

SebastianStrong Foundation DISCOVERY SCIENCE AWARD 2025 Award Guidelines

SebastianStrong Foundation is a 501c3 organization committed to raising awareness about and finding less toxic cures for pediatric cancers. Founded in 2017, we have awarded and committed almost \$4 million to cutting-edge, peer-reviewed pediatric research projects in early stages with an impact of over \$6 million through collaborative partnerships. Our award announcements and makeup of our Medical Advisory Board can be found on our website <a href="https://www.sebastianstrong.org">www.sebastianstrong.org</a>.

Our foundation realizes that exciting research opportunities are struggling to acquire funding, because the rapid growth of new technologies has made the "pie" of available research bigger than traditional sources of funding. We believe in supporting bold ideas that use innovative methodologies and out-of-the-box approaches in the quest for less toxic cures. We limit our funding to pediatric cancers, because the "small number of patients" limits interest from some legacy organizations and big pharma.

SebastianStrong's 2025 Discovery Science Award will be awarded to an individual or team of researchers whose proposal is focused primarily on pediatric cancers in general, or a specific pediatric cancer without a high survival rate, or one with a low survival rate upon relapse. A limit of two proposals may be submitted from the same institution, researcher, or foundation.

Our Medical Advisory Board is composed of leading Pediatric Oncologists who recommend research funding proposals to the foundation's Board of Directors. This group will review and rank submissions that meet the below guidelines and recommend funding of one or more of them. Please note that winning proposals in the past have been those that most closely meet these four submission guidelines:

- 1. It is focused on pediatric cancer
- 2. Will lead to "less toxic" cures
- 3. Can be understood by the foundation's Board and donors
- 4. May lead to a clinical trial in 1-3 years

We will consider peer-reviewed, new, ongoing, and updated research, but trials in progress or ongoing clinical trials are not accepted. Any author or researcher conflict of interest must be disclosed at the time of submission. All submissions will be treated as **CONFIDENTIAL** and will be accessible only by SebastianStrong's Medical Advisory Board until time of award. We are happy to execute NDA's if necessary.



Our intention is to fund the award in Summer, 2025. A lay summary of the research (no more than 2 pages) must be submitted via InfoReady, along with a bio or resume of the primary researcher. We stress that a clear explanation, understandable by our donors and Board of Directors is a key component of consideration (e.g. use examples and spell out acronyms). Our Medical Advisory Board will review the lay submissions and checklists to ensure that the research meets our mission.

LAY SUMMARIES ARE DUE BY November 30, 2024. Finalists will be selected by February 7th, 2025 and then asked to submit full research proposals for award consideration.

To get started, go to the InfoReady login page (where you found this) and scroll down to the blue box. Click the link "Lay Summary of Research to be Undertaken". This will take you to the pages where you tell us about yourself and then ATTACH your 2-page summary. You can save as a draft at any point and come back to submit when you are ready.

If you have any trouble with the site, once logged in, click on the "Help" link on the top right corner of the site and select the option to access help for "Applicant". The link will lead you to helpful guides and videos.

If you have any additional questions or need additional help, please email <a href="mailto:braulio@sebastianstrong.org">braulio@sebastianstrong.org</a> or medicaladvisory@sebastianstrong.org.

Thank you for considering SebastianStrong Foundation for your research funding.