

Victorian Cancer Agency
Expressions of Interest for
Platform Technology Capacity
Building Grants
Guidelines for Applications
2007-08



Background

The Victorian Cancer Agency is a Consultative Council to the Minister for Health, created to link cancer research with patient care for improved patient outcomes. The first priority of the Victorian Cancer Agency is the development of a cancer research strategy for Victoria. This will guide the future work of the Agency. Broadly, the function of the Agency includes:

- setting strategic priorities for cancer research across Victoria
- fostering collaborative relationships between key stakeholders
- adding value to existing statewide initiatives and programs
- building cancer research capacity and capability in Victoria
- providing high level, strategic advice to stakeholders and Government on all aspects of cancer research.

One of the key areas for exploration during the development of the cancer research strategy is the identification of opportunities to build capacity and capability in cancer research across Victoria.

Guiding Principles

The 2007-08 Victorian Cancer Agency Expressions of Interest for Platform Technology Capacity Building Funding Grants are designed to be complementary to the funding schemes available through the National Health Medical Research Council (NHMRC) and the Australian Research Council. This funding program will be provided to applicants who are able to demonstrate that they have not received funding from other sources for the proposal and / or that the proposal is a new research project or concept.

For further information on funding program areas, please visit our website on www.victoriancanceragency.org.au.

2007-08 Expressions of Interest for Platform Technology Capacity Building Grants

The Victorian Cancer Agency is seeking expressions of interest for Platform Technology Capacity Building Grants in 2007-08.

The Victorian Cancer Agency is developing an understanding of current and emerging issues surrounding the effective utilisation of platform technologies in Victoria and how the Agency can best support individuals and organisations in this area. The call for expressions of interest for funding grants will assist in defining the funding priorities for the Agency in this area. The Agency will not fund

platform technology procurement, rather the Agency is interested in the areas required to support platform technology usage in Victoria, such as training, educational assistance, workforce support, accreditation support etc.

The Agency will consider the expressions of interest during the months of November and December 2007 and dependent upon Government commitments, anticipates seeking further information from applicants in January 2008.

The Victorian Cancer Agency will consider funding requests ranging from \$1,000 to \$150,000.

Eligibility Criteria

- The applicants should be Australian citizens or have permanent residency status.
- The research must be undertaken within Victoria for the duration of the grant. Applicants must make their application under the auspices of a Victorian hospital, research organisation or university. One organisation should be designated as the administering organisation.
- The administering research organisation must have in place: policies and procedures for the management of public funds, as well as policies for the proper conduct of research in relation to ethics and good scientific conduct. The administering research organisation must also provide adequate infrastructure to allow the research to be completed.

Generic Criteria for the Victorian Cancer Agency 2007-08 Research Funding Program

The Victorian Government is committed to providing high quality, accessible health and community services. The vision and purpose of the Victorian Cancer Agency will assist in achieving this commitment by promoting, enhancing and facilitating cancer research that enables the delivery of evidence-based research driven cancer services. The Victorian Cancer Agency is committed to supporting and promoting innovation and excellence in cancer research to achieve this vision.

Applications in each of the programs will be reviewed and supported based on specific criteria for each program and their adherence to the following generic criteria. Applicants must clearly demonstrate:

- how the funding proposal or project will result in improved patient outcomes;
- that the project or proposal is collaborative in nature (demonstrates collaboration across multidisciplinary approaches and / or multi site and / or that key researchers in this field are involved in the project); and,
- how the project or proposal builds cancer research capacity and capability in Victoria.

How to Apply

All applicants must complete the 2007-08 Victorian Cancer Agency Platform Technology Capacity Building Expression of Interest form. This is available from the website (www.victorianscanceragency.org.au) or by contacting the Agency on 03 9635 5481 or via email on victorian.canceragency@dhs.vic.gov.au

Closing Date

Please submit your application electronically to victorian.canceragency@dhs.vic.gov.au **by 2 pm Monday 29 October 2007.**

Further information can be obtained by contacting the Agency on 03 9635 5481 or via email on victorian.canceragency@dhs.vic.gov.au

Assessment Process for all Applications

The Victorian Cancer Agency Consultative Council will review all applications for adherence to these guidelines and for application completeness.

Conflict of Interest

The Victorian Government requires its assessment panel members to act in an ethical manner, declare conflicts of interest and to withdraw from considering applications where such conflict exists.

Appeals

The decision of the assessment panel is final. However, applicants will be able to respond to the selection process and ranking of their Expression of Interest. Appeals against the process are to be made to Charlene MacLeod, Program Manager on 03 9635 5457.

Privacy and Confidentiality

All information contained in applications will be regarded as confidential. Documents containing personal information will be handled and protected in accordance with the provisions of the *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998*. Personal information will only be disclosed with the permission of the individual to whom it relates or where the Act allows.

Applicants consent to the information supplied as part of their application being disclosed for the purposes of the assessment and administration of the fellowship. Such disclosure includes but is not limited to: disclosure to members of the assessment panel, independent readers/assessors requested by the assessment panel to provide advice on the application, relevant employees of the Victorian Government involved with the research grant process.

Applicants acknowledge that announcement of the funding grants will involve the dissemination of information to the public about the general nature of the funding grants.

Key Dates

The following dates apply to the submission of applications:

PROCESS	DATES
Call for Applications	Late September 2007
Close of Applications	2 pm 29 October 2007
Assessment of Applications	November 2007

Incomplete and Misleading Information

It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that the applications are complete and accurate. It is completely within the assessment panel's discretion as to whether it will request the applicant to provide further information after the closing date.

Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted