

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Pediatric Research

GUIDELINES
FOR THE PROJECT

2025



Fondazione
Cassa di Risparmio di Padova e Rovigo

Pediatric Research

GUIDELINES FOR THE PROJECT

1. GENERAL INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTS REQUIRED

The project must be submitted to the **Pediatric Research Institute Città della Speranza** (hereinafter the Institute) by **19 January 2026** to the email address grantoffice@irpcds.org.

The Institute will then forward the Project to the Foundation by 26 January 2026, using the specific procedure for Online Requests and enclosing a **letter** from its Scientific Directorate confirming its willingness to approve and execute the project c/o the Institute due to its relevance to the pediatric field and to the requirements concerning instruments, spaces and services.

The project must be drawn up by filling in the **two forms** available on the Foundation's website (<https://www.fondazionecariparo.it/iniziative/bando-ricerca-pediatria-2025>):

- *Research Project form*;
- *Curriculum, Track Record, Team form*.

Furthermore, if the project includes partnerships with or co-financing from other institutions in addition to that of origin of the PI, it would be advisable to also send the Institute **a letter of participation** from these institutions.

All documents must be sent to the Institute in **PDF format**.

Projects submitted not in compliance with the Call for Proposals, received beyond the deadline or regarding other topics than those specified in the Call for Proposals or not accompanied by a statement from the Scientific Directorate, shall not be taken into account.

Finally, please note that the **maximum grant** that can be requested from the Foundation is **400,000 Euro**.

The list of selected projects and grants assigned will be published on the Foundation's website, on the page specified above, **by July 2026**.

The Foundation reserves the right to change the deadlines should the need arise, providing adequate notice via its website.

Participants, therefore, are invited to check for any notices on the Foundation's website and in particular on the page dedicated to the call for proposals in question.

2. INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILLING IN THE RESEARCH PROJECT TEMPLATE

In particular, the **Project** must be written in **English**, in Times New Roman, font size 12, and with single-line spacing.

The document may have a total length of 20 pages, of which:

- at most 2 pages dedicated to general information and to the abstract of the project;
- 2 pages dedicated to the Ethics Issues Table;
- at most **15 pages dedicated to the project**;
- 1 page dedicated to the project budget.

Graphs and figures are included in the page count.

The **information requested in the Research Project form** includes:

SECTION A – INFORMATION ON THE PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR AND ON THE PROJECT

Section A – Information of the Principal Investigator and project abstract	
Principal Investigator	
Proposal title	
Acronym	
Research Institute	
Duration in months	
Other organisations involved (if applicable)	

→ In this section, enter the institution of origin of the Principal Investigator. In the case of a University, specify the Department as well.

→ The project duration must be between 24 and 36 months.

→ If the Principal Investigator expects to terminate his or her work activities before the project deadline (e.g. retirement), this section should include in brackets the name of the Researcher to whom the role of project coordinator will be transferred.

→ If the project includes partnerships with other institutions, even if it is not co-financed by same, these should be specified in this section.

Scientific abstract – Max 2.000 characters

This abstract must provide the expert reader with a clear understanding of the objectives of the research proposal and how they will be achieved. This text will be used as a short description of your research proposal in the evaluation process and to contact the referees. It must therefore be short and precise and should not contain confidential information, formulae or any other special character. It must be written in English. The limit of 2.000 characters includes spaces and line breaks

→ This section shall contain a scientific abstract of the project, **written in English**, which should provide an expert reader with a clear understanding of the objectives of the research proposals and the methods that will be used to achieve them. The text entered in this section may be used by the Foundation to contact the experts who will assess the project. Therefore, it should not contain confidential information, formulas or special characters.

The 2,000 character limit includes spaces and line breaks.

The abstract should cover the following points:

1. Background and objectives of the project
2. Brief description of the project
3. Expected results and development prospects

SECTION B – ETHICS ISSUES TABLE

In this section you will find a list of **questions** to which you can give an affirmative or negative answer. **The entire table must** be filled in or **you may be excluded** from the call for proposals.

Section B – Ethics Issues Table

Please answer to the following questions:

1. Human embryos/foetuses		
Does your research involve Human Embryonic Stem Cells (hESCs)?	Yes ☐	No ☐
Does your research involve the use of human embryos?	Yes ☐	No ☐
Does your research involve the use of human foetal tissues/cells?	Yes ☐	No ☐

↓
Answer the question by ticking Yes or No.
Just click once on the corresponding box.

In the event of giving an **affirmative answer** to one or more questions in this section, if the project is granted, **before** the assignment can be confirmed any **legal requirements** relating to the specific cases reported must first be met, and **the corresponding documentation sent** to the Foundation (by emailing ricerca@fondazionecariparo.it).

The Foundation will **not** make any grants available until said requirements have been fully met.

SECTION C – RESEARCH PROJECT

In this section, the **Project** for which the grant is requested must be described completely and coherently, based on the following sections:

→ In this section, please describe:

- the background and/or reasons behind the proposed research, also in relation to the state of the art in the field concerned, identifying the specific gaps that the project intends to fill; for projects that have already started or are currently in progress, please indicate the preliminary results obtained;
- project objectives and elements that the research intends to determine and investigate, with particular reference to the expected scientific, technical, economic and/or social results. The proposed objectives must be achievable and innovative, and be aimed at obtaining a significant scientific advancement compared to the state of the art described.

