

# ***Tips for Chapter Leaders***

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## ***President***



# President

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## Chapter Presidents Lead the Change

If you're the chapter president, you've heard a lot about the transition to the universal chapter membership model. You're also going to be instrumental in leading the transition at the local level. We've put together some tips for ensuring a successful future for your chapter.

- Your chapter is likely going to have several new members. Be sure to welcome them to the chapter and tell them about everything it has to offer. We recommend that you use the welcome letter template included in this transition kit, or develop one of your own. Sending a message to new chapter members is a great way to make them feel like they're part of a community of oncology nurses and to encourage them to become involved at the local level.
- You're bound to get questions from your existing chapter members. You can reassure them that they will not be greatly affected by the transition to the new membership model. They'll just need to know that moving forward, their chapter membership dues are included with their ONS national dues. When they renew their ONS membership, their chapter membership will also be renewed. They will now only have one expiration date to keep track of and will only have to make one annual payment.
- ONS members who are not currently affiliated with a chapter will be placed into chapters based on the zip code of their preferred address. However, if they would like to change their chapter, they can do so when they renew their ONS membership.
- Members will still have the option to join ONS or renew their membership for two years. Instead of paying \$10 at the time of renewal, they will pay \$20 for a two-year chapter membership. Funds that ONS receives for chapter dues will be distributed to the chapters on a quarterly basis.
- While your chapter may not charge members any additional amount for dues, you are able to charge registration fees for your chapter dinner meetings to supplement your chapter's revenue.
- You will likely now have members from a wider geographic area. To accommodate these new members, consider holding your meetings at various locations throughout the year to make it easier for them to attend.
- Use the recruitment letter template included in this transition kit and continue taking ONS applications to join ONS and your chapter. ONS and chapter membership help to ensure a strong future for the oncology nursing profession.

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## ONS/Lilly Oncology Project Funds Nursing Leadership and Patient Care Initiatives at the Chapter Level

Through the ONS/Lilly Oncology Advancing Patient Care Project, stipends of up to \$2,500 are available year round for ONS chapters or nurses who have a professional development, patient care, or leadership project they'd like to have funded. For example, you might be

- A chapter leader who would like to run a special educational event for your members.
- A nurse or administrator who has a workplace activity that will be valuable to your colleagues.
- A nurse with an interest in conducting a professional development project in a specific area of oncology.
- Someone with dozens of other unique ideas. . . no matter what they are, you're encouraged to apply!

You can submit your application at any time through an easy-to-use online system. Applications are reviewed on a monthly basis.

A group of ONS staff will initially review each application for compliance with eligibility guidelines. Qualifying applications will then be forwarded to a panel of nurse leaders for final review and approval. Evaluation will be based on each applicant's description of how the activity is expected to improve quality patient care and/or oncology nursing leadership, including anticipated outcomes.

Applicants are expected to provide comprehensive details of their proposed project, including an itemized budget of the project. All applicants qualifying for cash awards will be notified within 30 days.

Project funds will be awarded to qualifying applicants based on the following selection criteria.

- Professional development/continuing nursing education activities that relate to oncology nursing leadership
- Projects/activities that promote quality patient care
- Training activities that teach oncology nursing leadership and/or quality patient care topics to other nurses
- ONS chapter-sponsored educational programs that provide learning opportunities addressing the topics of oncology nursing leadership and/or improving patient care.

### Eligibility Requirements

- Be a registered nurse (RN) and a member of ONS
- Have a minimum of one year's experience in oncology nursing
- Focus your primary duties and responsibilities on full-time patient care
- Demonstrate a commitment to the ONS core values (Integrity, Innovation, Stewardship, Advocacy, Excellence, and Inclusiveness).

It's time to start the project you've always wanted to set in motion. For more information, visit [www.ons.org/LillyProject](http://www.ons.org/LillyProject) or email [awards@ons.org](mailto:awards@ons.org).