APPLICATION AND REVIEW PROCESS FOR FUNDING

The Lou and Jean Malnati Brain Tumor Institute (MBTI) of the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center receives charitable funding in order to fulfill its mission, primary of which is to support brain and spine tumor-related research aimed at improving the care and well-being of adult and pediatric patients suffering from a brain or spine tumor. Applications for research support will be received two times per year, with receipt deadlines of March 1st and July 1st. Physicians, researchers and collaborators affiliated with the MBTI and/or Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center are invited to apply for funding and support from MBTI.

Two types of grants will be supported: 1) single investigator, with maximum support of $50,000/year for two years ($100,000 total); and 2) multi-investigator, with maximum support of $100,000/year for two years ($200,000 total). Applications can be basic and/or translational and/or clinical in nature. Basic science applications should be for increasing our understanding of fundamental molecular mechanisms that cause the occurrence and/or progression of brain and/or spinal tumors. Translational applications can either be early stage, in which the proposed research involves substantial pre-clinical investigation, or late stage in which there is an eminent and related clinical application.

APPLICATIONS

Applications should include: 1) a title page with investigator name(s) and contact information; 2) an abstract of no more than 200 words that summarizes the proposed research; 3) the research proposal itself which should be no longer than 4 pages inclusive of figures and specific aims and strategy; 4) a reference list that is limited to one page; 5) a simple budget page that lists (i) personnel and corresponding salary support for the percent effort to be directed to the research, (ii) estimate of supply costs, including purchase and housing of animals, if applicable, and (iii) estimate of costs of services, such as institutional cores, if applicable; and (6) NIH biosketch(es) for participating faculty.

Applications should be addressed to the MBTI Scientific Review Committee and sent by email to MBTI@nm.org.

MBTI REVIEW COMMITTEE AND ATTRIBUTION OF FUNDS

The MBTI Review Committee (the “Committee”), composed of its Directors (Medical Director, Scientific Director and Surgical Director) together with the Chairs of the Department of Neurological Surgery and Neurology, the Director of the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center, and representative faculty from the Departments of Pathology, Radiation Oncology, and Pediatrics, will review and decide upon application funding within one month of the deadline for application receipt. Awarded projects that include animal research will be required to present an associated IACUC approved animal research protocol prior to initiation of project funding. Funding decisions will be based on proposal merit and feasibility, as determined by the Committee, relative need for research in specific areas that bear upon the treatment of brain tumor patients, and applicant’s record of productivity.

Applicants who are funded will be required to have appropriate IRB, ACUC and/or other relevant approvals in place per Feinberg School of Medicine guidelines, prior to funds being distributed. Funded projects will also be required to provide a progress report outlining project progress, plans for publications(s) or derivative grant applications, and any project obstacles, as well as a plan to remediate any obstacles. It is also required that any publications made possible by this support cite the following: P50CA221747 SPORE for Translational Approaches to Brain Cancer.

MISSION

The mission of the Lou and Jean Malnati Brain Tumor Institute is to provide state-of-the-art clinical care to patients with brain and spine tumors, provide the resources and support necessary for patients and their families to meet the challenges of living with a brain or spine tumor, train neuro-oncology researchers and clinicians to meet the highest standards, and to endeavor to find a cure for brain and spine tumors through preclinical and clinical research.