



2027 Impact Grants Frequently Asked Questions Track 1: Research Grants and Fellowships

Accepting Applications April 8 – May 20, 2026

The [Prevent Cancer Foundation](#)® is the only U.S.-based nonprofit organization solely dedicated to cancer prevention and early detection. Our mission is empowering people to stay ahead of cancer through prevention and early detection. Our vision is a world where cancer is preventable, detectable and beatable for all.

To advance the Prevent Cancer Foundation's bold goal to reduce cancer deaths by 40% by 2035, we aim to support innovative research and vital community projects dedicated to increasing and advancing cancer prevention and early detection.

The goal of the Prevent Cancer Foundation's [research program](#) is to identify and provide funding for *innovative projects* with the potential to make substantial contributions to cancer prevention and/or early detection. By funding the most promising research, including Fellowship projects led by early-career scientists, we contribute to important advances in cancer prevention and early detection.

The Foundation funds research grants and fellowships at a broad range of academic institutions and cancer centers across the United States, including both well-established and rising institutions advancing cancer research.

Prevent Cancer Foundation Impact Grants
Every cancer. Every community.

[2027 Impact Grants](#) tracks:

- **Track 1: Research grant or fellowship projects** focused on cancers that do not have U.S. guideline-recommended screening methods for the general population.
- **Track 2: [Community projects](#)** focused on cancer prevention and early detection in rural populations from rural-based organizations.

This research cycle will focus on cancers without U.S. guideline-recommended screening methods (for people at average risk). By prioritizing cancers without established screening methods, this grant cycle seeks to address a critical gap with potential for significant impact. Investing in research focused on cancer prevention, early detection, risk stratification and novel screening approaches for these cancers represents an opportunity to fundamentally change survival trajectories.

U.S. guideline-recommended cancer screening strategies—like mammograms and colonoscopies—have significantly reduced morbidity and mortality by identifying disease at earlier, more treatable stages. However, many cancers cannot be screened for or detected early, currently.

To view all current [research grant and fellowship projects](#) driving these key advancements in cancer prevention and early detection, explore the [Prevent Cancer Foundation’s Award Database](#).

General Application Questions

Q: What is the focus of the [2027 Impact Grants](#) funding opportunity?

A: The Prevent Cancer Foundation’s **Impact Grants** opportunity is based on our vision—a world where cancer is preventable, detectable and beatable for all. To advance the Prevent Cancer Foundation’s bold goal to reduce cancer deaths by 40% by 2035, we aim to support innovative research and vital community projects dedicated to advancing cancer prevention and early detection.

For the 2027 Impact Grants, we have:

- **Track 1: Research grant or fellowship projects** focused on cancers that do not have U.S. guideline-recommended screening methods for the general population.
- **Track 2: [Community projects](#)** focused on cancer prevention and early detection in rural populations from rural-based organizations.

Q: Which cancer types qualify for the Track 1: Research grant or fellowship projects funding opportunity?

A: Track 1: Research grant or fellowship applications must be innovative and demonstrate near-term potential for impact to the field of cancer prevention or early detection. We invite research applications that focus on the following types of cancer:

- Blood (leukemia/lymphoma)
- Bone
- Brain (central nervous system)
- Esophageal
- Head-and-neck
- Liver
- Ovarian
- Pancreatic
- Sarcomas (connective-tissue)
- Stomach (gastric)
- Uterine

Please refer to the [Grant and Fellowship Guidelines and Application Instructions](#) for further details.

Examples of interventional methodologies include:

- Reversing or inhibiting the carcinogenic process through lifestyle or environmental modifications (e.g., UV or occupational exposures, changes to diet, changes to physical activity)
- Pharmacologic (chemopreventive) or immunologic approaches
- Molecular, genetic or imaging (including endoscopic) techniques
- Behavioral interventions including the use of social media, texting or health trackers

Q: Does my research project need to align with one of the designated research tracks?

A: Yes, all research projects must fall into one of the following four tracks:

1. Translational Research: Focuses on translating research findings from the lab into the clinic/community, encompassing various stages of research and development.

2. Implementation/Dissemination Science: Focuses on the methods and strategies used to promote the adoption of research findings and evidence-based practice into real world practice.

3. Population Health: Explores the causes of cancer, cancer trends and factors that affect the delivery and outcomes of cancer care in specific populations (e.g., the role of environmental, behavioral and genetic factors).

4. Clinical Trials and Related Studies: Involves studies on humans or animals to evaluate new medical treatments, diagnostic methods, preventative strategies and other interventions to improve all aspects of care.

Q: If my research project focuses on cervical, breast, colorectal, lung, prostate and skin – cancers, as well as pediatric cancers, would it be eligible for funding consideration this cycle?

A: No. Research projects focused on cervical breast, prostate, lung, skin and colorectal cancers with U.S. guideline-recommended screening methods, as well as pediatric cancers will not be accepted this funding cycle.

Q: What is meant by translational research?

A: Translating lab-based findings into clinical applications.

Q: Is the award amount for Grants and Fellowships the same?

A: Yes, the award amount for both Grants and Fellowships is \$50,000 per year for two years, totaling \$100,000.

Q: What is the difference between a Grant and a Fellowship, and which one should I apply for?

A: There are several differences between a Grant and a Fellowship. A **Grant** is generally for researchers at the Instructor or Assistant Professor level but can be awarded to senior researchers who need preliminary funding to evaluate an innovative cancer prevention and/or early detection hypothesis.

A **Fellowship** is for investigators at the **postdoctoral level** who wish to pursue a career in cancer prevention and/or early detection research.

Fellowships require that the applicant (Fellow) have a mentor to supervise the research and optimize the learning environment for the Fellow to develop as a researcher. Fellows must fulfill an educational requirement by enrolling in one to two courses per year (for a grade) in an area in which the candidate has not received prior training and is relevant to their cancer prevention and/or early detection research training.

As with grant awards, Prevent Cancer Foundation Fellowship awards are highly competitive. For a Fellowship application, it is critical that there is clear development of an original application based on the applicant's original ideas, with the benefit of a mentor's input. (In the **required mentor letter**, a mentor is strongly encouraged to address the independent contributions of the Fellowship applicant.) A description of the proposed fellow's career trajectory as related to the prevention and/or early detection of cancer over the next three years should also be included in the mentor letter.

It is up to the applicant to determine which type of award is best for them. Fellowship awards are limited to **postdoctoral level applicants ONLY**. Therefore, only graduate students who will have their doctoral degrees before the project start date (January 15, 2027) are eligible to apply.

Grants can be awarded to postdoctoral-level applicants but are open to seasoned researchers or faculty (at **any academic rank**) who need preliminary funding to test an innovative hypothesis. Grant awards are far more competitive and have more experienced researchers applying for them. The Fellowship is recommended if you are a postdoctoral student and requires a mentorship.

Q: Can I convert my Fellowship into a Grant if I receive a promotion to an assistant professor position?

A: No. If awarded a Prevent Cancer Fellowship, you will remain as a Fellow for the duration of your two-year award. Your requirements for mentorship and coursework will remain the same. It's our hope that by the end of the Fellowship award, you advance in your career in the field of cancer prevention and/or early detection.

Q: What other advice do you have for Fellowship applicants?

A: We highly advise you to include information about your training environment, explain how your coursework strengthens your skill sets and knowledge of cancer prevention and/or early detection. We also recommend including opportunities for mentorship and professional growth. These are essential components of the technical review.

Additionally, your application **must have a biographical sketch of your mentor** and a **mentor letter of support**. Your **mentor must be listed in the budget and budget** justification sections, even if they are providing in-kind support.

Eligibility Questions

Q: May a postdoc apply for a Grant without holding a faculty position?

A: Yes, awards begin at the postdoctoral level. However, the applicant will be in competition with applicants on tenure tracks, possibly with greater experience and expertise. Generally, it is recommended that postdoctoral students apply for the Fellowship award.

Q: Is an academic pharmacist eligible to apply?

A: Yes, researchers with relevant academic or professional degrees (e.g., M.D., Pharm.D., Ph.D., O.D.) who are conducting cancer prevention and/or early detection research are eligible to apply. Note that any physician who receives an award may be required to sign the Sunshine Act Physician Payment Information Form.

Q: I am interested in applying for the research Fellowship. I am a foreign Postdoctoral Fellow at an institution in the United States. Am I eligible to apply?

A: Yes, you are eligible to apply. There is no citizenship restriction for the Prevent Cancer Foundation's Grant and Fellowship program.

Q: I am a Prevent Cancer Foundation Grantee and will complete my research grant soon. Can I apply for another award?

A: No. Research grantees may apply only if their current grant ends before the start of the grant term of this funding opportunity (**January 15, 2027**) and must have completed and submitted all Post-Award reporting requirements to be considered eligible.

Q: What is the difference between a research grant and a community grant?

A: All 2027 Impact Grants are two-year, \$100,000 grants for cancer prevention and early detection projects.

