



Research Grants and Fellowships Program 2025 Research Cycle Grant Guidelines Accepting Applications May 27 – July 15, 2025

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

The goal of the Prevent Cancer Foundation's [research program](#) is to identify and to provide funding for *innovative projects* with the potential to make substantial contributions to cancer prevention 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.

To advance the Prevent Cancer Foundation's bold goal to reduce cancer deaths by 40% by 2035, the Foundation is proud to support research projects dedicated to increasing cancer prevention and early detection.

All grant applications undergo rigorous, independent peer review to identify the most meritorious projects for recommendation for the Board of Director's approval for funding.

Access Grant application:

<https://proposalcentral.com/ProposalGI.asp?SectionID=332&ProposalID=-1>

Key dates:

AWARD TIMELINE
Application deadline: Tuesday, July 15, 2025 (Electronic Applications due by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time)
Notification of decision: December 5, 2025
Project start date: January 15, 2026

Eligible applications must be original and clearly describe innovative research projects in the field of cancer prevention or early detection. Projects that evaluate the potential for dissemination and implementation into clinical and community health settings are highly encouraged. A selection from the following four research tracks must be chosen for each project:

Research Track	Focus Area	Cancer Site
<p>Research projects must fall into one of the following four tracks:</p> <p>1. Translational Research: Focuses on translating research findings from the lab into the clinic /community, encompassing various stages of research and development.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>3. Population Health: Explores the causes of cancer, cancer trends and factors that affect the delivery and outcomes of cancer care in specific populations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the role of environmental, behavioral and genetic factors <p>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.</p>	<p>Select up to four focus areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Animal Models Artificial Intelligence Behavioral Intervention Biomarkers Chemoprevention Public health Screening Endoscopy Epidemiology Gene Therapy Genetic Epidemiology Genomics Geospatial Health Services Causes of Cancer Imaging Immunology Immunoprevention Molecular Epidemiology Liquid Biopsy Molecular Genetics Nutritional/ Intervention/Food/Diet Pharmacokinetics Risk Assessment Social Media Disparities Health Communication Other 	<p>Research projects will be aimed at reducing the frequency of neoplasms including but not limited to brain, bladder, breast, colon and rectum, endometrium, head and neck, kidney, liver, lung, ovary, pancreas, prostate, skin (including melanoma), stomach as well as HPV-related cancers and hematologic malignancies</p>

An eligible application must demonstrate substantial potential for impact on prevention and early detection of cancer.

Important Information for Grant Applicants

- Applications must fall within the scope of the [Foundation's mission](#) and funding priorities to be considered. The issue of relevance to cancer prevention or early detection must be convincingly addressed in the application.
- The goal of the Foundation's research program is to provide funding for *innovative projects* expected to lead to future funding from other peer-reviewed sources.
- All applications **must demonstrate substantial near-term potential for impact** on cancer prevention or early detection. Pre-clinical research with clear applicability to cancer prevention/early detection is acceptable, provided a translational relationship is evident within 5 years.
- Applicants need not be United States citizens. However, **research must be conducted primarily in the United States.**

The following will not be considered:

- Applicants who have been funded by the **tobacco or vaping industries** will not be considered.
- Studies related to therapy for established or advanced cancer are not appropriate.
- An incomplete application, such as one lacking a biostatistical analysis or not including key staff members in the budget and budget justification will not be considered.
- Resubmission of the same or slightly revised applications submitted to the Prevent Cancer Foundation in the past three cycles will **not** be accepted for the 2025 cycle.

Policy on Tobacco-Industry Funding and Conflicts of Interest

Scientific investigators or health professionals who are 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 the Prevent Cancer Foundation research grants or fellowships. 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 research 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.

The following do not constitute tobacco industry funding for the purposes of this policy:

- Legacies from tobacco industry investments (unless the name of a tobacco company or cigarette brand is associated with them)
- Funding from a trust or foundation established with assets related to the tobacco industry but no longer having any connection with the tobacco industry even though it may bear a name that (for historical reasons) is associated with the tobacco industry
- Funds from the Master Settlement Agreement of November 23, 1998

For purposes of the Prevent Cancer Foundation grants and fellowships, tobacco industry funding is defined as money provided or used for all or any of the costs of the research, including personnel, consumables, equipment, buildings, travel, meetings and conferences, and operating costs for laboratories and offices.

Applicants who would like Foundation funding for their research must disclose any financial relationships that may impact on the integrity of science and results.

The grant applicant must sign the Prevent Cancer Foundation Statement of Compliance with Tobacco Policy that he/she does not accept tobacco-industry funding, as outlined above. The application will be considered incomplete if the signed statement is not included.

APPLICATION POLICIES

Award Amount

Grants will be awarded for two years at \$50,000 per year, for a total of \$100,000. See **POST-AWARD REQUIREMENTS** for information about required interim and final reports.

Awards are derived from funds raised by the Prevent Cancer Foundation. The amount of funding for the program and the number of grants awarded may vary from year to year. The Foundation is under no obligation to award a certain number of grants in any given year. Financial support for applications which are eligible for funding is at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

Application Submission Information

Grant applicants must submit applications electronically through ProposalCental, an electronic grant submission system provided by Altum, Inc.

- The online application deadline is **Tuesday, July 15, 2025 (by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time)**.
- Late and/or incomplete applications will not be accepted. No exceptions will be made.
- Applications should be typed in no smaller than 11-point font size in Arial or Times New Roman. Applications with smaller fonts will be automatically disqualified.
- Supplemental information such as support letters and literature cited should be included in the Appendix of the online application. Articles should be referenced but not included in the Appendix.

Electronic Submission Instructions

- If you are a new user in ProposalCentral, <https://proposalcentral.com> click “Create an account” and follow the prompts to complete the registration process.
- If you are already registered in ProposalCentral access the site and log in with your user ID or email address. If you have forgotten your password, click on the ‘**Forgot Your Password?**’ link. Supply your email address in the space provided; an email with a link to change your password will be sent to you.
- After you log in, complete your Professional Profile (gray tab) before starting an application. Remember to hit “Save” after you enter information on each page. To start an application, select the ‘Grant Opportunities’ tab (gray tab). A list of applications will be displayed. You can add to filter by Prevent Cancer Foundation program to apply for and click the ‘Apply Now’ link (second to last column) to ‘create’ your application.
- If you have any difficulties registering, logging in, or creating your application, contact ProposalCentral Customer Support immediately: phone: 1-800-875-2562 or 703-964-5840, and/or email: pcsupport@altum.com.

Application Submission Checklist

- ✓ Verify that all sections are complete. **Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.**
- ✓ Include letters of support and/or collaboration as part of the Appendix in Tab 13: Research Plan & Supporting Documents. Please note that a **mentor’s letter of support** is required for all fellowship applications.
- ✓ Include Biosketches of all **key personnel** (see page 7 to review key personnel definition).
- ✓ All key personnel must be included in both the budget and budget justification, including those providing in-kind support.
- ✓ Verify that page limits have not been exceeded. All page lengths refer to single-sided pages. Applications exceeding any page limit will not be reviewed.
- ✓ Verify that all page numbers are correct.
- ✓ Be sure to put the **Principal Investigator’s** name and Project Title in the Document Header above the words “Grant Application.”
- ✓ Sign Statement of Compliance with the Tobacco Policy verifying that the applicant does not accept tobacco-industry funding. Upload a signed Policy Statement in **Tab 13** in the online application.
- ✓ Sign an e-signature to Application Signature page found in the “*Signature Pages*” section of the online application (this page is **auto-populated** with information from your online application).

- ✓ Submit your institution's proof of nonprofit status, including the following documents in the required upload sections of the online application
 - A copy of your institution's W-9 Form
 - A copy of the most recently filed IRS 990
 - IRS determination letter
- ✓ Submit research plan and entire electronic grant application through ProposalCentral's grant submission system.

OVERVIEW OF RESEARCH APPLICATION

All page lengths refer to single-sided pages. Applications will be deemed incomplete and will not be reviewed if any section exceeds the specified page limits, if the required research plan template is not used, if all appropriate biosketches are not included, or if all key personnel are not part of the budget and budget justification.

Online Fields

Artificial Intelligence: Applicants need to disclose any use of generative artificial intelligence (AI), such as ChatGPT or any other language model tool, in its preparation of the application. Applicants are fully responsible for the content of their application, including any portions generated by an AI tool. Your response to this statement is for information gathering purposes only and will not impact the review process.

