The APHON Evidence-Based Practice Grant Program Offers the Mattie Miracle Cancer Foundation (MMCF) Evidence-Based Practice Grant for the Implementation of the Standards of Psychosocial Care of Children with Cancer and their Families

Grant applications are required to be submitted electronically via Common Grant Application. You must register with Common Grant to submit an application. Letters of Intent are due on March 8, 2021, by 11:59 pm Central Time. Grant Applications are due on May 3, 2021, by 11:59 pm Central Time.
APHON Grant Opportunities

• Evidence-Based Practice Grants

Three $2,500 grants for evidence-based practice (EBP) projects funded by the MMCF* that address implementation of recommendations from any of the 15 Standards for the Psychosocial Care of Children with Cancer and their Families.

*APHON thanks the Mattie Miracle Cancer Foundation for their generous support of the Mattie Miracle Cancer Foundation Evidence-Based Practice Grant for the Implementation of the Standards of Psychosocial Care of Children with Cancer and their Families.

Questions

For specific questions or concerns not addressed in this packet or if you would like a mentor to assist you in the development of an LOI or full grant proposal, contact the APHON Evidence-Based Practice/Research Committee.
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Introduction

Association of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Nurses
8735 W. Higgins Rd., Suite 300
Chicago, IL 60631
855.202.9760 (US Residents Only) | 847.375.4724
Questions: EBP/Research Grant Program Inquiry Form

Association of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Nurses (APHON) is the professional organization for pediatric hematology/oncology nurses and other pediatric hematology/oncology healthcare professionals. Its members are dedicated to promoting optimal nursing care for children, adolescents, and young adults with cancer and blood disorders and their families. APHON provides the leadership and expertise to pediatric hematology/oncology nurses by defining and promoting the highest standards of practice and care to the pediatric, adolescent, and young adult communities.

Core Purpose
To support and advance nurses and their practice in order to optimize outcomes for children, adolescents, and young adults with cancer and blood disorders and their families.

Core Organizational Values
- Visionary leadership embracing innovation
- Committed to professional and organizational excellence
- Pride in the profession
- Collaboration as an effective strategy
- Absolute integrity and high ethical standards
- Gratifying experience through involvement
- Continuous professional development through life-long learning

The Mattie Miracle Cancer Foundations is dedicated to increasing childhood cancer awareness, education, advocacy, research, and psychosocial support services to children, their families, and medical personnel. Children and their families will be supported throughout the cancer treatment journey, to ensure access to quality psychosocial and mental health care, and to enable children to cope with cancer so they can lead happy and productive lives.
Project Purpose

This EBP grant is for the specific purpose of implementing into practice the recommendations of any of the 15 standards from the Psychosocial Standards of Care developed by over 80 healthcare professionals from the US, Canada, and the Netherlands with and funded by the Mattie Miracle Cancer Foundation.

The overview article as well as articles describing individual standards are available at: www.mattiemiracle.com/downloadstandards.

Additional references include:
MMCF Grant
Evidence-Based Practice
Letter of Intent (LOI) Guidelines

The Letter of Intent (LOI) application requires the following information, with a character limit of 5,000 (approximately 750 words) in total for items 3–8:

1. **Title:** Include the title of your project
2. **Standard:** Specify which standard will be implemented
3. **Background:** The overall project objective
4. **Relevance:** The relevance to pediatric hematology/oncology nursing and the relevance to the Mattie Miracle Cancer Foundation’s mission to ensure optimal psychosocial care for children with cancer and their families throughout the cancer trajectory
5. **Purpose:** Specific project aims
6. **PICO(T) question:** Population; Intervention/Issue; Comparison; Outcome expected; Type of studies/Time for achieving outcome
7. **Summary of literature:** Summary of available literature and preliminary data
8. **Design:** Description of the plan for implementation and data evaluation and analysis

In addition, the application must include the following:

9. **References**
10. **Current financial support:** List each funded grant or contract for the conduct of these projects and any potential overlap with the current proposal. If there are no other grants, state, “None.”
11. **Project team names and roles:** List the names and project roles for the project leader and team members. Describe the project leader’s previous EBP project experience. Include a copy of the curriculum vitae for each team member. List the agency or organization administrative approver.
12. **Letters of support:** A letter of support from the institution (Administration) stating a commitment to ongoing implementation of the standard of care after the project is completed and a letter of support for the project leader from a supervisor, mentor, or faculty advisor stating that he/she has the skills and resources to complete the project.