Research grant or fellowship projects are intended to support pre-clinical projects that demonstrate a clear path towards implementation within five years. Applications must focus on a specific research question to create new knowledge to contribute to the cancer prevention field.

For the 2027 Impact Grants [Track 1: Research grant or fellowship projects](#) are focused on cancers that do not have U.S. guideline-recommended screening methods for the general population. Community projects are intended to support community-level organizations that improve access to cancer prevention, screening, vaccination, and other related education, outreach and services. For the 2027 Impact Grants [Track 2: Community projects](#) are focused on cancer prevention and early detection in rural populations from rural-based organizations.

Q: Can I submit two applications – one in each Impact Grant track?

A: Yes, you can submit up to three applications per institution. Institutions are defined by distinct EIN number.

Q: Are there restrictions on how many investigators may apply from the same institution?

A: Yes, there are restrictions. **One application per applicant.** Three applications per institution. Institutions are defined by distinct EIN number.

Q: My institution receives funds from the tobacco industry (defined as industries related to tobacco, e-cigarettes or other nicotine products). Am I still eligible to apply?

A: No. The Prevent Cancer Foundation's current policy states that funds will be awarded only to individuals (Principal Investigators or Fellows) who are not currently funded by the tobacco industry for any project, or who have been funded by the tobacco industry (defined as industries related to tobacco, e-cigarettes or other nicotine products) during the previous four years, or whose named mentors in the case of mentored fellowships are funded by the tobacco industry for any project (currently or during the previous four years) may not apply and will not be eligible for a Prevent Cancer Foundation research grant or fellowship or community grant awards. This policy has been in effect since January 1, 2007.

Scientific investigators, health professionals or named mentors who accept funding from the tobacco industry for any project during the tenure of a Prevent Cancer Foundation grant award must inform the Foundation of such funding, whereupon the Foundation grant or fellowship will immediately be terminated. Tobacco industry funding includes the receipt of funds from a company that is engaged in or has affiliates engaged in the manufacture of tobacco produced for human use; funds in the name of a tobacco brand, whether or not the brand name is used solely for tobacco products; funds from a body set up by the tobacco industry (e.g., a corporate foundation) or by one or more companies engaged in the manufacture of tobacco products.

Q: What type of organizations are eligible to apply for funding?

A: Applicant organizations must be a nonprofit, such as an academic institution, a cancer research institute, or an organization acting as a fiscal sponsor, government, or public agency. Organizations must show nonprofit status and be engaged in cancer prevention and/or early detection research. Visit our [previously awarded recipients](#) to see the different types of organizations, the Foundation funds.

Q: What proof do I need to submit to demonstrate my organization's nonprofit status?

A: Documentation such as Internal Revenue Service (IRS) determination letter or the first page of your Form 990 verifying your organization's tax-exempt status and must be uploaded on the online application.

Eligible organizations include nonprofit organizations that are exempt under Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code, independent sponsored projects of a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization acting as a fiscal sponsor, government, and public agencies.

Q: I submitted an application in the last couple of years that was not funded. Can I reapply for a similar project?

A: Resubmission of the same or minimally revised applications submitted to the Prevent Cancer Foundation in the past **three** cycles will **not** be accepted for this funding opportunity.

Research Plan Questions

Q: What is the character or page limits of the application sections?

A: The character or page limit for each section is as follows:

- Summary for a general audience = 2,000 characters
- Technical Abstract = 2,000 characters
- Cancer Prevention Statement = 300 characters
- Career Plans = 2,000 character
- Statement of Significance = 1 page
- Specific Aims = 1 page
- Background = 2 pages
- Methods = 5 pages
- Timetable = 1 page
- Evaluation = 2 pages
- Biographical Sketch = up to 5 pages per person
- Budget = one page per year (must use ProposalCentral Section 8)
- Budget Justification = per year (must use ProposalCentral Section 9 (up to 8,000 characters)
- Appendix = No page limit (use this space for additional information that is pertinent to this application, including literature cited and letters)

Once an application is started in ProposalCentral, the **Research Plan, including a biographical sketch Template**, may be downloaded.

Q: What are the requirements to disclose existing or pending grant support that overlaps scientifically and financially with the Prevent Cancer Foundation's application?

A: Applicants must disclose any existing or pending grant support in **Section 10: Other Support** within the online application.

Q: What are the requirements for font size?

A: Applications should be typed no smaller than **11-point** font size in Arial or Times New Roman. Applications with smaller fonts will be automatically disqualified.