Summary for a general audience: A statement of no more than **2000** characters explaining the subject of your research project to an audience without scientific or medical background. State how the work is significant to cancer prevention/early detection. This summary provided will help the public, the Foundation's Board members, and donors understand the nature of your work. It also demonstrates that the researcher has a clear grasp of the project's significance to cancer prevention/early detection. The Foundation may use the summary for communicating to local media about the Foundation's funded research projects. Therefore, **do not include proprietary/confidential information.**

Technical Abstract: A scientific abstract of no more than **2000** characters, written for an audience with formal scientific or medical training. The technical abstract will not be shared with the public, media, or donors.

Cancer Prevention Statement (300 characters): In **non-technical** language, briefly describe the relevance of this project to cancer prevention/early detection.

Career Plans (2000-character limit): Share your career plans for the next three years to make clear that, if you are awarded, you can fulfill the two-year award.

Research Plan (after you have started your application on ProposalCentral, you can download a copy of the research plan, including a biographical sketch format)

Statement of Significance (1 page): A statement of the significance of your proposed project with respect to the field of cancer prevention/early detection.

Specific Aims (1 page): A statement of the goals, objectives and relevance to the Foundation's funding priorities. Applications which are not directly related to cancer prevention/early detection will not be considered.

Background (2 pages): A statement of the problem or need that will be addressed by the proposed project.

Methods (5 pages): A statement of the methodology to be used in achieving specific aims, including an adequate biostatistical analysis.

Timetable (1 page): A timetable for implementing the proposed project. Reviewers will weigh heavily the feasibility of completing the project within the two-year time frame.

Evaluation (2 pages): A detailed evaluation plan that addresses the specific project activities outlined within your methodology.

Biographical Sketch (Up to 5 pages per person): Biographical sketches must be completed for **all key personnel** listed in the budget (see below for budget listing requirements). Key personnel include individuals who contribute to the scientific development or execution of a project in a **substantive and measurable** way (whether or not they receive salaries or compensation under the grant).

Key Personnel: can include individuals at the master's or baccalaureate level (such as graduate students and research assistants) if they meet this definition. The 'Role on Project' needs to match the role listed in the budget.

Grant Budgets: (\$50,000 per year) and Budget Justification (per year): **Indirect costs will not be covered. Key staff, including in-kind, must be listed in the budget and budget justification.**

Personnel: The names of **all** personnel involved in a **substantive and measurable** way on the project, whether or not salaries are requested. Fringe benefits may be requested if benefits are treated by the applicant's institution as a direct cost to all sponsors. The percentage of salary requested **cannot** exceed the percent effort for each person. Justify personnel expenses by briefly explaining the services each person will perform or knowledge he or she brings to the project.

Consultant Costs: The names and institutional affiliations of any and all consultants, including statisticians, who have agreed to serve on the project and are not listed under personnel. Under budget justification, describe consultant services to be performed, the number of days, rate of compensation, and other associated costs.

Indirect Costs: will not be covered.

Use of Funds: The Prevent Cancer Foundation funds must be used for the specific purpose for which they are awarded unless written permission to change the purpose is granted from the Foundation. The Foundation will not make grants for construction of buildings or purchase of land.

Appendix: List of literature cited should be included as part of the appendix. It does not count towards page limits. Articles should be referenced but not included in the appendix.

Certification for Human Subjects: If activities involving human subjects are planned at any time during the proposed project period, you must submit a letter of approval from your Institutional Review Board (IRB). Letters of approval are not required at the time of the application. If you receive a notification of award from the Prevent Cancer Foundation, you must verify IRB approval within 60 days after the award notification. The letter must be dated no earlier than one year before the application is submitted. **If verification of IRB approval is not received within 60 days after the award notification, the application will be considered incomplete, and an award will not be made.**

Certification for Vertebrate Animals: If activities involving vertebrate animals are planned at any time during the proposed project period, you must submit a letter of approval by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC). Letters of approval are not required at the time of the application. If you receive a notification of award from the Prevent Cancer Foundation, you must verify IACUC approval within 60 days after the award notification. The letter must be dated no earlier than one year before the application is submitted. **If verification of IACUC approval is not received within 60 days after the award notification, the application will be considered incomplete, and an award will not be made.**

Applicant Demographic Data Information: The applicant demographic information is for use internally by the Prevent Cancer 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 accessible to peer reviewers and is not considered at peer review. By sharing this information with us, you help the Prevent Cancer Foundation track our progress and identify areas that need further improvement.

