

## **Pezcoller Foundation-AACR International Award for Extraordinary Achievement in Cancer Research**

### **AWARD PROGRAM GUIDELINES**

#### **AWARD SUMMARY**

- The prestigious Pezcoller Foundation-AACR International Award for Extraordinary Achievement in Cancer Research was established in 1997 to recognize a scientist of international renown who has made a major scientific discovery in basic cancer research or who has made significant contributions to translational cancer research.
- Eligible candidates must continue to be active in cancer research; have a record of recent, noteworthy publications; and be conducting ongoing work that holds promise for continued substantive contributions to progress in the field of cancer.
- The award is intended to honor an individual scientist. However, more than one scientist may be co-nominated and selected to share the award in the event that their investigations are intimately related in subject matter and have resulted in work that is worthy of the award and a joint nomination.
- The award recipient will receive an unrestricted grant, a commemorative award, and present a scientific lecture in conjunction with the AACR Annual Meeting immediately following their selection. The award recipient will also present scientific lectures at the University of Padua (May 7, 2026) and at the University of Trento (May 8, 2026) in Italy, just prior to the official Award ceremony in Trento on May 9, 2026.

#### **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

- Cancer researchers affiliated with any institution involved in cancer research, cancer medicine, or cancer-related science anywhere in the world may be nominated. Such institutions include those in academia, industry, or government.
- Individuals who have previously been awarded the Nobel Prize in any category are ineligible to receive this award.
- Institutions and/or organizations are not eligible to receive the award.

#### **NOMINATION PROCESS**

- Nominations may be submitted by any individual, whether an AACR member or nonmember, who is currently or has previously been affiliated with any institution involved in cancer research, cancer medicine, or cancer-related sciences.
- Self-nominations are prohibited.
- Nominators must maintain strict confidentiality of their nominations. All nominations must be submitted using [AACR's electronic award nomination platform](#). If you do not have a myAACR account, you can create one at no cost. Paper nominations will not be accepted.

**Scientific Achievement Awards  
and Lectureships**

- Eligible nominations must include the following:
  - A nomination letter written in English (Max: 1,000 words), which comprehensively describes the candidate's major scientific discovery in basic cancer research or significant contributions to translational cancer research, and the impact of these accomplishments on the field. Letter must specifically outline the candidate's current research activity and indicate how their research holds promise for continued substantive contributions to the cancer field. All publications that directly support the mentioned research accomplishments must be referenced within the provided letter.
  - A brief scientific citation (Max: 50 words) highlighting the major scientific contribution(s) justifying the award candidate's nomination.

**AWARD SELECTION**

- Eligible nominees will be considered by a prestigious Pezcoller Foundation-AACR International Award for Extraordinary Achievement in Cancer Research Selection Committee consisting of an international cohort of renowned cancer leaders appointed by the AACR President in consultation with the Pezcoller Foundation Council.
- The Pezcoller Foundation-AACR International Award for Extraordinary Achievement in Cancer Research Selection Committee will consider all nominations as they have been submitted and are restricted from combining submitted nominations, adding new nominees, or otherwise making alterations to any submitted nomination.
- Once chosen, the primary and alternate award recipient selections made by the Pezcoller Foundation-AACR International Award for Extraordinary Achievement in Cancer Research Selection Committee shall be sent to the AACR Executive Committee and the Pezcoller Foundation Council for final consideration and ratification.
- Selection of the award recipient shall be made on the basis of the candidate's scientific accomplishments without regard to race, gender, nationality, geographic location, or religious or political views.

**INQUIRIES**

- Please direct all inquiries pertaining to this award or any other AACR scientific achievement award to Michael J. Powell, PhD, Senior Director of Scientific Programs and Strategic Initiatives, at [michael.powell@aacr.org](mailto:michael.powell@aacr.org) or by phone at (215) 440-9373.

**Scientific Achievement Awards  
and Lectureships**

**PAST AWARD RECIPIENTS**

**2025** Douglas Hanahan  
**2024** Titia de Lange  
**2023** Tak W. Mak  
**2022** Steven A. Rosenberg  
**2021** Hans Clevers  
**2020** John E. Dick  
**2019** Alberto Mantovani  
**2018** Tony Hunter  
**2017** David M. Livingston  
**2016** Joan Massagué  
**2015** James P. Allison\*  
**2014** Elaine V. Fuchs  
**2013** Peter K. Vogt  
**2012** Robert A. Weinberg

**2011** Pier Paolo Pandolfi  
**2010** Joseph Schlessinger  
**2009** Napoleone Ferrara  
**2008** Axel Ullrich  
**2007** Mina J. Bissell  
**2006** Tadatsugu Taniguchi  
**2005** Lewis C. Cantley  
**2004** Stanley J. Korsmeyer  
**2003** Mario Capecchi\*  
**2002** Carl-Henrik Heldin  
**2001** Elizabeth H. Blackburn\*  
**2000** Charles J. Sherr  
**1999** Carlo M. Croce  
**1998** Anthony J. Pawson

*\*Nobel Prize Winner*