



## **TARGET ALS: ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION FOR COLLABORATIVE BIOMARKER CONSORTIA PROJECTS**

**FUNDING AGENCY:** Target ALS Foundation Inc. is an independent non-profit 501(c)(3) foundation incorporated in the State of Delaware.

**NAME OF PROGRAM CONTACT:**

Manish Raisinghani  
President, Target ALS Foundation  
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**APPLICATION PACKAGE:** *There are no specific forms for your research proposal except for the attached template for the budget. However, we request that your application contain the sections described below.*

**Full project proposal format:**

The total length of the proposal should not exceed 2 pages in Arial 11 pt per participating group that requests a full research module of \$130,000 (e.g. up to 6 pages for a project involving 3 groups requesting full research modules). Specific contributions of other collaborating laboratories with less than full-time commitment should be described within this space. The project leader(s) can use the allowable length of the proposal in any way that is most persuasive to describe the project (e.g. as a set of individual projects, or common aims and goals for multiple PIs etc.). However, it is anticipated that all projects will begin with at least an overview of the goals and an executive statement about how the contributions of the different groups tie together.

The total length should include the following sections:

- Specific Aims
- Background and Biological Rationale
- Research Plan
- Statement of relevance to ALS biomarker strategy
- Bullet list indicating the specific involvement of each partner
  - Identified lab fellows (postdocs/students) for each participant lab (at least 75% of their time for a full project module of \$130,000/year)
- Table indicating milestones for the first 2 years of the project
  - Milestones are required for each major goal of the project
- Literature Cited
- Proposed dates of project meetings
  - We require that the project meeting be held by the 10<sup>th</sup> month of the project start date to enable inclusion of ongoing progress in the formal progress report. The formal progress report is expected by the 10<sup>th</sup> month of the project start date in the years 2021 and 2022 for Target ALS review.



- Two-page biosketches should be included for all project and group leaders. These will **not** count toward the 6-page maximum
- A budget and personnel justification (see attached budget template) must be submitted. This section will **not** count toward the 6-page maximum
- **A signed agreement with a biofluid repository ensuring access to biofluid samples necessary to successfully complete the project will be required for a project to be considered for funding. Target ALS will work with investigators to facilitate contact with biofluid repositories that have agreed to provide access to biofluid samples with no reach through on the data and intellectual property generated by the consortium. Funding for successful projects will only be initiated once the material transfer agreements have been fully executed between the investigators(s) and a repository.** This section will **not** count towards the 6-page maximum.
- For final funding, a consortium agreement defining the terms of information sharing and IP between different members of the consortium will be required. This is not required at the time of submission but the proposal should outline the strategy that will be employed to reach such an agreement between the partners. Target ALS asks for no reach-through from its funding, but strongly encourages consortia to make data and reagents broadly available to the ALS research community within a reasonable time.

#### **Budget preparation guidelines and policies:**

Project period: November 2, 2020- November 1, 2022. Please provide annual budgets with your submission (please use attached template and see below).

Each lab involved in a research project will receive funding of up to \$130,000 per year. Although a given partner may request less than a full module, if justified costs are less, they will still count as a group in the total count. A maximum of 3 groups can be included if less than a full module is requested by investigators however the total annual budget for the project cannot exceed \$300,000. At least one group must request a full module in the proposal. Target ALS reserves the right to modify the funding of individual modules. Target ALS will allow up to 15% of associated costs to be requested as part of your proposal budget's direct costs (e.g. lab space rent).

Funding for a consortium will be renewed for the second year based on submission of a satisfactory progress report to Target ALS in the 11<sup>th</sup> month of first year. The review committee may award funding for only one year based on evaluation of scope of the project.

A lab that is currently receiving Target ALS funding as part of an ongoing project, or as a result of no-cost extension, has to make clear how the proposed project is distinct.

Allowable costs include personnel, reagents, services and equipment (please provide quotes with your submission), consistent with the requirements below. Indirect costs, also known as facilities and administrative costs or overheads, are **not allowed**.



- Each group leader (lab PI) may devote up to 10% of his/her time to the project as scientifically justified and charge the corresponding salary to the budget, with an annual cap of \$10,000 in base salary
- Each project leader may claim up to \$5,000 (or \$2,500 each, if two project leaders) in annual base salary for oversight of the project, in addition to the salary claimed as a group leader(s). This possibility is specifically provided to compensate the time devoted to organizing and coordinating the research, problem solving, and being in charge of reporting and project meetings. The breakdown of this request – salary and any related fringe benefit cost – should be provided with your budget in addition to the maximal allowed annual sum of \$130,000 (if a full module is requested).
- Each group's budget that asks for a full research module (\$130,000/year) should have the devoted effort of one identified fellow (postdoc/student) for at least 75% of their time. This fellow will be the point person for interactions between labs, will be required to attend and present at all project/Target ALS meetings. The aim is to create a community of scientists who will constitute the next generation of ALS researchers.
- The investigator and their lab fellow assigned to the project are required to participate in, and present most recent unpublished data at the project meetings as well as Target ALS annual meetings.
- Target ALS will provide a meeting allowance to each funded project leader to offset the cost of organizing the annual project team meeting, including the reimbursement of travel for participants. This allowance will vary based on final number of participants and geographical location. Please do not include this in your budget breakdown – we will finalize the annual amount at the time of contract discussions with your institution.
- Target ALS does not cover travel costs associated with attending conferences (other than Target ALS annual meeting for which expenses are covered directly, please do not include this in your project budget) or for costs of publications.

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS: September 4, 2020 AT 5:00 P.M. EST**

**SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS:** Please send your application package as a single PDF file to Manish Raisinghani at [manish.raisinghani@targetals.org](mailto:manish.raisinghani@targetals.org)