GRANT REVIEW CRITERIA

Grant applications are peer reviewed by an independent external Scientific Review Panel formed of researchers and physician-scientists from outstanding cancer research institutions. The Prevent Cancer Foundation is a 501(c)(3) foundation, which is supported by the general public.

Applications not meeting the Foundation's funding guidelines will not be reviewed by the Scientific Review Panel.

Administrative and Eligibility Review

- All applications are reviewed for their **completeness and compliance with the guidelines**. Any incomplete application that is **non-compliant with stated guidelines will be disqualified**.
- The **Scientific Review Panel Chair and Co-chair** 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 scientific review.

Scientific Review

A numerical **grade** will be assigned by the Scientific Review Panel based on the following criteria:

- Clarity of specific aims and significance to cancer prevention/early detection
- Quality of the institutional research environment
- Methodology
- Relevance of supporting data
- Competence of Principal Investigator (PI) and key personnel
- Appropriateness of project size to resources and timeline
- Budget
- Does the project contribute significantly to the field of cancer prevention/early detection
- Scientific merit of the project - will data stimulate further scientific research into cancer prevention/early detection.
- Potential for future impact on the field, given the innovative nature of the project.
- Qualifications of the candidate.
- Achievability of the project's specific aims within the two-year time frame.

***If your application passes both the administrative and eligibility reviews and is given a full scientific review, you will receive written feedback. If your application does not pass the administrative review or is considered not qualified as cancer prevention/early detection or the science is too basic for review, you will not receive written feedback from the reviewers.**

Reviewer comments will be shared with applicants; numerical grades are **not** shared. Applicants whose applications do not fit within the scope of the Prevent Cancer Foundation's mission, and do not pass administrative or eligibility criteria will be notified with all other applicants by **December 5, 2025**.

POST-AWARD REQUIREMENTS

All grant and fellowship awardees must adhere to the following requirements.

Deliverable	Description	Date
Acceptance Agreement	Review, sign and return Acceptance Agreement to the Prevent Cancer Foundation.	January 2026
Institution W-9 Form	The awardee must provide an institution signed W-9 Form along with the award payment address.	January 2026
Publication of Award	The award must be publicized by the awardee institution, either in its own publications (student newspaper, alumni newsletter, institutional magazine, etc.) or in a local newspaper, with attribution to the <u>Prevent Cancer Foundation and donor</u> if applicable.	April 2026

Reporting Requirements and Payment Timeline	
	2026
First Payment (\$25,000)	April 30
Year-1: Progress Report, Personal Impact Statement and Signed Financial Report Due – 1 month prior to end of year one	December 15
	2027
Second Payment* (\$25,000)	January 30
Third Payment (\$25,000)	October 30
	2028
Project End Date	January 14
Year-2: Final Progress Report, Personal Impact Statement and Signed Cumulative Financial Report Due - 3 months after project end date	April 15
Fourth Payment* (\$25,000)	May 30

*Disbursement of second and fourth award payment is contingent upon receipt of satisfactory program and signed financial reports outlined under section entitled “POST-AWARD REQUIREMENTS”. Note: The Prevent Cancer Foundation reserves the right to alter the project dates as necessary.

Yearly Reporting (must be submitted via [ProposalCentral](#))

Date	Deliverables
December 15, 2026	An interim progress report, personal impact statement and a signed financial statement are due one month prior to the end of year one . Progress reporting must be submitted in ProposalCentral (see details below*). The second year of funding is contingent upon a satisfactory year-one progress report. (See reporting requirements bulleted below.)
April 15, 2028	A final report, personal impact statement and signed cumulative financial report are due three months after the end of year two . Final report must be submitted in ProposalCentral (see details below*). The final report must include a full cumulative accounting of project expenditure. The final award payment will issued after the Prevent Cancer Foundation has received all required year-two reports. Awardees should upload in ProposalCentral a reprint of all research published as a result of their Prevent Cancer Foundation award.

***Interim progress and final reports to be submitted via ProposalCentral using a web form to provide a brief, clear project summary to include but not limited to the following questions:**

Key Findings: summarize the results or insights from the work **completed** to date.