Q: Who is considered key personnel and must submit a biographical sketch in the application?

A: Key personnel include **principal investigator, co-principal investigator** or **mentors** (i.e., individuals who are ultimately responsible for the research project). A co-principal investigator shares leadership responsibilities. A mentor provides guidance and oversight, typically supporting a junior investigator/fellow. (whether or not they receive salaries or compensation under the grant). **All key personnel must include a biographical sketch, must be included in the budget and budget justification.**

Other personnel that contribute to the execution of a project in a substantive and measured manner such as a biostatistician, project manager, project assistant and/or research graduate

students at the master’s or baccalaureate level **must be included in the budget and budget justification only**. No biographical sketch is required.

Q: What should be included in the Evaluation section of the Research Plan?

A: For a Grant or Fellowship, the Evaluation section should include a plan for measuring the specific aims. Even if you think that you have already covered your evaluation plan in the Methods section, list your evaluation plan (**again**) in the Evaluation section. This can be done in many formats, using bullets, broken up by specific aims or in paragraphs.

For **Fellowships**, the Evaluation section must also include information on how the Fellow’s progress will be measured in the training environment.

Q: Who will read the Summary for a general audience?

A: The Summary for a general audience may be shared with various audiences including but not limited to Prevent Cancer Foundation board members, Scientific Review Panel members, donors and the general public.

Q: Where do I include literature cited for my Research Plan?

A: All literature cited in any section of your Research Plan should be uploaded on your online application **Section 13: Research Plan & Supporting Documents** as a single attached file labeled “Appendix.” This way, references or works cited will **not be included in your page count**. Articles should be referenced but not included.

Q: Do I need to disclose artificial intelligence (AI) tools used in preparing my application?

A: Yes, applicants must disclose any use of generative AI tools in the preparation of their application. This includes tools like ChatGPT, Google Gemini, Microsoft Copilot, DeepSeek or other language models. You are fully responsible for the content of your application. This information is for internal use only and does not impact the review process.

Q: What is the applicant demographics section used for?

A: The applicant’s demographic information is for internal use by the Foundation. While “choose not to disclose” is an option, we strongly encourage all applicants to specify their gender, race, ethnicity and sexual orientation. We use this information for statistical purposes to understand the diversity of our applicant pool. This information is not shared with peer reviewers, and it is not considered at peer review.

Research Budget Questions

Q: Where do I access the new Budget and Budget Justification pages?

A: The Budget and Budget Justification pages are part of the ProposalCentral online application located in **Section 8: Budget Period Detail** and **Section 9: Budget Summary and Justification**.

Q: What should I include in the Budget and Budget Justification?

A: Enter the budget and budget justification for each year of your project explaining your major budget categories: personnel cost, consultant costs, supplies, travel, indirect cost and other expenses. Include all personnel in both budget and budget justification. Each year's budget **must be \$50,000.**

Provide a summary of the staff members' role and responsibilities, along with relevant background, in **Budget Justification** (staff members such as biostatistician, project manager, project assistant, etc.).

Key personnel such as principal investigators, co-principal investigators, or mentors must also be included in the Budget and Budget Justification and a biosketch must also be provided.

Q: Do you accept indirect costs?

A: The Prevent Cancer Foundation allows **indirect costs up to 15% of the funding of this award.** These institutional and administrative costs must be included in the Budget and Budget Justification. We will not fund projects with indirect costs of over 15%.

Occasionally, a researcher will request to purchase a computer (or other equipment) at the end of the project, in an attempt to use unspent funds. This is absolutely not allowable.

If a research project requires a very specific type of software (e.g., a specific statistics program for a meta-analysis), it is highly unlikely but may be permitted at the discretion of the Prevent Cancer Foundation's Managing Director of Research, Education and Outreach Division and the Scientific Review Panel.

Q: Can unspent funds from the first year be rolled over into the second year?

A: Absolutely. The researcher should file an official signed financial report at the end of the first year as part of the reporting requirements. Include information in the final financial report about the use of funds rolled over.

Q: Do all collaborators on the project need to be listed in the Budget? What if they provide in-kind contributions?

A: Yes, all collaborators or any key personnel should be listed in the Budget and budget justification, **even if they are providing in-kind contributions.** This includes mentors for Fellowship applicants.

Administrative Questions

Q: How do I access my application?

A: To access your Fellowship application, visit [here](#).

A: To access your Grant application, visit [here](#).

Q: What is the deadline for Grant or Fellowship applications?

