



APHON Evidence-Based Practice Grant Program

Letters of Intent are due on **Monday, March 9, 2026**.

Projects invited to submit a full application will be notified by **Friday, April 10, 2026**.

Full applications must be submitted no later than **Friday, May 15, 2026** using the provided link at the time of invitation.

For specific questions or concerns about the 2026 grant programs, contact the APHON Education Team at education@aphon.org.

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The 2026 Grant Award

One US\$2,500 grant will be funded for an evidence-based practice (EBP) project that addresses the clinical practice of pediatric hematology/oncology nursing. Special consideration will be given to a project which supports a hematology-related initiative.

The Granting Organizations



This grant has been made possible through the generous support of the **Oncology Nursing Certification Corporation (ONCC)**. ONCC is the premier provider of nationally accredited certification for nurses in oncology and related specialties. Today, ONCC offers eight credential programs and has more than 40,000 currently certified nurses. www.oncc.org



Association of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Nurses (APHON) is the professional organization for pediatric hematology/oncology nurses and other pediatric hematology/oncology healthcare professionals. Its members are dedicated to promoting optimal nursing care for children, adolescents, and young adults with cancer and blood disorders and their families. APHON provides the leadership and expertise to pediatric hematology/oncology nurses by defining and promoting the highest standards of practice and care to the pediatric, adolescent, and young adult communities.

Mission

To support and advance nurses and their practice to optimize outcomes for children, adolescents, and young adults with cancer and blood disorders and their families.

Vision

Pediatric hematology and oncology nurses are setting, advocating for, and achieving the highest standards of care for children, adolescents, and young adults and their families.

Core Organizational Values

- Stand out as an education and scientific organization
- Visionary leadership embracing innovation
- Committed to excellence in patient care
- Pride in the nursing profession
- Collaboration as an effective strategy
- Absolute integrity and high ethical standards
- Gratifying experience through involvement
- Continuous professional development through life-long learning

Project Purpose and Areas of Interest

The Evidence-Based Practice Grant is for individuals conducting projects that address the clinical practice of pediatric hematology/oncology nursing.

The following are areas of EBP interest to APHON membership, including but not limited to:

1. Central Line Care
2. Fever & Neutropenia Precautions
3. Survivorship & AYA Transition
4. Compassion Fatigue / Moral Distress
5. Oral Chemotherapy Adherence
6. Palliative & End-of-life Care
7. Symptom Management

Added consideration will be given to applicants who submit projects that address the above areas of interest.

APHON Evidence-Based Practice Project

Letter of Intent (LOI) Guidelines

The Letter of Intent (LOI) requires the following information, with a limit of 1000 words, including the following information:

1. **Title:** Title of your project
2. **Background:** Brief description of the problem
3. **Relevance:** Relevance to pediatric hematology/oncology nursing
4. **Purpose:** Specific project aims
5. **PICO(T) question:** Population; Intervention/Issue; Comparison; Outcome expected; Time for achieving outcome
6. **Design:** Description of the plan for implementation and data evaluation and analysis

Format Specifications for LOI

1. **Font:** Double-spaced, 12-point
2. **Paper size:** 8 ½" x 11"
3. **Margins:** At least ½" margins (top, bottom, left, and right)
4. **Word Limit:** 1000 Words

Letters of Intent can be addressed to the **APHON Evidence-Based Practice/Research (EBP/Research) Committee and the MMCF Grant Team** and submitted via the LOI Form found on the [APHON Grant Page](#) no later than **March 9, 2026**.

STRICT ADHERENCE TO THE INSTRUCTIONS ABOVE IS NECESSARY OR THE PROPOSAL WILL NOT BE REVIEWED.

Investigators who have specific questions or concerns not addressed in this packet or who would like a mentor to assist them in the development of an LOI or full grant proposal should contact the APHON Education Team at education@aphon.org.

Guidelines for Evidence-Based Practice Projects

Focus Areas

Evidence-based practice (EBP) project proposals that address clinical practice, educational, or administrative dimensions of pediatric hematology/oncology nursing.