Format specifications for items 9–12, submitted as supporting PDF documents
- **Font:** Double-spaced, 12-point
- **Paper size:** 8 ½” x 11”
- **Margins:** At least ½” margins (top, bottom, left, and right)
- **Style:** APA 7th Edition for citations, references, and formatting

**STRICT ADHERENCE TO THE INSTRUCTIONS ABOVE IS NECESSARY OR THE PROPOSAL WILL NOT BE REVIEWED.**

Letters of Intent will be evaluated by the APHON Evidence-Based Practice/Research (EBP/Research) Committee, the Mattie Miracle Cancer Foundation, and additional ad hoc panel members as needed, and submission of full applications will be invited for eligible projects. The decision will be communicated to the candidates no later than April 5, 2021, and those who are invited to submit a full proposal will need to do so by May 3, 2021, at 11:59 pm Central Time.

The Mattie Miracle Cancer Foundation will fund the grant based on the stated scope of work in the LOI and application. The grant will cover direct costs only; no indirect fees/charges will be covered. The project leader must be an active
APHON member, and the **12-month project** must advance hematology/oncology nursing practice and the Mattie Miracle Cancer Foundation psychosocial mission. Applicants will be informed of the decisions regarding their applications as soon as they have been made by July 7, 2021.

**Submission**

Letters of Intent must be submitted in Common Grant Application, no later than 11:59 pm Central Time on March 8, 2021. Please submit electronically as web forms and supporting PDF documents through the [APHON page on Common Grant Application](#).

**Questions**

For specific questions or concerns not addressed in this packet or if you would like a mentor to assist you in the development of an LOI or full grant proposal, contact the [APHON Evidence-Based Practice/Research Committee](#).
Guidelines for the MMCF Evidence-Based Practice Projects

**Focus Areas**
Evidence-based practice (EBP) project proposals that address the implementation of any of the Psychosocial Standards of Care.

**Eligible Applicants**
The project leader for the EBP grant must meet the following eligibility criteria:

1. Be an active member of APHON
2. Be a registered nurse who is active in pediatric hematology/oncology and who demonstrates interest in making significant contributions to pediatric hematology/oncology nursing
3. Be employed at an academic institution, children’s hospital, or independent pediatric oncology practice
4. Have a minimum of an MSN or must be enrolled in a master’s or doctoral program.

If the project leader does not yet have a master’s degree, it is expected that they will have a co-leader with EBP experience who has at least a master’s degree or higher.

Note: Members of the APHON Board of Directors or persons serving on the APHON EBP/Research Committee are not eligible to apply for this grant.

**Project Leader Responsibilities**
Responsibilities include:

1. Completion of the EBP project within one year of initial funding;
2. Submission of a progress report to the APHON EBP/Research Committee every six months after funding is disbursed and a final report two years after funding when the EBP project is completed; the MMCF staff will lead the reporting to APHON for the MMCF grants;
3. Submission of a publishable manuscript to the *Journal of Pediatric Oncology Nursing* or another appropriate refereed journal and submission of an abstract proposal to present a concurrent session, paper, or poster pertaining to the EBP project at an APHON educational conference within two years of initial funding.

Acceptance of an abstract for publication or presentation is not guaranteed.

If the paper or poster abstract is accepted for presentation at an APHON educational conference, a complimentary registration will be provided for the project leader; and

4. Acknowledgement in any publication, paper, or poster that the EBP project was supported by the Mattie Miracle Cancer Foundation in partnership with the Association of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Nurses.

**Required Information**
Prepare the application which will be submitted as online web forms, along with supporting PDF documents. Document portions are to be typed, 8 ½” x 11” pages. Use 12-point font type and at least ½” margins (top, bottom, left, and right) for all documents included in the application.

All applicants must complete each required field (marked with *) in order to submit their application. APA 7th Edition for citations, references, and formatting is required for all web forms and supporting PDF documents.

1. All applicants must complete the **Summary Data Form**.
2. All applicants must complete the **EBP Grant Contact Form** regarding the contact person for the grant funding agreement and disbursement of funds should the application be selected.
3. Use the space provided to complete the **Abstract form**. Abstracts are to be no more than 1,800 characters and include the clinical issue to be addressed, the significance of the EBP project, plans for implementation, and evaluation.
4. All applicants must complete the **Statement of the Practice Change**. This section includes a description of the current practice and why change is needed; the proposed change in practice; and a concise and critical review of current evidence in the literature concerning the practice issue.
5. All applicants must complete the **Implementation and Evaluation.** This section describes the plans for implementation and evaluation of the change. Include details about the implementation of the psychosocial standard into practice, and evaluation of the outcomes.

