

**Amy Research Program Grant Instructions**

**About the Program**

The Amy Strelzer Manasevit Research Program for the Study of Post-Transplant Complications (Amy Research Program) is intended to advance the understanding of complications occurring after allogeneic hematopoietic cell transplantation (HCT) or cellular therapy. This program is dedicated to the memory of Amy Strelzer Manasevit who was the recipient of an unrelated donor marrow transplant. During her recovery from an otherwise uncomplicated marrow transplant, Amy developed complications that led to her death. The Amy Research Program is funded by Be The Match Foundation® and administered by National Marrow Donor Program® (NMDP)/Be The Match.

**Description of the Award**

The Amy Research Program provides each awardee with a maximum of $400,000 support over five years. Each funding year runs from July 1 through June 30. Up to four scholars will be selected from among the eligible applications for the funding period 2020-2025. Any application failing to meet the requirements of the program will be judged ineligible.

**Research Scope**

The research proposal must address complications arising after allogeneic HCT or a cellular therapy directed at a disease traditionally treated by HCT. The cellular therapy being studied does not have to be given in conjunction with an HCT. Post-transplant or post-cellular therapy complications are defined as acute and late complications, including relapse.

Proposals may describe either clinical or pre-clinical investigations. Clinical investigations include observational human research, prospective interventional clinical trials in humans, and ancillary laboratory studies performed in conjunction with a human prospective clinical trial. Pre-clinical investigations include laboratory-based human and/or animal studies designed to test the mechanisms, safety, and efficacy of an intervention prior to or in conjunction with its application in humans. Proposals must have only one principal investigator, the applicant, and no co-investigators.

**Qualifications of the Principal Investigator**

* Have NIH Early stage Investigator (ESI) Status
  + NIH ESI status criteria can be found [here](https://grants.nih.gov/policy/early-investigators/index.htm).
  + Extension of the ESI status may be applied for by completing the NIH [Extension Request Form](https://network.bethematchclinical.org/research/grants/) (modified by Be The Match Foundation) and emailing it to [asmgrant@nmdp.org](mailto:asmgrant@nmdp.org).
* Hold a position in a U.S. facility at the time of the application and award. Awardees may transfer the award to another facility during the award period if a written request with justification is submitted to the NMDP for review and approval.
* Be a U.S. citizen, permanent resident or foreign citizen holding a valid U.S. visa.

If credentials for eligibility are uncertain, please email [asmgrant@nmdp.org](mailto:asmgrant@nmdp.org).

**Application Deadline and Submission Instructions**

Applications must be received by 2:00 pm (Central) on or before Friday, November 1, 2019. The application must be emailed to [asmgrant@nmdp.org](mailto:asmgrant@nmdp.org).

You will receive an email within 1 business day acknowledging that your application was received. If you do not receive this email please [call](mailto:call) Miranda Heinen, Administrative Specialist at 763-406-8581 or [mheinen@nmdp.org](mailto:mheinen@nmdp.org).

**Budget Restrictions**

The total request of the award may not exceed $400,000. Additional restrictions on the budget are the following:

* Salary and fringe benefits for the Principal Investigator are limited to 25% of the total award.
* The budget may include a request for domestic travel to support attendance at one scientific meeting per year for the scholar.
* Equipment may be requested in year one only and must be accompanied by a detailed justification. Requests for equipment in excess of $5,000 will be subject to separate review by the Awards Committee.
* Indirect costs may not exceed 8% of the total direct costs.
* Remaining funds requested may include salary and fringe benefits support for project personnel, supplies, animal expenses, or consultant subcontracts. In general, salary and fringe benefits support for clerical support should not be included.
* Requests for NMDP/Be The Match resources (data queries, biostatistical support, etc.) should be identified in the budget under consultant costs, but charged at $0.00.

**Application Instructions**

Application forms are available on our website at [**Network.BeTheMatchClinical.org/research/grants/**](https://network.bethematchclinical.org/research/grants/)**.**

The application form must be completed in 10 or 12 point font, and the page and space limits specified in the application form must not be exceeded. Use the application checklist found below to ensure that the application is complete prior to submission. Incomplete applications will be judged ineligible for consideration.

The completed proposal must include the following:

1. Completed cover sheet including required signatures.
2. Table of contents for the application.
3. Description (abstract) of the proposed research (not to exceed 250 words).
4. Detailed budget and budget justification for initial budget period and entire period of support.
5. Abbreviated curriculum vitae (biographical sketch) of Principal Investigator.
6. Description of other research support. Provide a description of any active and pending research support.
7. List the title of the project.
8. Period of the funding.
9. Total funding awarded/requested.
10. Principal Investigator’s role and effort in the project.
11. Areas of overlap between the proposal and active or pending projects must be identified and addressed.
12. Resources. Provide a complete description of the resources available to support completion of the project. Include a description of the facilities, computer support and necessary major equipment.
13. Research plan. The research plan must not exceed 12 pages. It should contain the following sections:
14. Specific aims of the project.
15. Description of the significance of the project with appropriate background information.
16. Discussion of the Principal Investigator’s preliminary investigations and findings.
17. Description of the proposed research including design and methodology.
18. List of the references cited.
19. Supporting documents. Supporting documents may include the following:
20. Human subject’s certification. Projects proposing investigation involving human subjects must obtain appropriate Institutional Review Board (IRB) approvals. A letter of intent to seek IRB approval must be submitted with the application.
21. Letters of support. The application may include up to three letters of support obtained from senior faculty members.
22. Letters of collaboration and consultation. Letters from proposed collaborators or consultants must be included.
23. Appendices.

**Acknowledgment of Support**

Any publications resulting from this research must acknowledge financial support of the Amy Strelzer Manasevit Research Program funded through Be The Match Foundation.

**Selection Procedure**

Applications will be reviewed by the Awards Committee consisting of experts in the field of HCT. Up to four 2020 Amy Scholars will be announced at the 2020 Transplantation and Cellular Therapy Meetings in Orlando, Florida, February 19-23, 2020. A travel stipend will be provided.