



Florida Cancer Innovation Fund

Funding Opportunity Announcement

FY 2023-2024

Letter of Intent and Full Application

The Florida Department of Health through the Florida Cancer Innovation Funds are accepting applications for projects and studies in cancer research and innovation. The purpose of this effort is to energize collaborations between oncologists, cutting edge researchers and cancer facilities and others to provide a plausible route for expedited funding to bolster competitiveness for extramural cancer research funding. This funding aims to provide opportunities to break down longstanding silos between researchers, cancer facilities, and medical providers. The funding will improve cancer research and treatment through innovative approaches to data infrastructure and best practices through the provision of innovation grants.

1. Corresponding Applicant Principal Investigator/Main Research Study or Project Coordinator Information

Successful Florida Cancer Innovation Fund projects will focus on cutting edge cancer research and patient care prioritized on the expeditious nature of a proposal. Potential applicants may include but are not limited to:

- Researchers working on cutting edge cancer treatments
- Post-doctoral/Graduate student fellows
- Non-profit organizations
- Medical providers
- Oncology practices
- Florida Cancer Centers of Excellence

Funding is for Florida-based research.

Please provide the principal address that will be listed on any contracts or agreements with the Florida Department of Health.

Are you a US citizen or permanent resident?

First Name:

Middle Name:

Last Name:

Professional Title:

Institution or Facility:

Institution or Facility Address:

Institution or Facility City:

Institution or Facility State:

Institution or Facility Zip Code:

Phone Number:

Applicant Email Address:

2. Authorized Official Information

Please provide the contact information for the authorizing official who, if selected for an award, can sign agreements for your proposal. This may be the sponsored research official for an academic institution, a legal representative or another individual in your organization who is authorized to sign agreements on behalf of your institution or facility.

First Name:

Middle Name:

Last Name:

Professional Title:

Authorizing Official Institution or Facility:

Authorizing Official Address:

Authorizing Official City:

Authorizing Official State:

Authorizing Official Zip Code:

Phone Number:

Authorizing Official Email Address:

3. Financial and Grant Management Contact

Please provide contact information for who will be managing any contractual and grant obligations if selected for award. Contractual obligations may require the submission of study cost invoices and any reporting requirements outlined in agreements between the applicant and the Florida Department of Health if selected for award.

First Name:

Middle Name:

Last Name:

Professional Title:

Financial and Grant Management Institution or Facility:

Financial and Grant Management Address:

Financial and Grant Management City:

Financial and Grant Management State:

Financial and Grant Management Zip Code:

Financial and Grant Management Phone Number:

Financial and Grant Management Email Address

4. Project Budget Information

Grant awards may be awarded up to a maximum of \$2,000,000 each. Budgets should be structured to include personnel, supplies, and technical support. Any equipment purchases requested that exceed \$5000 are subject to further review and approval by the Florida Department of Health.

Please provide the total cost of your proposed study/project.:

Is the total study budget over \$2,000,000.:

Does your proposal include a line item in the budget for equipment purchases?:

If yes, please describe.:

Does your proposal include a line item in the budget for travel?:

If yes, please describe.:

How many months do you expect your project/study to run? Please enter a numerical value with a decimal place for number of months?:

5. Project/Study Information- Grant Category

Applications will be accepted in the grant categories outlined below. Maximum funding levels are available for all grant categories. Organizations or individuals may not submit the same application in different grant categories. For example, organizations or individuals may not submit the same project for a Standard Grant and a Pilot Grant. Please choose only one option.

What best describes your proposal?

Consortium Grant: Projects that includes a consortium of clinical, basic, translational, and underrepresented institutions/centers to conduct high quality grant-supported research. The consortium should involve partnerships to be developed among investigators across the state of Florida, with the award made to the lead organization. The lead organization of the consortium must perform a substantive role in conducting the planned research including providing oversight of all scientific, programmatic, financial, and administrative matters related to the grant. The collaborating organizations must have well-defined roles that contribute to the common scientifically rigorous research goals that must include sound background information, hypotheses, protocols, and promising practices that address clearly one or more areas of research interest.

Standard Grant: Research projects that are fully developed, scientifically rigorous, and include sound background information, hypotheses, and promising preliminary results or supporting data.

Pilot Grant: Exploratory, novel studies that break new ground or extend previous discoveries toward new directions or applications. No preliminary data are required but may be included if available.