A plan for evaluating outcomes for staff and families must be included. Include a brief discussion about the limitations of the project and plans for sustainability if expected outcomes are achieved.

A precise timeline illustrating project tasks and objectives to be completed within one year is required.

6. **Project Budget**

A budget for the entire project must be submitted. If the Mattie Miracle Cancer Foundation funds are to be used for only a portion of the budget, identify the specific items for which you seek support. Identify remaining items to be funded from other sources and in-kind contributions. Clearly describe those sources of funding or support in addition to the amount you are seeking from each entity.

This section must specify the direct costs associated with the EBP project. Neither the project leader’s salary nor the purchase of a computer will be funded. Include notation of contributed funds, personnel, or indirect allowances. The budget must represent sufficient funds to complete the project. Budget for travel to conferences cannot exceed 20% of the total budget.

Because funds are not distributed in one sum, the project leader should propose a strategy for the receipt and distribution of funds during the length of the project. The strategy should facilitate the conduct of the project and may be done on a semiannual basis, by expense voucher, by task or objective, or by another means. The funding year shall begin in January following the awarding of the grant at the APHON educational conference.

7. All applicants must specify the **Personnel** who will be completing the project. Clearly specify the project leader who will be the grant recipient responsible for the conduct of the project. Indicate the pediatric hematology/oncology nursing activities and contributions of the project leader, as well as previous experience with EBP projects.

If there are co-leaders, consultants, or other key personnel, fully describe the contributions of each to the project. Include the curriculum vitae of the project leader, all co-leaders, and consultants.

8. The institution or agency named in the proposal must complete the **Administrative Approval Form** to indicate acknowledgment and approval of the EBP project. **PLEASE NOTE:** Pending approval will not disqualify a proposal for review, but final administrative approval must be given before funding is awarded.

9. All applicants must provide **References.** This document includes bibliographic information in APA 7th Edition formatting of only those sources cited in the proposal.

10. Applicants may provide **Appendices,** which are citations of supportive information and data collection tools. Include any or all of the following in the Appendices.

   - **Appendix A:** Measurement Instruments/Tools
   - **Appendix B:** Human Subjects and/or Institutional Review Board (IRB) Approval letter(s) (if required by your institution for EBP projects)
   - **Appendix C:** Curriculum vitae and Other Supporting Documents

Forms for appendices will be provided to the principal investigator/project leader after the committee review of all LOIs.
Submission Guidelines

The EBP/Research Committee reviews EBP/Research grant proposals once a year.

**Proposals must be submitted in Common Grant Application by 11:59 pm Central Time on May 3, 2021.** Proposals received after this date will not be considered.

An e-mail confirmation will be sent within 48 hours of receiving your proposal. There are no exceptions to the deadline based on failure to receive application materials.

Investigators who have specific questions or concerns not addressed in this packet or who would like a mentor to assist them in the development of an LOI or full grant proposal should contact the APHON Evidence-Based Practice/Research Committee.

1. Submit the proposal electronically through the online grant application portal as web forms and supporting PDF documents. No hard copies will be accepted.
2. Complete all proposal materials. Incomplete proposals will not be considered.
3. Submit proposals to APHON: Common Grant Application

Evaluation Procedures

Proposals will be reviewed by members of the APHON general membership, EBP/Research Committee, and representatives from the Mattie Miracle Cancer Foundation and rated according to predetermined weighted criteria. Outside content experts may be asked to assist in review of all applications.

The committee members and peer review panel will recommend proposals selected to receive funding to the APHON board.

All PIs and project leaders will be notified of the disposition of their proposals after action by the APHON Board of Directors. Principal investigators/project leaders will receive a summary critique of their proposal from the APHON EBP/Research Committee.

Questions

For specific questions or concerns not addressed in this packet or if you would like a mentor to assist you in the development of an LOI or full grant proposal, contact the APHON Evidence-Based Practice/Research Committee.

Notification of Award

**Grant recipients will be notified by July 7, 2021.**

Public announcement of the grant recipients will be made by the EBP/Research Chair at the APHON national conference. Recipients are strongly encouraged to attend the conference and expected to present their progress informally to the EBP/Research Committee during one of the concurrent sessions.

Funds will be awarded to the institution, agency, or investigator or project director at the discretion of the EBP/Research Committee. The strategy for funding proposed by the principal investigator/project director will be considered in the decision.