-time tenure track or tenured faculty position (for e.g., must be eligible to apply for PI status on an R01 at your institution).
- V Scholar Applicants must have been appointed to their first full-time tenure track Assistant Professor position no more than 5 years prior to the nomination due date, and not yet promoted to Associate Professor.
  - Extensions to the 5-year limit may be given on a case-by-case basis to nominees

who took parental leave (or other types of leave) during this window. Please contact [grants@v.org](mailto:grants@v.org) with the following to obtain approval BEFORE submitting the nomination form:

- Appointment start date
- Length of leave
- Institutional tenure clock stoppages/extensions, if applicable

**EXCLUSION:** By this Nomination Due Date, nominee must:

- **NOT** be a previous or current V Foundation V Scholar awardee.
- **NOT** have accepted or received notification of an R01 award by this nomination due date.
- **NOT** have accepted or received award notification of any peer-reviewed, non-mentored **single grant** that totals or exceeds \$750K in total direct funding at ANY point in their professional career. This calculation should exclude indirect costs.
- **NOT** have accepted or received award notification of any peer-reviewed, non-mentored funding that exceeds \$1M in **aggregated** (total) direct funding at ANY point in their professional career. This calculation should exclude indirect costs and/or institutional funds.  
**Note: The V Scholar award is intended to support research to leverage these larger awards; so, the nominee should not have already received such awards.**

#### **NEXT STEPS:**

**Internal application instructions:** This is a limited submission opportunity. Interested researchers must be nominated by the Cancer Center to move forward to move forward with an application to The V Foundation. To apply for nomination, **submit the following by Monday, February 24th by 11:59pm MST:**

Submit an LOI as a single PDF with the following information:

1. Title page with project title, PI names, rank, department/division, email and the names of any other key personnel or significant collaborators you will include in the project
2. One-page Lay Summary
3. Two-page project summary that includes:
  - Background and Hypothesis
  - Specific Aims and Methods, including a brief plan for statistical analysis for each aim
  - Timeline and Expected Milestones
  - If applicable, a description of the plan for biomarker validation
  - If relevant, outline how the project addresses an understudied group and/or a high burden of illness
4. NIH-formatted biosketch (five-page limit)
5. Completed V Scholar Financial Worksheet using the attached Excel document. Once you have completed the information, print the Excel document to PDF and include it as the final page of your PDF attachment. **Submissions without this information will not be considered.**

[Submit your LOI here](#)

#### **IMPORTANT DATES:**

**Nomination Due Date to V Foundation:** by 5:00 PM Eastern Time  
on **May 1, 2025 Application Due Date:** by 5:00 PM Eastern Time  
on **June 17, 2025 Earliest Start Date:** Mid-September, 2025