Post-doctoral Fellowship Grant: Post-doctoral fellowship grants provide clinical, patient-oriented research fellowship training that stimulates novel insights, discovery, and validation of novel diagnostic strategies to symptomatology and treatment. Organizations must have a certified fellowship-training program or an established training program for health professionals to be considered eligible.

Category selected for your study/project.

- Consortium Grant
- Standard Grant
- Pilot Grant
- Post-Doctoral Fellowship Grant

6. Project/Study Information- Research Category

These Cancer Innovation Funds are focusing on several important goal areas to bring a revolutionary new approach to combatting cancer in Florida. The three main goal areas for the Florida Cancer Innovation Funds are listed below.

What best describes your proposal?

Data Statistics : Data statistics about the proliferation and treatment of cancer should be both timely available and easily accessible. This research area will seek to identify the reasons data are slow to move or hard to access and establish a new approach to dismantle data siloes.

Best practices : Best practices in cancer care and treatment should not be proprietary. This research area will seek to streamline, encourage, and incentivize the sharing of treatment and research best practices among public and private entities so that everyone is provided the most effective treatment possible.

Innovation : Innovative new methods, technologies, treatments, and clinical practice standards should be identified and shared to meet the needs in addressing cancer in Florida. This research area will identify and employ creative problem-solving methods to reduce barriers to providing innovative cancer care and treatment. Technology and other resources should be identified and shared among medical providers, community organization and long-standing research institutions for the greatest impact.

Selected research category your study proposal most aligns.

- Data Statistics - Advancements in cutting-edge technology and clinical treatments
- Best Practices - Steamline, encourage, and incentivize the sharing of treatment best practices among public and private entities
- Innovation - Advancements in cutting-edge technology and clinical treatments

7. Project/Study Information- Research Type

All applications submitted in response to this funding opportunity must be responsive to one of the most prevalent cancer diagnoses in Florida and follow in one of the seven research priority types listed below.

What best describes your proposal?

1. Translational Research: Projects designed to translate scientific bench discoveries to practical therapeutic interventions in a clinical setting.

These efforts can relate to studies intended for translation to human subjects (Phase I clinical trials), translation to patients (Phase II, III clinical trials), translation to practice (Phase IV clinical trials), and/or translation to population health.

2. Implementation Research: Research projects focused on methodologies designed to promote the implementation of verified clinical treatments and practices into routine healthcare protocols at a clinical and organizational level. These studies can also focus on the de-implementation of clinical practices deemed to be of low or insignificant benefit to patient care and outcomes.

3. Open Science: Project will describe ways that increases rigor and transparency of research studies while maximizing return on research investments. Open Science establishes repositories for sharing research as research is being conducted. Knowledge is shared throughout the project period with all grantees through multi-institution or investigator collaborations.

4. Patient and Family Support: Research that focuses on psychosocial support for patients and families, including patients participating in their care to improve outcomes. This research also includes supporting and encouraging patient engagement in improving the quality of care provided by their care team for the continuity of care. Examples can include access to support groups provided by the healthcare organizations or partners and patient navigators.

5. Disproportionately Impacted Communities: Disproportionately Impacted Communities: Research that contributes to reductions in deaths due to the cancers resulting from disproportionately impacted individuals due to race, ethnicity, or income.

6. Treatment-Related Morbidities: Expand upon research that improves scientific understanding of causes and subsequent impact of cancer/cancer-treatment related morbidities in other systems (e.g., cardiovascular, pulmonary, endocrine, lymphatic, central nervous system, reproductive, and developmental).

7. Technology Transfer Feasibility (TTF): The goals of the TTF grant mechanism are to stimulate technology transfer activities for promising research discoveries that could lead to innovations in the prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and/or cure of cancer and strengthen a project's economic feasibility and commercialization prospects. The primary objective is to assist investigators in moving promising research findings toward commercialization. The TTF grant offers early-stage funding to develop intellectual property and improve its commercial potential and competitiveness for further development activities, including company formation or partnering with private interests. Projects should be designed to establish the technical/scientific merit and feasibility needed to attract commercial interest.

Selected research type your study proposal most aligns.

- Translational Research
- Implementation Research
- Open Science
- Patient and Family Support
- Disproportionately impacted communities
- Treatment-Related Morbidities
- Technology Transfer Feasibility

8. Project/Study Information- Project Description

8a. Innovation Statement (Limit 500 characters): Clearly articulate the project's potential to how this study/project will help with improve outcomes for cancer patients in Florida. The innovation statement should be written in plain language that can be understood by a general, lay audience, reviewers and colleagues.