- **Highlight** any outcomes that were unexpected or impactful.
- **Status of Goals:** indicate the current progress toward each of the stated project goals.
- **Remaining Work:** outline what still needs to be completed in Year 2.
- **Challenges or Setbacks:** describe any obstacles encountered and how they have been addressed (or plan to be).
- **What further research remains to be done?** (e.g. additional data collection -larger sample size, product development implementation, laboratory to clinical or community level).

Personal Impact Summary Statement to be submitted via ProposalCentral using a web form to answer the following questions in general /non-technical language. This summary statement may be shared with the Scientific Review Panel Chair and Co-chair, Prevent Cancer Foundation's Board of Directors and donors.

- How has the funding provided by the Prevent Cancer Foundation helped your overall professional growth (e.g., journal submissions, career opportunities, new research focus)?
- Has this award led to other funding opportunities?
- Have you had the opportunity to report your findings at professional meetings?
- What courses have you taken and how has this helped you in your professional pursuits?

- What impact or potential impact do your findings have on the field of cancer prevention and/or early detection?

Financial Statement: Give a breakdown by category (i.e., personnel, supplies, etc.) of how the Foundation's funds were utilized. This document should be filed and signed by the University's Office of Research Administration or other comparable source.

Final Payment Policy

The Prevent Cancer Foundation will hold the final payment of all awarded grants and fellowships until receipt of the final progress report, personal statement and cumulative, signed financial statement. If these reports are not received within 6 months of the project end date (including no-cost extension end date), the Foundation will withdraw the final payment; no payment will be made. This policy is in effect as of June 1, 2006.

Policy on Principal Investigator Transfer Between Institutions

If the Principal Investigator (PI) transfers institutions during the two-year award period, the PI must notify the Foundation immediately. At that point, two options may be considered:

- The **project remains at the original institution**. A new PI must be recommended to complete the project. The following documents are required (but not limited to):
 - Recommended PI's biosketch
 - Letter of support from the institution
 - Revised project plan, budget and effort reallocation of key staff (if applicable)
- The **PI requests to carry over the project to the new institution**. The following documents will be required (but not limited to):
 - Letters of support from both the original and new institutions
 - Revised budget
 - Letter from both finance departments
 - Updated project plan
 - Revised staff time allocation

Both options will be reviewed by Foundation staff and sent to the original external reviewers to determine whether the transfer of institution request is feasible and appropriate. Approval is contingent upon a thorough review of all submitted documents and the final recommendation made by the external review committee and Foundation staff.

If the request is denied, the Foundation reserves the right to request the return of partial or all award funds, depending on the project timeline, and the official financial statement submitted.

No-Cost Extension Policy

In the event that a project cannot be completed within the two-year timeline granted by the Foundation, a request for **one six-month, no-cost extension** must be submitted to the Programs Division at **least two** months prior to the project end date.

Peer-Reviewed Publications

All publications, presentations, project materials, etc., must acknowledge the Foundation's support of the project by displaying the statement, "This project is supported by the Prevent Cancer Foundation." The awardee must also send reprints of all research published as a result of his/her Foundation award.

Authorization

Funding of an application authorizes the Prevent Cancer Foundation to use the applicant's name, institution, and application information, including the **Summary for a general audience and Personal Summary Statement** in soliciting contributions to fund its cancer research and educational programs. The awarded project may be featured on the Prevent Cancer Foundation website, blog, annual impact reports and other publications.

Awardees should expect to answer additional questions or provide a personal interview regarding their work periodically throughout the two-year period to support future funding of the cancer research and educational programs.

Sunshine Act

Physicians who receive grant funding may be required to sign the Sunshine Act Physician Payment Information Form.

QUESTIONS?

Check out our FAQs at: <https://preventcancer.org/research/grants-fellowships/>.

CONTACT INFORMATION

All communication regarding the Grants and Fellowships Program should be directed to Ximena Marquez Dagan at Ximena.Marquez@preventcancer.org.

For assistance with technical issues that may arise related to ProposalCentral's electronic grant submission system, please e-mail: pcsupport@altum.com or call 1-800-875-2562 or 703-964-5840. Monday through Friday 8:30am-5:00pm (ET).