Eligible Applicants

The project leader for the EBP grant must meet the following eligibility criteria:

1. Be an active member of APHON and maintain membership through the completion of the project.
2. Be a registered nurse who is active in pediatric hematology/oncology and who demonstrates interest in making significant contributions to pediatric hematology/ oncology nursing.
3. Applicants must have a minimum of a BSN. Students in a master's or doctoral program are eligible to apply. In cases where the project leader does not yet hold a master's or doctorate, it is expected that they will include a co-investigator with evidence-based practice (EBP) experience who possesses a master's degree or higher.

Note: Members of the APHON Board of Directors or persons serving on the APHON EBP/Research Committee are not eligible to apply for this grant.

Project Leader Responsibilities

Responsibilities include:

1. Completion of the EBP project within one or two years of initial funding, per identified project length;
2. Submission of a progress report to the APHON EBP/Research Committee every six months after funding is disbursed until the project is completed;

3. Employment at an academic institution, children's hospital, or independent pediatric oncology practice;
4. Acknowledgement in any publication, paper, or poster that the EBP project was supported by the Association of Pediatric Hematology/ Oncology Nurses and the Oncology Nursing Certification Corporation is required.

Format Specifications for Grant Proposal

1. **Font:** Double-spaced, 12-point
2. **Paper size:** 8 ½" x 11"
3. **Margins:** At least ½" margins (top, bottom, left, and right)
4. **Page Limit:** Four pages in addition to included appendices
5. **Citations:** References included in proposal using APA format 7th edition.

Required Information

All applicants must complete the **EBP Grant Application Form** regarding the contact person(s) for the grant funding agreement and disbursement of funds should the application be selected and PI information. (Available via online application)

Along with the online application, all accept grant proposals must include a submission packet containing the following sections. This packet may be submitted as a single collated PDF or in separate PDFs within the online application. Clearly label each section and appendix item with a header so the review panel can easily navigate the project proposal:

1. **Abstract:** On page (1) one of the proposal, complete an abstract of 350 words or less. Abstract should include clinical problem/issue to be addressed, significance of the EBP project, implementation methods, and evaluation plans.

This section includes a description of the PICO(T) question. Additionally, include a description of the current practice and why change is needed.

2. Starting on page 2 of the proposal, sections should include the following and be limited to 4 pages or less:
 - **Statement of the Practice Change:** This section includes a description of the PICO(T) question and a description of the current practice and why change is needed: **Clearly state that the proposed change in practice is evidence-based and a critical review of the current evidence in the literature**

concerning the practice issue. References from literature should be included.

- **Methods:** This section should include a description of the setting and the focus on the practice change (who is the target of the change). Explain your strategies for implementing the change (i.e more than a nursing Inservice) and if you are guided by a framework, reference it here.
- **Evaluation:** Identify what your outcomes will be and how they will be measured. Include a plan for statistical analysis of your outcomes.
- **Discussion:** Briefly note the limitations of the project and plans for sustainability if expected outcomes are achieved.
- **Completion Plan:** Provide a narrative description for completing your study. You may refer to the added timeline that is in the appendix.

3. To be included in the proposal Appendices:

- **References:** Cite any references included in proposal using APA format 7th edition.
- **Measurement Instrument/Tools:** Include copies of any self-report measurements such as questionnaires or surveys that will be collected from participants.
- **Personnel:** On a separate page, specify who will be completing the project and other team members. Clearly identify the project leader who will be the grant recipient responsible for the conduct of the project and their previous experience with EBP projects. Fully describe the role of each person listed on the project team.
- **Curriculum Vitae (CV):** Please include a CV for the project leader.
- **Timeline:** On a separate page, develop a timeline table with what will be accomplished each month. Clarify the length of the project (1 year or 2 year).
- **Letter of support:** Please include a letter from an institutional leader stating that you have support to conduct the project and will be given the time to complete it.
- **Budget:** Using the provided budget template for full applications to complete a budget for the entire project. If APHON funds are to be used for only a portion of the budget, identify the specific items for which you seek support. Identify remaining items to be funded from other sources and in-kind contributions. Clearly describe those sources of funding or support in addition to the amount you are seeking from each entity.