8.b. Study/Project Summary (Limit 2500 characters): Please describe the intent of your study/project. This may include the study objectives, study design, any proposed data analyses, and expected outcomes.

8c. Study/Project Key Topics.: Provide up to 4 key topics that best describe your study/project.

8.d. Could your research lead to a newly developed product or service?

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8.e. Will your research have a positive financial impact on cancer patient health care?

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8.f. Will your research lead to a positive change in the standard of care for cancer patients?

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8.g. Is your research project based in Florida?

9. Study/Project Collaborators

This information will be carried forward to the Full Application step. If you do not have any Collaborators information at this time, you can add it then.

Collaborator #1

First Name:

Last Name:

Professional Title:

Institution or Facility:

Division/Department:

Brief description of role in project (e.g., Scientific Mentor; CoInvestigator for Genomic analysis; Other):

Example

11. Specific Aims

Please provide title of your project:

Please provide up to 3 specific aims of your project. (Limit 1 Page) Upload as a PDF *

- State the goals of the proposed research and summarize the expected outcomes, including the impact that the results of the proposed research will exert on the field involved.
- List up to 3 specific aims of the proposed research (e.g., to test a stated hypothesis, create a novel design, solve a specific problem, challenge an existing paradigm or clinical practice, address a critical barrier to progress in the field, or develop new technology).

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12. Research Strategy

Please provide the research strategy and describe your project. (Limit 3 Pages) Upload as a PDF *

Innovation

- Explain how the application challenges and seeks to shift current research or clinical practice paradigms.
- Describe any novel theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions to be developed or used, and any advantage over existing methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions.
- Explain any refinements, improvements, or new applications of theoretical concepts, approaches, methodologies, instrumentation, interventions.

Approach

- Describe the overall strategy, methodology, and analyses to accomplish the project's specific aims. Include how the data will be collected, analyzed, and interpreted, and any resource-sharing plan as appropriate.
- If the project is in the early stages of development, describe any strategy to establish feasibility.
- Discuss anticipated results (including benchmarks for assessing success in achieving the proposed aims) and potential problems.

Significance

- Explain how the proposed project will improve scientific knowledge, technical capability, and/or clinical practice in one or more broad fields.
- Describe how the concepts, methods, technologies, treatments, services, or preventative interventions that drive this field will be changed if the proposed aims are achieved.

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Please describe the populations your study will predominantly serve:

Please list the predominant cancers your study aims to address:

13. Long-Term Goals

Describe the future direction of your research, your long-term goals, and the project timeline for submitting additional grant application(s) to other federal or state funding opportunities. Explain the benefits/Return on Investment (ROI) to the state of Florida:

14. References or Bibliography

- Bibliography and References Cited - No page limit.
- Upload the Bibliography and References Cited in one PDF.
- Do not include any visuals or any information that is not a cited reference.
- Include only the references cited in your narratives.

Uploaded File Name:

15. Budget

Following the instructions provided in the Funding Opportunity Announcement document, please use the budget template provided here [Upload as a PDF *](#)

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Do you have any reportable conflicts of interest?: No

If yes, please describe.

Have you ever had a cancer research grant with the Department of Health?:

16. Professional Qualifications/Experience

Please add a curriculum vitae, resume or bio sketch. [Upload as a PDF \(optional\)](#)

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17. Images, Tables, or Graphs

Please upload any image, tables, or graphs.. [Upload as a PDF \(optional\)](#)

Uploaded File Name:

18. Letters of Support

Letters of Support: A letter of support is a document designed to corroborate the proposed research through a third-party. The document should provide testimony that supports the anticipated study and methods. Please provide letters of support from any collaborators (including their role in the project), academic department chair's (particularly for junior researchers), contractors, and others who are supporting your research.

Upload all Letters of Support in one PDF. [Upload as a PDF*](#)

Uploaded File Name:

19. Regulatory Approvals

If your research involves Human Subjects, animals, embryonic stem cells, and/or recombinant DNA, you must obtain regulatory approval from IRB, IACUC, ESCRO and/or IBC, respectively.

IMPORTANT: These include Prior Approval for human subject's research and live vertebrate research (see below). These processes might take several weeks. Initiate them as early as possible.

IRB – Institutional Review Board – for research involving Human Subjects:

IACUC – Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee – for research involving Animals:

ESCRO – Embryonic Stem Cell Research Oversight Committee – for research using Stem Cells:

IBC – Institutional Biosafety Committee – for research using Recombinant DNA:

Environmental Safety – Does your research involve procedures, situations, or materials that may be hazardous to personnel?:

Example