A: The deadline for online electronic submissions of applications is **Wednesday, May 20, 2026 by 5:00 p.m. ET**. Late applications are not accepted under any circumstances.

Q: Are you holding office hours or providing additional support?

A: Yes, please join us on **Thursday, April 23**, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. ET for office hours related to the **Track 1: Research grant or fellowship applications**. [Register here](#).

We will also host two technical office hours on using ProposalCentral online application.

Friday, April 24, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. ET. [Register here](#).

Friday, May 15, 1:00-2:00 p.m. ET. [Register here](#).

Q: How much is the application fee?

A: There is no application fee.

Q: How many grants will be awarded and how competitive do you expect this cycle to be?

A: Last research grant cycle, we received over 200 applications for various cancer sites from institutes from across the country. The amount of funding for the program and the number of grants awarded may vary from year to year. Financial support for applications that are eligible for funding is at the discretion of the Prevent Cancer Foundation Board of Directors.

Q: I'm having problems logging into my application on ProposalCentral. What should I do?

A: Generally, if there is an issue with your login, registration or your application on ProposalCentral, you should contact their office directly at 1-800-875-2562 or e-mail pcsupport@altum.com Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. ET.

Q: Where is the Signature Page in the application?

A: The Signature Page is generated once you 'validate' your application. This step is done after you enter all required online fields and upload the required documents.

Required documents are:

- Completed research plan.
- For Fellows, a mentor's letter of recommendation.
- Proof of tax-exempt status – IRS determination letter or the first page of your Form 990 verifying your organization's tax-exempt status.

The Signature Page will be populated with your application information and can be accessed on the "Download Application Attachments & Signature Page" page.

Grant application: you must submit e-signatures for both the 1) Principal Investigator/Project Director and the 2) Signing Official for your institution.

Fellowship application: you must submit three e-signatures for 1) Principal Investigator/Fellow, 2) Mentor and 3) Signing Official for your institution.

Q: Are e-signatures allowed?

A: Yes, e-signatures are acceptable.

Q: When will I be notified of the Prevent Cancer Foundation's decision?

A: You will be notified about your application status via ProposalCentral e-mail on **December 4, 2026**. Hard-copy letters will not be sent.

Q: Will I receive written reviews of my application?

A: If your application passes both the administrative and eligibility reviews and receives a **full technical review**, you will receive written feedback. If your application is not aligned with the Foundation's focus on cancer prevention and early detection and/or does not pass the administrative review, you will **not** receive written feedback from our external review panel.

The **Scientific Review Panel** will determine if an application does not meet designated requirements. They will also determine whether applications fall within the scope of the Foundation's mission and its funding priorities to be considered for a full technical review.

No-Cost Extensions

Q: What is the Prevent Cancer Foundation's policy on no-cost extensions?

A: The Prevent Cancer Foundation offers a maximum of **one six-month, no-cost extension**. A request must be submitted in writing by email with a brief explanation of why the extension is necessary at least two months prior to the project end date. The final payment of a Grant or Fellowship will be held pending receipt of final report, financial report and personal statement. Reports are due three months after the new project end date.

Grant/Fellowship Award Payments

Q: I was awarded a Grant. When can I expect payments to be sent out?

A: The Prevent Cancer Foundation has a Grant and Fellowship payment schedule. If your project is on schedule, your institution should expect payments in April 2027, January and October 2028 and May 2029. A table showing payment dates is included in the Grant guidelines.

Q: Why haven't we received the second and fourth payment for year one or year two?

A: The second and fourth payment of each year is held until the Grantee or Fellow submits a progress report, personal impact statement and signed financial report via ProposalCentral as part of the Post-Award reporting requirements. For year one, the reports are due **one month prior** to the mid-point. For year two, the reports are due **within three months after** the official end date, including no-cost extensions.

The three required reports are reviewed for completeness and upon approval, the award payment will be released. The Foundation reserves the right to adjust report due dates as necessary until satisfactory reports are received.

| Report Type | Due Date | Award Payment |
|---|-------------------|---------------|
| Interim Progress Report, Personal Impact Statement and Signed Financial Statement | December 15, 2027 | January 2028 |
| Final Report, Personal Impact Statement and Signed Financial Statement | April 15, 2029 | May 30, 2029 |

Sunshine Act

Q: I am a physician. If I get an award, do I need to follow the Sunshine Act?

A: A physician who gets an award may be required to sign the Sunshine Act Physician Payment Form.

If you have a question that was not addressed within the FAQs, contact Ximena Marquez at Ximena.Marquez@preventcancer.org.