This section should describe the steps planned, detailing the methodologies you intend to use for each step and including a work program. If a project involves multiple lines, specify the breakdown of activities.

→ In this section, please describe any expected partnerships and their involvement. In particular, list any other institutions involved, even if they will not cofinance the project, describing the general subdivision of activities and highlighting the strengths and synergies deriving from the collaboration. Also specify the contribution that each partner will make to the project and how the research teams will be coordinated.

Section C – Research Project (max. 15 pages)
Please check the document "Linee guida per la compilazione del Progetto"

Background, state of the art and objectives	
Research plan: steps, milestones, methodology	
Partnerships (if applicable)	
Human resources, roles, percentage of working time	
Expected results and development prospects	

↓

Explain the results expected from a scientific, technical, economic and/or social point of view. Identify the main effects of the project in terms of opening potential new lines of research and/or possible job opportunities (e.g. creation of start-ups, researcher specialisation, etc.), as well as any strategies for monitoring and verifying the results obtained compared to those expected.

↓

Indicate the staff that will be involved in the Project, specifying for each person the expected role, the scientific background and the percentage of time that will be devoted to the Project compared to the total activities carried out (full time on the project = 100%). Also, indicate any other professional figures that will be part of the work team, specifying their role.
If a researcher is involved in more than one project, it is important to make sure that his/her total research time does not exceed 100%.

There is also a section for **Additional relevant information**, where you can insert additional information that does not fall within the areas specified above but is still considered useful for the assessment of the project. At the end of the section, please submit the **overall expenditure forecast** for the project or the **budget**. Please enter all amounts in **whole numbers**, rounding up to a hundred.

The budget indicated must refer solely to the grant amount requested from the Foundation, and in particular to the following items:

- Consumables (at most 40% of the total)
- Equipment and components (at most 20% of the total)
- PCs and computer equipment, excluding software programs which may be included in "other expenses" (at most € 5,000)
- Personnel expenses (remuneration of unemployed staff recruited especially for the project);
- External services (at most 15% of the total, unless authorised otherwise by the Scientific Committee in special and justifiable cases)
- Travel expenses directly related to the research activity (this may include expenses for meetings, board and lodging, travel, conference registration fees, submission of abstracts and posters, etc., as long as they are consistent with the project) within the limits provided by the provisions of the pertinent Entity in point of carrying out transfers and missions

Budget*	
Consumables	
Equipment	
Computer material	
Personnel	
External services	
Travel expenses	
Patents	
Conferences and seminars	
Other	
Overhead	
REQUEST	€ -
Other grants/funding (total, please detail below)	€ -
TOTAL	

Additional notes:

- Expenses for Italian and international patents
- Expenses for conferences and seminars organised by the research team to promote the project's results excluding expenses related to convivial and representational occasions
- Other expenses (publication, e.g. for Open Access, reprints, magazine subscriptions, books and software required to carry out the research project)
- Overheads (up to 10% of the total)
- Importo richiesto alla Fondazione
- The additional notes section **must** also contain details of any **cofinancing** obtained for the project. This section **may** also include other information deemed useful in relation to the budget. In particular, in this section it is advisable to **break down** the **highest budget amounts**, so that the assessor can compare these items of expenditure against the project described.

The budget must be as precise as possible, and the cost items must be **strictly related** to the execution of the research project.

Please note that with the grant of the Foundation, expenses made by any Partners at locations outside the provinces of Padua and Rovigo **cannot be covered**.

Costs deriving from the following are **not considered eligible**:

- Remuneration of employed personnel belonging to the research centres where the project takes place;
- Remuneration of the PI for cases where at the time of application he/she is employed on a fixed-term basis and the contract is expected to expire before the project is completed;
- Fees for registration in scientific companies;
- Expenses for the organisation of seminars and workshops, if entrusted to third parties;
- Expenses that exceed the indicated limits.

2. INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILLING IN THE CURRICULUM, TRACK RECORD, TEAM FORM

SECTION B – ON-GOING, SUBMITTED AND PREVIOUS GRANTS AND FUNDING OF THE PI

Section B – On-going, submitted and previous grants and funding of the P.I. (max. 2 pages)

On-going grants					
<i>Project title</i>	<i>Funding source</i>	<i>Amount (€)</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Role of the PI</i>	<i>Relation to current proposal</i>

Grant applications					
<i>Project title</i>	<i>Funding source</i>	<i>Amount (€)</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Role of the PI</i>	<i>Relation to current proposal</i>

Previous grants					
<i>Project title</i>	<i>Funding source</i>	<i>Amount (€)</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Role of the PI</i>	<i>Relation to current proposal</i>

→ This section should contain any grants for research projects in which the PI is currently involved, specifying from left to right:

- Project title
- Funding source
- Grant amount
- Period during which the project will take place
- Role of the PI in the project
- Relation to the project now proposed to the Foundation (if any, otherwise the section may be left blank)

→ This section should contain any pending grant applications submitted by the PI, specifying the elements mentioned above.

→ In this section it is possible to specify previous grants obtained by the PI for research projects, specifying the same elements as for the other two sections.