This section must specify the direct costs associated with the EBP project. Neither the project leader's salary nor the purchase of a computer will be funded unless significant justification is provided in the proposal. Include notation of contributed funds, personnel, or indirect allowances. The budget must represent sufficient funds to complete the project. **Academic tuition may not be included in the budget. Travel and registration for presenting research findings at a professional conference may be included in the project budget but may not exceed 20% of the total budget.**

The funding year shall begin in January following the awarding of the grant at the APHON educational conference.

- **Appendices:** Applicants must provide Appendices that include the following supportive materials:
 - Appendix A – References
 - Appendix B – Measurement Instrument/Tools identified for measuring project outcomes
 - Appendix C – Project personnel as described above
 - Appendix D – Curriculum vitae for project leader.
 - Appendix E – Project timeline as described above
 - Appendix F – Institutional letter of support
 - Appendix G – Budget Form

** Appendices do not count in the 4-page limit.*

Grant Proposal Submission Guidelines

The EBP/Research Committee reviews EBP/Research grant proposals once a year.

An e-mail confirmation will be sent within 72 hours of receiving your LOI. Exceptions or extensions will not be granted due to a failure to submit a complete LOI application by the designated deadline. Projects PI's invited to submit a full application will be notified on **April 10, 2026**.

Evaluation Procedures

Proposals will be reviewed by the EBP/Research Committee and an independent peer review panel. Outside content experts may be asked to assist in reviewing all applications. The EBP/Research Committee will use predetermined weighted criteria to inform the funding decisions.

All project leads will be notified of the disposition of their proposals after action by the EBP/Research Committee. Project leaders will receive a summary critique of their proposal from the APHON EBP/Research Committee.

Notification of Award

Grant recipients will be notified by **July 15, 2026**. Public announcement of the grant recipients will be made by the EBP/Research Chair at the APHON national conference. Recipients are strongly encouraged to attend the conference and are expected to present their progress informally to the EBP/Research Committee during one of the concurrent sessions.

Funds will be awarded to the institution, agency, investigator, or project director at the discretion of the EBP/Research Committee. The strategy for funding proposed by the project leader(s) will be considered in the decision.

Questions

For specific questions or concerns not addressed in this packet or if you would like a mentor to assist you in the development of an LOI or full grant proposal, contact the APHON Education Team at education@aphon.org.

Submission Checklist

Section 1 — Abstract (Page 1; Limit: 350 words or less)

Include:

- ☐ Clinical problem/issue to be addressed
- ☐ Significance of the EBP project
- ☐ Implementation methods
- ☐ Evaluation plan
- ☐ PICO(T) question
- ☐ Description of current practice and rationale for needed change

Section 2 — Main Proposal (Starting on Page 2, Max 4 Pages)

Statement of the Practice Change

- ☐ PICO(T) question clearly stated
- ☐ Description of the current practice
- ☐ Why change is needed
- ☐ Evidence-based justification for change
- ☐ Critical review of current literature
- ☐ References included within section text

Methods

- ☐ Description of the setting
- ☐ Identification of the target of the practice change
- ☐ Implementation strategies (beyond simple in-service education)
- ☐ Framework guiding implementation (if applicable)
- ☐ Framework referenced

Evaluation

- ☐ Identify outcomes to be measured

- ☐ Specify measurement approach
- ☐ Plan for statistical analysis of outcomes

Discussion

- ☐ Brief description of limitations
- ☐ Plan for sustainability if outcomes are achieved

Completion Plan

- ☐ Narrative describing steps to complete the project

Section 3 — Required Appendices (Not Included in 4-Page Limit)

Appendix A — References

- ☐ APA 7th edition format for all citations

Appendix B — Measurement Instruments/Tools

- ☐ Copies of all self-report measures (surveys, questionnaires)

Appendix C — Project Personnel

- ☐ List all team members
- ☐ Identify project leader (grant recipient)
- ☐ Describe each member's role
- ☐ Include prior EBP experience for project leader

Appendix D — Curriculum Vitae (CV)

- ☐ Include project leader's CV

Appendix E — Project Timeline

- ☐ Monthly table of activities
- ☐ Clarify 1-year or 2-year project duration

Appendix F — Institutional Letter of Support

- ☐ Confirms institutional support and protected time

Appendix G — Budget Form

- ☐ Download and complete official budget form