



Livestrong

Livestrong Solution Grants for a Better Today – Frequently Asked Questions

What are the areas of focus and funding priorities for Livestrong?

Livestrong may provide support in the following areas:

- Post-treatment care
- Patient and Caregiver education
- Comprehensive quality of life services
- Streamlining systems and care

More information about our focus areas can be viewed [here](#).

What types of organizations and projects might Livestrong consider funding?

Livestrong will consider funding U.S.-based organizations, or international organizations with a presence in the U.S., with a valid U.S. bank account and U.S. tax ID number. All organizations must have been doing business for at least one year (from Sept. 1, 2020). Eligible projects must be aligned with the Livestrong mission, purpose statement, and funding areas/priorities. Projects must demonstrate how they currently generate impact, have measurable outcomes, and be sustainable for the duration of the grant. Livestrong will not consider funding projects that replicate existing Livestrong programs. For more information about current Livestrong programs, see [here](#).

Livestrong does not support:

- Grants to individuals.
- Projects outside the United States of America.
- Religious organizations for religious purposes.
- Candidates for political office or lobbying of any kind.
- Event fundraisers or sponsorships.
- Clinical research projects.
- Projects that replicate existing Livestrong programs
- Endowments.
- Debt reduction.
- Organizations that discriminate in policy or in practice on the basis of race, religion, gender, national origin, age, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, or any other legally protected classification.

What is Livestrong's mission and purpose?

Mission Question

Which everyday cancer problem will we fix today?

We have a Mission Question, not a Mission Statement, because we believe that we can only achieve the best solutions through asking the right questions. We ask survivors and caregivers what they need, we ask the system how it can be more person-centered, we ask innovators how we can bring impossible ideas to life.

Purpose Statement

Living with cancer isn't easy, but it doesn't have to be so hard. It's the everyday cancer problems, like paying the bills or getting a good night's sleep. The problems that simply don't deserve to exist.

Settling for surviving isn't good enough. It's time to change how we help people live with cancer. Livestrong isn't just about hope. Our legacy is more than a wristband. We are listeners, collaborators, and practical problem solvers improving the everyday lives of anyone dealing with cancer.

We are finding new solutions to old problems right now so we can fix them for good. We are dedicated to disruptive, energetic and breakthrough ideas designed to ensure that each and every cancer patient doesn't just survive, they Livestrong.

Because if you're living with cancer, you deserve more than just hope for a better tomorrow. You deserve a better today.

How is Livestrong addressing diversity, equity, and inclusion in its grantmaking process?

Black Americans have the highest death rate and shortest survival of any racial and ethnic group in the US for most cancers. This is unacceptable. We are committed to listening and learning from the experiences that perpetuate this disheartening fact. Livestrong is dedicating \$50,000 annually to fund lasting solutions that will fill gaps and improve the cancer experience for Black Americans.

Livestrong, as a grantmaker, sits at the intersection of power and privilege in the philanthropic sector. As such, we have a unique responsibility to implement grantmaking practices that promote equity and inclusion. We are assessing our policies and practices, and adjusting them to minimize bias, reduce disparities, and ensure inclusivity.

For additional information about specific adjustments to the application process, please contact us at grants@livestrong.org

Can I request support for a project that has already occurred?

No. Livestrong will not fund projects that have already taken place. Livestrong will fund projects/programs that are operational and ongoing, but funding will start after February 1, 2021. Please be sure to apply within the submission period and have a project that will start after February 1, 2021.

Will you accept requests from organizations outside the U.S.?

If organizations from outside the U.S. have a presence in the U.S., a U.S. bank account, a valid tax ID number, and have been established for more than a year, they are eligible to apply for funding.

What are the award amounts/grant types available?

Livestrong awards the following grants:

Livestrong Acceleration Grants

- Several annual grants
- Award amounts between \$5,000-\$20,000

Livestrong Transformation Grants

- Smaller number of multi-year grants
- Award amounts between \$25,000-\$100,000 per funding year

Livestrong Racial Equity Subgrant

- \$50,000 in funding, dedicated to finding lasting solutions that fill gaps and improve the cancer experience for Black Americans

Can I apply for all types of grants?

Organizations can apply for one Acceleration Grant and one Transformation Grant each funding cycle. A separate application has to be submitted for each grant request. The racial equity subgrant/funding is incorporated into both solution grant award types (Acceleration and Transformation). It is not a free standing grant opportunity, so applicants do not have to make a separate request. Total funding requests should include budget costs that address work in racial equity. As part of the application, applicants will be asked racial equity questions and reviewers will evaluate responses to assess funding allocation for racial equity work.

What do I need to have available to complete the funding application?

There are two stages to the application process. For the initial Expression of Interest phase, make sure you have the following information available before starting your online application:

- Organization Tax ID Number (TIN)
- Organization information, including mission statement and list of Board of Directors
- Valid email address, contact person and phone number
- Project information and narrative with detailed information as to what funding will be used for and how the project will be evaluated
- Project cost summary and organization revenue/operating budget totals
- 501c3 Designation Letter (if applicable)

For applicants who are selected to submit a Finalist Application, make sure you have the following information available before completing your online application:

- Detailed project budget (for upload)
- Organizational budget (for upload)
- Copy of your IRS Form W-9 (for upload)
- A list of your executive staff, including a brief bio of each (for upload)
- Third-party reference email - for organizations applying for a Livestrong Transformation Grant, we require one reference to support your application
- Bank account information for electronic ACH payments

How do I apply?

All organizations seeking funding for a project must go through the online application process to submit requests. Only online requests will be considered. Completion of the online application does not guarantee approval. Each completed funding request is reviewed and evaluated on its individual merits and content relative to available funding, as well as other funding requests. Livestrong may reach out to the organization for further details or additional information at any time during the application review process. Organizations must acknowledge they meet the eligibility criteria before beginning the Expression of Interest application. Select applications will be invited to submit a Finalist Application. Approved requests will receive an "approval" notification and a Letter of Agreement (LOA). All communications are sent by email.

Do I need to attend a pre-application meeting before applying?

No, but there will be an optional webinar on how to apply, and a portal demo, at the start of the application period. Visit the [Livestrong website](#) for more details and to register.

Are there restrictions for reapplication for both successful and unsuccessful grant seekers?

No, there are no restrictions for reapplication, as long as the organization and project meet the eligibility criteria, and an application is submitted during the online platform submission period.

What is the time frame for submitting an application?

The online submission portal opens September 1, 2020 and will close October 16, 2020. To register and submit an application, please visit the [grants portal](#).

What should I do if I am having technical difficulties with my application?

Email grants@livestrong.org with any concerns you may be experiencing.

What happens after I submit my application?

After the submission period closes, Expression of Interest applications will be reviewed by the appropriate review panel. All completed funding requests are evaluated on individual merit, available funding and within the context of other applications received. Select applications will be invited to submit a Finalist Application. Finalist Applications will be reviewed by a separate external review committee. You may be contacted for additional information during the review process. The deadline for Finalist Applications is December 7, 2020.

Notifications to unsuccessful applicants will be sent out at both stages of the application process (Expression of Interest and Finalist stage). Approved requests will receive an “approval” notification and a Letter of Agreement (LOA). All LOAs must be signed and submitted via the online portal prior to any payment, made by January 29, 2021.

Must I sign the Livestrong agreement/LOA? What if I have my own?

To receive funding, all organizations must accept the Letter of Agreement (LOA) issued by Livestrong. The LOA will be considered executed when signed and returned to Livestrong, via the online portal. The LOA must be returned prior to the start of the project. Payment will be issued once the signed LOA is received. Any changes to the LOA made by the requestor may result in a withdrawal of funding.

If I received funding in the past, will that guarantee future funding?

No. Each funding request is reviewed and evaluated on its individual merits and content relative to available funding, as well as other funding requests. Previous funding is not a guarantee for any future project support. A funding request is considered approved after you have received a confirmation email from Livestrong and a Letter of Agreement (LOA) has been signed and returned to Livestrong prior to the project funding start date.

What if the scope of my project changes?

Any change of scope for the project must be reported in the online application. A grant modification request form will be available in the portal to report any changes in the project. Scope changes will be reviewed to assess whether Livestrong will continue to fund the project. Livestrong has the right to cancel funding if there are significant changes in objectives or scope of the project and will require the organization to provide a refund consistent with the provisions of the LOA.

How do I give feedback about Livestrong Solution Grants?

We are always looking to grow and develop our grantmaking practices. We value feedback and comments. Applicants can complete this [applicant survey](#), or leave a review on [Grant Advisor](#).

Who can I contact for further information if I have additional questions?

Please email grants@livestrong.org